

Life at the Turn of the Century: An Immigrant Experience
Immigration, Cities & Inventions, Labor Disputes

Pretend to be a recent immigrant to America at the turn of the 19th century, and write a letter home describing your experiences. In your letter, make sure to detail:

- why you have moved and where you are from,
- what was your experience entering the country,
- where do you live and what is the city life like,
- where do you work and describe your job,
- what problems have you encountered in America: in the city, and at work,
- finally have you heard of or participated in any strikes or solutions to problems at work?

You must use vocabulary and concepts we have discussed and taken notes about in class. This is an **opportunity to wow me** with all you have learned and understand about life at the turn of the century in America, (we've covered a lot!). Use your notes from research, your class notes, the questions above and the title to guide your best letter. In your letter show me that you both understand what we learned and that you know some historically accurate facts from your research. You should have a paragraph on each of the above sections (a through f), but it doesn't HAVE to go in this order, just be sure to explicitly address each component. Additionally, there are 10 points total for spelling and grammar, so try your best to use complete sentences and correctly spell vocab words we've used in class.

**** key vocab / concepts to consider using ****

(make sure to provide context/a definition to demonstrate understanding of the words and concepts)

push / pull factors

new immigrants v. old immigrants

nativism

Ellis Island or Angel Island

assimilation/Americanization v. ethnic neighborhoods

tenements

urbanization

safety issues of city life (be specific)

positives of city life &/or inventions (be specific)

unions & strikes → any specific examples/details

Grading Overview

Maximum points per paragraph:

- 10 → use of vocabulary is correct and demonstrates understanding of terminology
 - 10 → 5 or more complex sentences that utilizes information from class work
 - 5 → paragraph has components that demonstrate outside of class research
 - 5 → paragraph and information is historically accurate
- = 30 points / paragraph
+ 10 points for overall grammar and spelling
+ 10 points for creativity and overall effort

= 200 points for this letter

(counts towards Essays & Projects, which is 30% of your overall grade, MORE than Quizzes & Tests!)

Step 1: Brainstorm, review notes, outline

Step 2: Write letter