

American History 8 – Mr. Ruppert
Chapter 19 Portfolio Assignment (50 points)

Theme: America: The Golden Door of Opportunity vs. Immigrant Meets City & Industry

This is a two part assignment, with Part 1 worth 30 points and Part 2 worth 20 points

Part 1 (30 points):

Write your own poem / rap song based on the theme listed above.

Directions

1. Your poem / rap song must

- a) Have an appropriate title based on this theme (ex: Gilded America)
- b) Consist of 3 stanzas, each with 8-10 lines (24-30 lines total) minimum
- c) If a "rap song", you should also include a refrain (repeated after each stanza)
- d) It should "flow" and may be in rhyme, although this is not required (not all poems rhyme!)

2. The content of the poem / rap song must take the following format

-- Stanza 1 should focus on your pre-immigration hopes and dreams... America as the Land of Opportunity... The Golden Door to a Better Future... How do you think it will compare to the land of your birth. What future do you see in America for yourself?

-- Stanza 2 should focus on the immigration experience from the trans-Atlantic crossing in steerage, through your first sighting of the Statue of Liberty, and finally to your experience on Ellis Island. You will be making it "through the Golden Door" but maybe friends of yours did not. Why? Was it a frightening process for you anyhow? Why? This Stanza must use as much specific content and terminology from the Ellis Island Video as possible.

-- Stanza 3 should focus on life on the other side of the "Golden Door" as a newly arrived immigrant. Use content and terminology from Chapter 19, sections 4 and 5 of your textbook as much as possible in this stanza (for ex: tenements, ethnic neighborhoods – ghettos, sweatshops, specialization, etc.)

YOU MAY BE "CREATIVE IN YOUR LANGUAGE AS TENEMENTS MAY BECOME "TENNIES" OR THE STATUE OF LIBERTY MAY BECOME "LADY LIB", ETC. – OBVIOUSLY NO PROFANITY WILL BE TOLERATED IN THIS ASSIGNMENT!

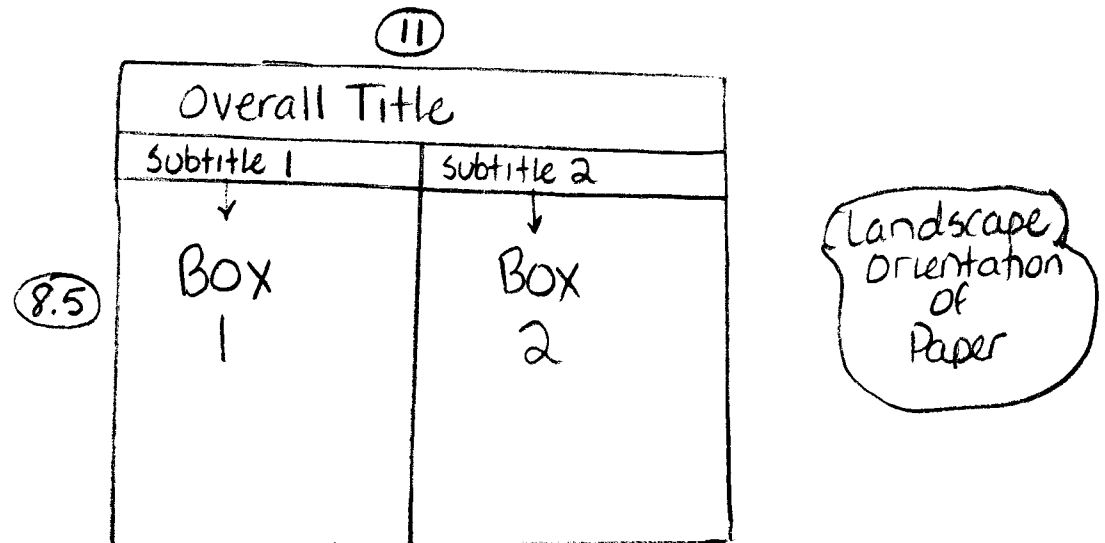
-- You may also include an optional Stanza 4 which reflects on whether, if you had the choice to make again, would you have chosen to immigrate to the United States, having experienced life on the "other side of the Golden Door" as an immigrant.

Part 2 of the assignment – SEE THE BACK OF THIS SHEET

Part 2 (20 points):

Visually depict the contrast between what immigrants expected to find in America before immigrating versus the reality of life for many after they arrived

Your visual page **MUST BE ON 8.5 X 11 PAPER** and should take the following format



1. The overall title you give your mini-poster (at the very top) should reflect this difference / gap which often existed between an immigrants hopes of opportunity in America versus the reality of the industrial and urban world he / she worked and lived after arrival to America
2. Subtitle #1 (on the left) should reflect immigrants seeing America as the "golden door of opportunity"
3. Subtitle #2 (on the right) should reflect the immigrant "meeting city and industry American style"
4. **YOU MUST ILLUSTRATE THESE TWO CONTRASTING VISIONS OF AMERICA IN BOX 1 AND BOX 2.** You may use crayons, markers, charcoal, sketch pencils, colored pencils, computer generated graphics, and / or any combination of these.
4. It is **NOT REQUIRED** but you may add "real visual content" to Box 1 and Box 2. For instance, maybe you use a photo of the statue of liberty in box 1 instead of drawing it. Or maybe you find a photo of a tenement or a child working in a sweatshop for Box 2
5. **BE CREATIVE...DEPENDING ON CRAFTSMANSHIP AND EFFORT, THIS PART OF THE ASSIGNMENT MAY BE GRADED ON GREATER THAN A 20 POINT SCALE!**