**Journal of an Immigrant**

Collaborate with your partner and choose either your own, or your partner’s family heritage. Imagine that you are the first person in your or your partner’s family to arrive in the United States. Write three journal entries that describe your experience as you arrive in America.

In your entry, you should:

* Describe what is happening to you and your family.
* Demonstrate that your culture is important to you.
* Explain your feelings about your arrival.
* Show your understandings about the immigrant experience throughout your entry (use what you have learned through our explorations of immigrants over the last few weeks).

You may use any materials that we have completed during our exploration to help you write your entries.

You may choose one of the scenarios below to write your entry about, or you may come up with your own scenario:

1. Describe your first sight of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.  What do you feel?  How do the members of your family feel?  What is happening around you on the deck of the ship?
2. Are there rumors or worries about what will happen to you when you land?  Do you hear that some people are sent back or taken away?  Write about your concerns as you listen to people give advice on what to do or say when you meet immigration officials.
3. Describe getting off the ship and being processed.  Do you feel welcomed? Scared? Confused? Do you see anyone getting rejected?  Was your family separated?  Explain what this experience is like.
4. Describe how you are treated when you arrive in America. Are you accepted into America or are you mistreated?

Collaborate with your partner and write three journal entries. Each entry must be at least 5-10 sentences long. Consult the rubric below for specifics on what should be included in the journal entries.

Rubric for Immigration Journal

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 3 Points | 2 Points | 1 Point |
| Description of experience | Author uses many (at least 10) strong adjectives to describe his/her experience.  Writing includes many five senses details. | Author uses some (5-9) strong adjectives to describe his/her experience.  Writing includes some 5 senses details. | Author includes few (0-5) strong adjectives to describe his/her experience.  Writing includes few 5 senses details. |
| Demonstration of Culture | Author shows several (3) examples that culture is important to him/her and provides specific examples. | Author shows some (2) examples that culture is important to him/her and provides some specific examples. | Author shows few examples (0-1) or is lacking evidence that culture is important to him/her and provides limited specific examples. |
| Feelings about arrival | Author shows several examples of how experience affects his/her feelings.  It is clear what the author’s feelings are.  Author includes show-don’t tells. | Author shows some examples of how experience affects his/her feelings.  It is somewhat clear what the author’s feelings are. | Author is unclear in describing feelings, provides few examples of how experiences affect feelings. |
| Understanding of immigrant experience | Author provides several pieces of evidence from readings about the immigrant experience. | Author provides some evidence from the readings about the immigrant experience. | Author provides few pieces of evidence from the readings about the immigrant experience. |
| Conventions | All words are spelled correctly. Sentences are punctuated properly. | Most words are spelled correctly.  Most sentences are punctuated properly. | There are many misspelled words.  There are many punctuation mistakes. |

Journal Entry #1:

Journal Entry #2:

Journal Entry #3: