

# Handout B: A Nation of Immigrants - A History of Immigration to 1924 Answer Key

*(All answers may vary, but should be similar to those listed below)*

1. Immigrants any person who crosses an international border to take up permanent residence in another country.
2. The first large influx of modern peoples to the United States were Northern Europeans, predominately Irish and Germanic peoples.
3. Examples include: Political liberty, equality of opportunity, economic freedom, social mobility, and religious freedom.
4. Prior to the 1800s, the majority of immigrants were British migrants who arrived in the modern day United States as either colonists or indentured servants. Additionally, a large number of persons were forcibly transported to British North America through the African slave trade. In the 1840s, the first significant wave of Irish immigrants arrived in the United States. This would be followed by waves of German migrants. Later in the 1800's migrants from the Scandinavian countries such as Sweden, Norway, and Denmark began to arrive. Starting in the 1890s the "new wave" of immigration would begin, bringing people from Southern and Eastern Europe instead of northwest Europe, especially from Italy and the Eastern European countries of Austria-Hungary, Poland, and Russia. This would later be followed by waves of Chinese and Japanese immigrants who would face intense intolerance.
5. While Americans rightly believed that for the republic to survive the population must value certain fundamental republican principles, this idea became entangled with racial and religious prejudices. Many believed that immigrants arriving with different notions of government could threaten the fundamental principles of the country. This led to religious discrimination as well as a fear that immigrants were taking jobs and opportunities away from native-born American.
6. The Immigrants arriving in the United States were arriving in a foreign place with new strange customs, where they knew no one and many did not speak the language. Remaining close to fellow immigrants provided a sense of safety and security. It allowed immigrants to more easily assimilate in a new and unfamiliar place.

# Handout C: Graphic Organizer Answer Key

(Answers may vary)

	Colonists 1600-1776	Old Wave Era 1840-1879	New Wave Era 1880-1924	Modern Era 1924-Today
<b>Motivation for Moving</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proprietary expeditions</li> <li>Employed by investors to colonize for profit</li> <li>Religious freedom</li> <li>Slavery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Few job opportunities</li> <li>Blight, famine, and starvation</li> <li>Religious freedom</li> <li>Promise of opportunity and equality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advances in transportation and technology</li> <li>Changing economic and political situations in Europe</li> <li>Limited means and opportunities</li> <li>Fleeing religious persecution</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Religious freedom</li> <li>Economic opportunity</li> <li>Equality of opportunity</li> </ul>
<b>Challenges Faced</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uncertainty</li> <li>Difficult journey</li> <li>Financial costs or travel (indentured servitude)</li> <li>Evils of slavery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uncertainty</li> <li>Difficult journey</li> <li>Difficulty assimilating</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uncertainty</li> <li>Racism</li> <li>Religious discrimination</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Uncertainty</li> <li>Discrimination</li> </ul>

## Handout D: Letter from Mary Garvey... Answer Key

1. Mary's letter is very extensive and detailed. She asks many questions and desires to tell her mother all that she possibly can in her letter.
2. Mary is concerned with her family's physical and financial health. She asks about a large number of her family members regarding whether they are well and still living. Additionally, she seems very concerned about how much money her family has and whether or not they are able to provide for their needs.
3. Mary says many good things about her life in the United States. She is happy and content with the amount of money that she is able to make for what she is doing. Additionally, she is confident that if members of her family come to the United States they too will be able to make enough money to support their family. She describes the people as nice, pleasant, and caring.
4. Immigration has provided Mary an opportunity to work and provide for herself in a way should could not in Ireland. Mary also describes how there is no shortage of affordable food which has allowed her to live comfortably.
5. Mary is focused on the opportunity to work and the opportunity to live and provide for herself.
6. The journey to the United States is long and exhausting and carries the potential for sickness. While Mary notes that she did not have any trouble, she is concerned for her mother if she decides to make the trip. Mary also instructs her mother to ensure that she brings food that will be unavailable during the journey.
7. Mary tells her mother about how much more money can be made in the United States and the opportunities that this provides. She describes the availability of all kinds of food and how much cheaper they are than in Ireland. This indicates that the United States possessed much greater opportunity than Ireland. Earlier in her letter, Mary was worried about her Uncle being able to provide for his family. She says that if his trade is not going well then he ought to come to the United States. This reveals her confidence in her family being able to make a living in the United States if they can make the journey.