



YONKERS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

US History and Government
Regents Review

Nativism

Reaction Against Immigration

The flood of immigration in the late 1800s brought with it a new wave of **nativism**. This was the belief that native-born Americans and their ways of life were superior to immigrants and their ways of life. In the late 1800s, descendants of the old immigrants were often among the nativists protesting the arrival of new immigrants.

Nativists believed that immigrant languages, religions, and traditions would have a negative impact on American society. Nativist workers believed that the many new immigrants competing for jobs kept wages low. A series of downturns in the economy added to fears that immigrants would take jobs from native-born Americans.

Immigrants thus often met with prejudice and discrimination. Jokes and stereotypes about the newcomers were common. Nativists also tried to influence legislation against immigrants. Key developments in this area are included in the chart on the following page.

Name: _____

- 1) Nativism in the late 19th century was motivated primarily by
 - 1) the need to reduce overcrowding in western states
 - 2) the migration of African Americans to northern cities
 - 3) hostility toward immigrant workers
 - 4) cultural conflicts with Native American Indians
- 2) Based on a study of the trial of Sacco and Vanzetti (1920's) and the internment of Japanese Americans (1940's), which conclusion is *most* accurate?
 - 1) Nativism and racism sometimes override the ideals of constitutional democracy.
 - 2) Internment of suspected criminals is necessary during wartime.
 - 3) The Bill of Rights is not intended to apply to naturalized citizens.
 - 4) Racial and ethnic hostilities are effectively checked by adherence to due process of law.
- 3) What do nativists generally believe about immigrants?
 - 1) Immigrants take jobs from Americans.
 - 2) Immigrants are better workers.
 - 3) Immigrants bring valuable skills to the marketplace.
 - 4) Immigrants assimilate easily into society.
- 4) The Chinese Exclusion Act (1882) and the Gentlemen's Agreement with Japan (1907) are examples of
 - 1) successful negotiations to encourage trade
 - 2) actions that reflected widespread nativist sentiment
 - 3) United States attempts to stay out of foreign wars
 - 4) international humanitarian programs
- 5) One way in which the Chinese Exclusion Act, the Gentlemen's Agreement, and the National Origins Act were similar is that *all* were expressions of
 - 1) imperialism
 - 2) militarism
 - 3) nativism
 - 4) Manifest Destiny
- 6) Which expression most accurately illustrates the concept of nativism?
 - 1) "America — first in war and peace"
 - 2) "Go West, young man."
 - 3) "Help Wanted — Irish Need Not Apply"
 - 4) "The only thing we have to fear, is fear itself."
- 7) In the 1920's, the growth of the Ku Klux Klan and the passage of restrictive immigration laws reflected a *growing American belief in*
 - 1) socialism
 - 2) nativism
 - 3) internationalism
 - 4) imperialism
- 8) Which action is an example of nativism in the 1920's?
 - 1) widespread violation of Prohibition laws
 - 2) efforts to improve living conditions for Native American Indians
 - 3) passage of laws restricting immigration
 - 4) provision of credit to farmers
- 9) An experience of the majority of immigrants to the United States was that they
 - 1) settled in rural areas where cheap land was available
 - 2) frequently met resentment
 - 3) joined radical political parties to bring about economic reform
 - 4) were rapidly assimilated into the predominant lifestyle
- 10) "So they gladly gave us their 'masses' and now we find ourselves 'tired' of their alien customs, 'poor' and out of work due to their cheapening of the labor market, and 'huddled' with our backs against the wall trying desperately to preserve the wholesome American culture."

Which idea is expressed in this quotation?

 - 1) pluralism
 - 2) imperialism
 - 3) multiculturalism
 - 4) nativism

- 11) "There are too many foreigners and undesirables coming into the United States. Let's pull up the ladder."

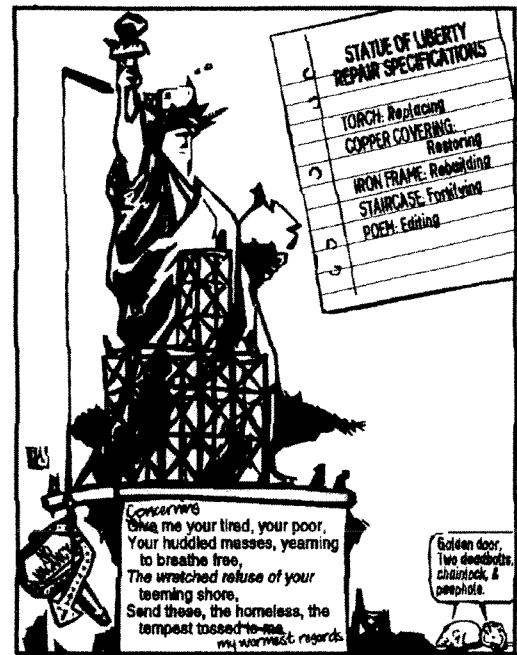
This statement *best* illustrates the concept of

- 1) nativism
 - 2) reverse discrimination
 - 3) populism
 - 4) social mobility
- 12) "The government ought to stop those aliens from coming in and taking jobs from Americans."

This statement expresses an idea most closely related to

- 1) assimilation
- 2) nativism
- 3) protectionism
- 4) patriotism

13)



Assuming the Statue of Liberty were repaired according to the cartoon's specifications, which concept would the statue most clearly represent?

- 1) universal brotherhood
- 2) nativism
- 3) ethnic pluralism
- 4) humanitarianism

14) Which has been a major cause of nativism throughout United States history?

- 1) a desire for national unity in times of crisis
- 2) the expansion of public education
- 3) the lack of cultural diversity
- 4) a desire to support established government policy

15) In the United States during the late 1800's, nativist reactions to immigration were intensified by

- 1) an increasing disregard of basic civil rights by the government
- 2) a declining urban population
- 3) corruption scandals at all levels of government
- 4) difficult economic conditions