

IMMIGRANTS NOW AND THEN

Immigrants Now and Then

Level: Intermediate /Advanced

Linking students' personal experiences in their native countries with learning about America's history, government and culture is an effective and valuable approach to getting students' interested and motivated in civics content.

T may want to provide students with a simple reading related to the British Colonies in America in 1776 in order for students to compare immigrant life now and then.

Steps:

1. Before starting the activity, Ss should have read and talked about the British Colonies in America in 1776 and their way of life. T may choose a simple reading to discuss.
2. Give Ss **Immigrants Now and Then Activity Handout**.
3. Ss fill in "Immigrants Now" columns. Ask Ss to think about examples for each column. First, T models or elicits an example for each column. Write down responses.

Examples:

What I took with me to the US: pictures, English book, my dreams

What I left behind in my country: my job, routine of life, family

What I found in the US: credit cards, snow, freedom, discrimination

4. Ss write down examples for each column. Discuss responses together.

5. Now, Ss fill in "Immigrants Then" bottom half together. T may want to group Ss into small groups. Assign one question to each group: Who lived in the colonies? How did the colonists live? What opportunities did people have in America? One S from each group report to the class.

Examples:

What the colonists took with them to the new land: clothes, spices, religious objects

What they left behind in their countries: family, culture, problems

What they found in the new land: lots of work, cheap land, freedom of religion

6. Once Ss have finished completing the activity, have them compare "now and then". How are they alike? How are they different?

IMMIGRANTS NOW AND THEN

IMMIGRANTS NOW: Our Class My name is _____ I come from _____		
What I took with me to the U.S.	What I left behind in my country	What I found in the U.S.
IMMIGRANTS THEN: The British Colonies in America in 1776		
What the colonists took with them to the new land	What they left behind in their own country	What they found in the new land

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