

IMMIGRATION RESEARCH PROJECT

An immigration research project in which students analyze the differences in American immigration from the 1900s to now. The project culminates in a research presentation of students choice.



IMMIGRATION UNIT



Then and Now - An Analysis

How has immigration changed over time?

People immigrate for many reasons: economic (e.g., to escape poverty) professional (e.g., to find employment; to search for an occupation that is unavailable) political (e.g., to escape dictatorship or other unfair governments; disagreements over government) persecution and oppression, including genocide, ethnic cleansing, and bullying, retirement (e.g., better weather; lower living costs), sentimental (e.g., the desire to settle in a country due to personal preference, etc.)

Unit Requirements

Alone or in pairs (no more than two), research two groups of immigrants: those who arrived in America in the 1800s and a group arriving today. You may choose the categories based on why they arrived, or simply choose two groups who hold an interest for you.

Assess the reasons the two groups had/have for emigrating to the U.S., what they experience(d) upon arrival, and appraise their treatment by the Americans they encountere(d) both at their point of entry and in their new communities. Once you have researched these facts and details, evaluate the system of immigration in the U.S. and answer the question, "How has immigration to the United States changed over time?"

Things to consider

| <i>Reasons for immigration</i> | <i>Laws associated with immigration</i> | <i>Impacts from September 11th terrorist attacks</i> | <i>Economy and the jobs being sought by immigrants</i> |
|--|---|---|--|
| <i>American resident attitudes toward immigrants</i> | <i>Services offered to immigrants</i> | <i>Communities where immigrants are typically moving</i> | <i>Immigrant views of American government and laws</i> |

What to complete

- Research to complete the chart for each group.
- Using two pieces of regular printer paper, create a collage of images and phrases/words to show your understanding of EACH group's arrival and experience in the United States.
- Interpret immigration in the past and compare it to the politically charged atmosphere that exists in regard to immigration today.

- Evaluate your data to answer the essential question: “How has immigration to the United States changed over time?”
- Choose one of the following formats to present your answer:

| | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| A word-processed essay, including key photos found online | A collection of illustrations with detailed captions | A PowerPoint (to be completed at home) | Another format of your choice (must be approved by teacher) |
|---|--|--|---|

- Present your final project to the class



History --- Immigrant Chart Notes

| | |
|--|--|
| Immigrant Group | |
| Years most arrived | |
| Why most arrived here (reasons for emigrating) | |
| How did they enter the country? | |
| Where did most live upon arrival? | |
| Typical job(s) for this immigrant group: | |
| Benefits of moving to America: | |
| Disadvantages/disillusionments of moving to America | |
| Copy an excerpt from a letter/quote or other primary source document from a member of this immigrant group: | |
| Interesting fact about this immigrant group or a well- known person from this group: | |

Present Day --- Immigrant Chart Notes

| | |
|---|---|
| Current Immigrant Group | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Why most arrived here (reasons for emigrating) | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Political or economic situation in the native country of the immigrants | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| How did they enter the country? | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Where did most live upon arrival? | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Typical job(s) for this immigrant group: | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Benefits of moving to America: | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Disadvantages/disillusionments of moving to America | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Cut and paste an excerpt from a letter/quote or other primary source document from a member of this immigrant group: (if possible, this can include notes from an interview) | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |
| Interesting fact about this immigrant group or a well- known person from this group: | <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> |

“How has immigration to the United States changed over time?”

Tips for a successful project --

~When summarizing your information, consider the following:

Is it better here than where they were? Why/why not?

What is the government like in the immigrant’s country?

Do you think if they could go back home, they would? Why/why not?

~To maximize your learning, you should be prepared to explore the intricacies of today’s views and policies regarding immigration. The Internet will be a valuable tool for this.

~When answering the essential question, make sure you have a solid background of immigration in the past in order to effectively compare to the present.

Remember the things to consider:

| | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <i>Reasons for immigration</i> | <i>Laws associated with immigration</i> | <i>Impacts from September 11th terrorist attacks</i> | <i>Economy and the jobs being sought by immigrants</i> |
| <i>American resident attitudes toward immigrants</i> | <i>Services offered to immigrants</i> | <i>Communities where immigrants are typically moving</i> | <i>Immigrant views of American government and laws</i> |

~Use your time wisely. If working with a partner, split up tasks.

~Use any materials given by teachers to assist in your research efforts.





MZ S ENGLISH TEACHER



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