

Name _____

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Vocabulary

Immigration

assimilation N. Process by which a minority group adapts and becomes part of the majority culture, often giving up much of their old culture to do so. (Opponents of bilingual education claim that immigrants should assimilate and learn English).

culture N. The learned way of life for a particular group. Includes customs, beliefs, expressions of beauty, language, clothing, foods, *etc.* (There is a huge argument over whether there is such a thing as “American culture”.)

diaspora N. The dispersion of people from their original homeland. (Communities of Palestinians in Toledo and the metro-Detroit area are evidence of a Palestinian diaspora.)

displaced person N. One who has been driven from his home because of war or other turmoil. (After WW II there were millions of displaced persons [called DPs]. Many ended up settling in the US.)

emigration N. To leave a country and settle in another. (My grandparents emigrated from Slovenia in 1929.)

ethnic N. Of, relating to, or characteristic of a sizable group of people sharing a common and distinctive racial, national, religious, linguistic, or cultural heritage. (Polish, Lebanese and Mexican are a few of the many ethnic groups represented in Toledo.)

exodus N. The departure of a large number of people. (There was an exodus of Jews from Europe to Israel after WW II).

immigration N. The process of entering and settling in a new country. (Mexican immigration into the United States is a hot issue today)

melting pot N. A metaphor used to describe the idea that America is made up of many different cultures who came here and added their culture to a mixture that “melted” together into a new American culture. (The first proponents of the American melting pot were very utopian; they pictured all races and ethnic groups living in harmony).

nationality N. Ties to a country by birth or naturalization. (The Beatles’ nationality was English.)

nativism N. Anti-foreigner feelings. (Nativists want to slam the door on immigration)

naturalization N. The process to become an American citizen. (The German-born mother of a TECHS student became a citizen in 2010 at a naturalization ceremony at the Mud Hens stadium.)

pluralism N. When numerous distinct ethnic, religious, or cultural groups are present and tolerated within a society. (America’s diverse society is very pluralistic.)

push factor N. Something going on in the home country that would make someone want to leave. (Political oppression in Cuba is a push factor prompting people to want to leave.)

pull factor N. Something appealing about another country that makes you want to move there. (Economic opportunity is a pull factor that brings many immigrants to America).

quota N. A percentage or number of people or things that sets a limit for something. (Throughout US history there have been quotas (limits) on how many immigrants from certain countries could enter the US.)

refugee N. Someone who flees or is kicked out of their home country usually because of political turmoil, war or natural disasters. (Violence in the Congo has resulted in hundreds of thousands of refugees.)

salad bowl N. A metaphor for a society where immigrant groups retain their former cultures after moving to a new place. (The salad bowl metaphor is also sometimes referred to as a *mosaic*.)

steerage N. The crowded under-decks area of an immigrant ship. (In the movie *Titanic* the rich were in cabins and the poor were below in steerage.)

tenement N. A run-down, crowded apartment building, often inhabited by immigrants. (In New York City there is a very interesting tenement museum [<http://www.tenement.org>].)

xenophobia N. Hatred or fear of foreigners or strangers (Japanese-Americans suffered from xenophobic attitudes during WW II.)