

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS (ABBR.)

Article 1

Right to Equality

Article 2

Freedom from Discrimination

Article 3

Right to Life, Liberty and Personal Security

Article 4

Freedom from Slavery

Article 5

Freedom from Torture and Degrading Treatment

Article 6

Right to Recognition as a Person before the Law

Article 7

Right to Equality before the Law

Article 8

Right to Remedy for Violations of Rights

Article 9

Freedom from Arbitrary Arrest and Exile

Article 10

Right to Fair Public Hearing

Article 11

Right to be Considered Innocent until Proven Guilty

Article 12

Freedom from Interference with Privacy, Family, Home and Correspondence

Article 13

Right to Free Movement in and out of Own Country

Article 14

Right to Asylum in other Countries from Persecution

Article 15

Right to a Nationality and the Freedom to Change Nationality

Article 16

Right to Marriage and Family

Article 17

Right to Own Property

Article 18

Freedom of Belief and Religion

Article 19

Freedom of Opinion and Information

Article 20

Right of Peaceful Assembly and Association

Article 21

Right to Participate in Government and in Free Elections

Article 22

Right to Social Security or a Social Safety Net

Article 23

Right to Desirable Work and to Join Trade Unions

Article 24

Right to Rest and Leisure

Article 25

Right to Adequate Living Standard, Including Food, Housing, and Medical Care

Article 26

Right to Education

Article 27

Right to Participate in the Cultural Life of Community

Article 28

Right to a Society that Upholds this Document

Article 29

Rights Limited by Need to Respect Rights of Other Persons

Article 30

Freedom from State or Personal Interference in the Above Rights

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY 1

Deciding to Immigrate: A History

1. Prepare. Write the following time frames on construction paper (each on a separate sheet), and place them in chronological order on the classroom walls:

Before 1830	1830-1859	1860-1889	1890-1929	1930-1969	1970-1999	2000-Present
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Then give each student one short story from *Historical Scenarios*, one explanation card from *Scenario Analysis Cards*, and a copy of *Lesson 1 Handout 1: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (see page 17). The scenarios in the cards reflect the composition of the various waves of immigration to the United States, both in number of immigrants and countries of origin. If you have fewer students than there are cards, select cards from a wide variety of time periods, countries, and continents.

2. Demonstrate. Explain to students that they will be working together as a classroom to build a timeline of immigration to the U.S. showing the reasons that people decided to immigrate to this country. Demonstrate the process by reading one of the short stories aloud to the class. Ask students to identify what led the person in the story to immigrate to the U.S. and write their answers on an explanation card. An answer key is available on page 42 to help teachers guide the discussion.

3. Read and analyze. Next students should follow the same process, working in pairs. The students should take turns reading their short story and then identifying the reasons their character chose to immigrate to the United States. Students should write their answers on their explanation cards.

4. Identify the rights. In their same pairs, have students look at the reasons they have written down on their cards. Ask them to connect the reasons in their story to the human rights listed in the UDHR (*Lesson 1 Handout 1*). The pairs should take turns analyzing each story, writing down on their explanation cards the specific articles that relate to the reasons for immigrating that they identified. Once both students have finished filling out their explanation cards, they should hang their stories and cards under the appropriate time period on the wall.

5. Walk the timeline. As a class, have students stroll along the timeline. Using *Timeline Observations*, students should record some of the differences and similarities in the historical reasons that people choose to immigrate.

(continued on next page)

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY 1

Deciding to Immigrate: A History

(continued from previous page)

6. Discuss. As a class, discuss the following questions:

Questions for Discussion

- ? What reasons for immigrating were most common throughout the history of the United States?
- ? Were any of the reasons unique to a specific time period?
- ? Was it easy to connect the reasons people choose to immigrate to human rights?

Connect Back to Immigrant Stories:

Place the narratives from each video on page 11 on the timeline to see how they fit into the larger pattern of immigration to the United States.



Chinese immigrant Lee Chi Yet arrived in San Francisco in 1918.
Courtesy of Erika Lee.

HISTORICAL SCENARIOS

<p>My name is Abigail Taylor. My husband Simon and I are both from Birmingham, England. Though we have been loyal subjects of the King, we no longer feel safe in our country. Just last month, rioters burned down our home and the little store we ran. We want to move to America where Protestant Dissenters like us are safe to practice our religion in peace. (1791)</p>	<p>My name is Dáire McCormack, and I am a potato farmer in Ireland. This past year has been horrible for me. Almost all of my potatoes were lost to a disease which made them turn black and rotten. I do not have enough food to feed my family or to sell potatoes at the markets. My family will have to leave Ireland to find a place where I can feed my family. (1845)</p>
<p>My name is Franz Hecker, and I am from Baden in Germany. I came to the U.S. in despair after we failed to create a democratic Germany with our March Revolution. Seeing King Frederick William IV crowned again was bad enough, but when the army crushed the uprisings in support of the constitution, I knew I had to leave. It seemed as if we might succeed in creating a democratically elected government, but it was not to be. (1848)</p>	<p>My name is Marcel Durand, and I am from Paris, France. I have been reading stories in the newspaper for weeks about how the Americans have found gold in the mountains of California. I am heading to California to strike it rich! (1849)</p>
<p>My name is Santiago Muñoz, and I was born in Alta California, Mexico. After the Mexican-American War, Alta California was given to the U.S. and eventually became the state of California. I was given the choice of remaining a Mexican citizen or becoming a U.S. citizen. I decided to become a U.S. citizen so that I could stay on the land my family has farmed for generations. (1850)</p>	<p>My name is Mattias Nilsson, and I am from Småland in Sweden. I have heard that the U.S. government is giving away rich farmland to anyone who wants it. I am sick of struggling with stony soil and poor crops. My friends who have already arrived in America say that it is easy to build a good life there. I cannot wait to join them. (1862)</p>
<p>My name is Heinrich Braun, and I am from Hamburg, Germany. I was thrilled when Otto von Bismarck finally unified our country – no longer would the Germans be scattered and weak! However, shortly afterwards, Bismarck decided that Catholics were not truly German. He passed laws that discriminated against us and took over our schools. I left for the United States, where I have found a farming town full of German Catholics. Now I can raise my children in my faith. (1871)</p>	<p>My name is Chou Jing Yi. I came to the United States from China last year to join my husband who has been working on the new railroads being built all over the West. I'm glad I came when I did – I heard that Congress just passed a law excluding future Chinese immigrants from coming to the country. I'm sad that we don't seem to be welcome here, but we are building a good life for ourselves anyway. (1881)</p>

HISTORICAL SCENARIOS

<p>My name is Robert O'Connor, and I am from Ireland. I am a tenant farmer and I am sick of paying high rents to an absentee landlord while I can barely buy food for my family. I joined a group demanding land reform. In response to our protests, the government passed a Coercion Act. I was arrested under the Act and kept in jail without a trial. After five months, I was finally released. I am going to America, where I can be free of British rule. (1881)</p>	<p>My name is Antonio Souza, and I am from Portugal. My father came to the United States three years ago – he was one of the first people processed at Ellis Island. He has just sent me an ocean liner ticket so I can join him. He wants me to go to school in the United States so that I can learn a better trade than brick-laying like him. (1895)</p>
<p>My name is Ryo Nakamura, and I am from Japan. I came to the United States because I heard there were good jobs picking pineapples on plantations in Hawaii. Just before I arrived, Hawaii became a territory. I'm glad because this will make it easier for me to leave the plantation and move to the mainland once I have earned a little money. (1898)</p>	<p>My name is Sara Warszawski, and I am a Polish Jew. I live in a part of Poland ruled by the Russian Empire. Leftists have started a revolution against the Tsar, and the government is blaming the Jews. There was a riot in our town, and people started looting Jewish homes and businesses, and even killing Jews who tried to resist. Instead of arresting the rioters, the police helped them! I am leaving with my family for a country where we can be safe. (1905)</p>
<p>My name is José Ortega, and I am from Mexico. My country is in the middle of a revolution that has been going on for over three years! The armies on both sides aren't very careful about who they kill. I was afraid for my life if I stayed, so I came to the United States. (1913)</p>	<p>My name is Kayaneh Levonian. I am Armenian and I used to live in Turkey. My family and I fled to America to escape the attacks after the war. Soldiers of the Ottoman Empire killed thousands of Armenian people. My parents do not speak of home and we no longer receive letters from our relatives back in Turkey. I wonder what happened to my friends and relatives; I only hope that they escaped to the United States too. (1915)</p>
<p>My name is Istvan Lantos, and I am from Hungary. My country was taken over by a Communist dictatorship a few months ago and the government is desperate to hold on to power. They have set up revolutionary tribunals to try anyone they accuse of being an enemy of the state, but it seems like they have already decided the person is guilty before the trial even begins. Hundreds of people have been executed, including many of my close friends. I am afraid I will be next, so I am leaving for the United States. (1919)</p>	<p>My name is Marta Novy, and I am from Czechoslovakia. My family is German and the region we live in is mostly German. After the Great War, we wanted to become part of Austria or Germany, where our ethnicity and language would be respected. Instead, we were forced to become part of Czechoslovakia under a constitution we did not help write. I am going to leave for the United States rather than stay in a country that I cannot support. (1919)</p>

HISTORICAL SCENARIOS

<p>My name is Pyotr Stepanov, and I am from Russia. My family fled the civil war between the Communists and the Tsarists. When the Communists finally won, they said that anyone in exile was no longer a citizen of Russia. Without a nationality, we could not travel to a safe country. Eventually, the League of Nations gave us a special Nansen passport and we came to the United States. (1922)</p>	<p>My name is Mehmet Karagioules, and I am from Greece. My family is Muslim, but we have roots in Greece going back generations. After the recent war between Greece and Turkey, the governments agreed to a population transfer: all the Greeks in Turkey would be sent to Greece and all the Turks in Greece would go to Turkey. Because we are Muslim, the government decided we were Turks. They stripped us of our Greek citizenship and planned to forcibly move us to Turkey. We decided to leave before that could happen. (1924)</p>
<p>My name is Gino Filippone, and I am from Italy. I am a member of an anarcho-syndicalist trade union. We believe in the rights of the worker and oppose the fascists who are trying to take over our government. Mussolini proclaimed himself the head of the government last year and this year he banned my union entirely. I am going to the United States where I can try to mobilize the workers against fascism. (1926)</p>	<p>My name is Agnes Rosen, and I am an artist working in Berlin, Germany. I want to leave for the United States as soon as I can. Life has been very difficult since Hitler came to power. My paintings have been labeled “degenerate” by the Nazis so no one will buy or exhibit them. I am Jewish, and I am worried about all the anti-Semitic propaganda put out by the government. I want to feel safe and have a place where I can again be an artist. (1934)</p>
<p>My name is Gabriel Rodríguez. I am a farmworker, and I came to the United States a few months ago as part of the Bracero Program run by the U.S. government. U.S. farms have a shortage of workers to work in the fields and harvest crops, because most American men are fighting in the war against the fascists. The pay is better here, but I had to leave my family which I am still sad about because I miss them very much. (1942)</p>	<p>My name is Rose Null, and I came to the United States after I met my husband Mark, who was a U.S. Marine passing through Sydney, Australia during the war. We fell in love and after the Americans defeated the Japanese, we got married in Sydney. A year later, I was able to join Mark in America and start raising a family. Though I miss Australia, I am excited to explore all that the United States has to offer. (1946)</p>
<p>My name is Ferenc Nagy, and I live in Hungary. A few weeks ago, I participated in protests against Communist rule of Hungary. It looked as though we had driven the Soviet Union out of Hungary, but two days ago, a large number of Soviet troops and tanks invaded Budapest to crush our revolution. I want to leave the country as soon as I can. I am afraid of being killed or arrested. I am hopeful that in the United States, I can voice my opinions freely and without fear. (1956)</p>	<p>My name is Celia Pérez. I was forced to flee to the U.S. with my family after Fidel Castro’s new government of Cuba started nationalizing land and private property. My family lost everything we had. Rather than live under the new regime that wants to force everyone to become a Communist, we left for the United States. Until Cuba returns our property, it is better for us to live here, where at least we can keep the money we earn and the land we buy. (1959)</p>

HISTORICAL SCENARIOS

<p>My name is Arva Placencio, and I live in the Dominican Republic. I work for a political organization that President Balaguer has labeled an “enemy of the state.” I was arrested last month even though I hadn’t committed any crime. While I was in prison, some of the guards tortured me. I do not know why they released me, but I am staying in hiding until I can flee to the United States. I hope America will be safer for me. (1972)</p>	<p>My name is Avrom Roginsky. I live in the Soviet Union. Because I am Jewish, I have trouble finding work and getting higher education. I want to leave the country and go to the United States, but the government refuses to let me leave. Some American Jews have heard of my case and are pressuring the U.S. and Soviet governments to help me leave. Hopefully, they will succeed soon! (1973)</p>
<p>My name is Mai Vuong, and I am from Vietnam. My father fought for the Americans during the war. When the Americans left, we also had to flee the country. We were afraid the Communist government would kill us for fighting against them. Now we have to start our lives all over again in a new country. (1975)</p>	<p>My name is Fikile Nyathi, and I am from South Africa. As a black man living under apartheid, I had very few rights, but I still considered myself South African. Last year, however, the government decided that I really belonged to a new country, Ciskei, which they invented and made independent. They stripped me of my South African citizenship. I left as soon as I could for the United States. If I cannot be a citizen of my own country, I will at least live somewhere I can be treated equally. (1981)</p>
<p>My name is Augusto Flores, and I am from El Salvador. I belong to a trade union, and since the start of our civil war five years ago, I have seen all of the leaders of our union killed by government death squads. The courts never did anything to bring the perpetrators to justice. I worry if I stay that I will suffer the same fate as my friends. How can the death squads be stopped if they are never punished for the murders they commit? I will be safer in the United States. (1985)</p>	<p>My name is Jodh Singh, and I am from India. I am Sikh, a religious minority. Sikhs have been fighting the Indian government for two years now, ever since they invaded our most holy temple and killed one of our leaders. I am not a fighter, but because I support Sikh autonomy, the police in Punjab harass me. Even when I moved to another part of India, the government monitored me and my family. I want to move to the U.S. where I will no longer be tracked. (1986)</p>
<p>My name is Sun Hi Jackson, and I was adopted as a small child from South Korea. My adoptive parents came for the Seoul Olympics and fell in love with the Korean culture and people. They adopted me the following year. I love my new family. When I am older, we are going back to South Korea so I can see my homeland again. (1988)</p>	<p>My name is Zhang Hao, and I came to the United States from China after the Tiananmen Square massacre. I was one of the student protesters in the square. All we wanted was a chance to speak freely and maybe even elect some of our leaders. Instead, the government sent in tanks and soldiers. I believed that I would be killed if I stayed in China, but here in the United States I can tell my story and make sure people know the truth about what happened. (1989)</p>

HISTORICAL SCENARIOS

<p>My name is Nathan Snow, and I am from Canada. After the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) was signed last year, I moved to the United States using one of the special visas available for Canadians. I am excited to be working for a major software company and earning more money than I could in Canada. Maybe someday I will go home, but I am happy here right now. (1995)</p>	<p>My name is Oscar Martínez, and I am from rural Mexico. My family lives in extreme poverty. After the peso was devalued last year, my wages were worth almost nothing and there were no government programs to help us buy food. My village has no access to electricity, water, or sanitation. I am sick of living in such poverty. I want to move to the United States where I can earn a decent living and get clean water right in my own house. (1995)</p>
<p>My name is Jomar Carrasco, and I am from the Philippines. I came to the United States to join my children, who have been living and working here for years. I am looking forward to retirement and spending time with my grandchildren. It will be nice to finally have some time to relax! I look forward to a new millennium in a new country. (1999)</p>	<p>My name is Hirut Tadesse, and I am from Ethiopia. I am Oromo, an ethnic group with its own culture and language. If I speak Oromo in public, people harass me. You cannot get a job if you speak Oromo, and musicians are arrested for playing Oromo music. I do not want to be forced to give up my cultural identity just to survive, so I am leaving for the United States. (2001)</p>
<p>My name is Alejandro Morales, and I used to live in Colombia. I was a member of the local teachers union. After President Uribe was elected, he promised to disarm the paramilitaries that used to kill union members. He did not succeed. I continued to receive death threats from people accusing me of being a terrorist for joining a union, and other union members were killed. I left for the United States, but I hope someday I can return to a safer Colombia. (2003)</p>	<p>My name is Wirat Kunchai, and I am from Thailand. I was brought to the United States as a guest worker on a Hawaiian farm. When I arrived, they took my passport and made me stay in filthy, overcrowded housing without enough food to eat. They said if I complained or tried to leave, I would be deported. I was never paid the money they promised me. The government found out and arrested my boss for human trafficking. I got a special visa as a victim of trafficking to stay in the U.S. permanently. (2007)</p>
<p>My name is Chen Bo, and I am from China. After my sister lost her only son in the Sichuan earthquake, I started blogging about how many of the deaths were the result of corrupt officials who cared more about money than about the Chinese people. The government started monitoring everything I did online, even reading my private emails. Other internet activists were arrested and disappeared and I was afraid I would be next, so I came to the United States. (2008)</p>	<p>My name is Mona Alizadeh, and I am from Iran. I was accused of adultery by a neighbor who has never liked me. In court, my testimony was worth only half of his, because I am a woman. I could have been put to death! Luckily, my father and uncles all supported me, and I was found innocent. I am leaving for the United States, where I believe I will be free. (2010)</p>

HISTORICAL SCENARIO ANALYSIS CARDS

Step One: Identify the push and/or pull factors in the story:

Step Two: Which articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights relate to the push and pull factors you have identified?

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HISTORICAL SCENARIOS ANSWER KEY

Name	Reasons for Immigrating	UDHR Art.
Abigail Taylor	discrimination against Dissenters; home attacked; no freedom of religion	2, 12, 18
Dáire McCormack	inadequate standard of living	25
Franz Hecker	political repression; no right to vote	19, 21
Marcel Durand	economic opportunity	23, 25
Santiago Muñoz	right to own property; right to choose nationality	15, 17
Mattias Nilsson	economic opportunity	23, 25
Heinrich Braun	discrimination against Catholics; no freedom of religion; no right to education	2, 18, 26
Chou Jing Yi	family	16
Robert O'Connor	arbitrary arrest; no freedom of association; inadequate standard of living	9, 20, 25
Antonio Souza	family; better education	16, 26
Ryo Nakamura	economic opportunity	23, 25
Sara Warszawski	discrimination against Jews; no freedom of religion; life at risk	2, 3, 18
José Ortega	life at risk	3
Kayaneh Levonian	discrimination against Armenians; life at risk	2, 3
Istvan Lantos	unfair trial; no presumption of innocence; life at risk	3, 10, 11
Marta Novy	discrimination against Germans; no right to choose government; no right to culture	2, 21, 27
Pyotr Stepanov	denial of nationality	15
Mehmet Karagioules	discrimination against Muslims; no freedom of religion; denial of nationality	2, 15, 18
Gino Filippone	anti-union repression	23
Agnes Rosen	discrimination against Jews; denial of cultural participation	2, 18, 27
Gabriel Rodríguez	economic opportunity	23, 25
Rose Null	family	16
Ferenc Nagy	no freedom of speech/opinion	19
Celia Pérez	property confiscated	17
Arva Placencio	no freedom of association; arbitrary arrest; torture	5, 9, 20
Avrom Roginsky	discrimination against Jews; no freedom of religion; no freedom of movement	2, 13, 18
Mai Vuong	life at risk	3
Fikile Nyathi	discrimination against blacks; denial of nationality	2, 15
Augusto Flores	anti-union violence; no effective remedy; life at risk	3, 8, 23
Jodh Singh	no freedom of religion; government surveillance; discrimination against Sikhs	2, 12, 18
Sun Hi Jackson	family (adoption)	16
Zhang Hao	no freedom of speech or right to vote; life at risk	3, 19, 21
Nathan Snow	economic opportunity	23, 25
Oscar Martínez	no safety net; inadequate standard of living	22, 25
Jomar Carrasco	family; relaxation	16, 24
Hirut Tadesse	discrimination against Oromo; denial of cultural participation	2, 27
Alejandro Morales	death threats; anti-union repression	3, 23
Wirat Kunchai	slavery; unsafe working conditions	4, 23
Chen Bo	lack of freedom of speech; government surveillance; arbitrary arrest	9, 12, 19
Mona Alizadeh	life at risk; unfair trial; discrimination against women	2, 3, 7, 10

Name: _____

TIMELINE OBSERVATIONS

Write down four reasons that people chose to immigrate that you see on the wall (for example, economic opportunity, or freedom from persecution). Keep a tally of how many times those reasons appear as you walk along the timeline.

- | | |
|----|-------------|
| 1. | Total _____ |
| 2. | Total _____ |
| 3. | Total _____ |
| 4. | Total _____ |

Write down the name of one person whose story caught your attention. What did you find interesting about the story?

Write down one of the countries of origin that you saw in the early part of the timeline. Also write down a country of origin from the end of the timeline. Are they from the same part of the world? What might have changed to cause different parts of the world to immigrate in different time periods?

Which human rights violation on the timeline most disturbed you? Was it something unique to a particular time, or did you see it happen in more than one time period?