



Lesson 12.7: Immigration Expert Project

Name _____

Immigration Expert Project

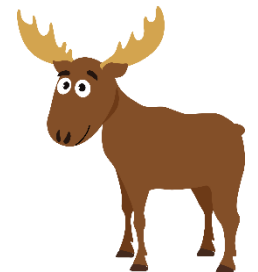
After many years of hard work, you have made a life for yourself in the new country. Congratulations! Now, relatives from back home are struggling and writing to ask for your advice about immigrating.

Your group will decide together how to respond to your relatives. Fortunately, you are now an expert on immigration in New Hampshire. Read their letters carefully and consider how you could respond to them. You may use whatever could realistically be sent in the mail in 1890 at little expense to tell them about immigration. You could:

- Write letters to respond to their questions
- Send them drawings or photographs, poems or songs to show them about life in the United States
- Show them relevant newspaper clippings or excerpts from your journal to give them more information
- Send them small items from your immigration experience or from life in New Hampshire

They will write you four letters. Until you receive them, you cannot predict what they will write about, but it is safe to assume they will ask you about:

1. What it was like to immigrate to New Hampshire
2. What jobs and housing are available where you live
3. What the community is like and how people in the state treat you
4. Your advice: Are you glad you immigrated? What do they need to know?



When you respond to them, make sure that:

- You have one response per letter to make four total responses
- You answer their questions with details from your knowledge
- You use your expertise about immigration from this unit to be as factual and specific as possible
- You are creative and have fun; it's ok to make up small details to make your story believable but do not change history!
- You work cooperatively with your group to make decisions and share the workload



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Name _____

Your contributions to the project: _____

Rubric for Immigration Expert Project

| | Above Standard (4) | At Standard (3) | Approaching Standard (2) | Below Standard (1) | Self | Teacher |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------------------|----------------|
| Completeness | All responses are included and are thorough. Meets project guidelines. Contains detailed information. | A few responses are missing. Meets project guidelines; includes some details and is sort-of thorough. | Some important information is missing and/or too general in responses. Mostly meets project guidelines. | Does not respond appropriately and/or does not meet project guidelines. | | |
| Creativity | Original product creatively expresses information. Uses a variety of types of responses. | Original product expresses the information. Uses more than one type of response. | Product expresses information but needs more creativity. Mostly responds in one way. | Product does not show much creativity. Responds only in one way. | | |
| Correctness | All information is correct. Includes extra material to answer questions. | Information is correct but does not include extra material. | Information is only mostly correct and does not include extra material. | Information is mostly incorrect. | | |
| Appropriate Communication | All information is clear, easy to understand, and realistically presented. | Information is mostly clear, understandable, and realistic. | Information is not very clear and is only partially realistic. | Information is not understandable and not very realistic. | | |
| Effort and Time | Effort is obvious. Project is completed on time. | Effort is present. Project is completed on time. | Some effort is present, but more is needed. Project might be late. | The product does not show significant effort. Project is late. | | |
| Comments: | | | | | Total of 20 points: | |



Lesson 12.7: Immigration Expert Project

Group Members: _____ Portsmouth Group

Expert on Immigration Introduction: Yakov Levich in Portsmouth, NH, in 1906

Your name is Yakov Levich, and you have lived in Portsmouth, NH, for 15 years. You have a wife, Sarah, and some children. You immigrated in 1891 from Russia because of religious oppression and harsh laws against Jews. You met Sarah once you arrived in Portsmouth, and the two of you married in 1894. Her family immigrated from Russia as well, and her cousins helped her come here. You have a small Jewish grocery story, and your wife and children help in the business whenever they can.

Portsmouth has a Jewish community and you worship with other men at people's homes. Your sister, Natasha Shestov, has recently written you from the homeland asking for your advice and your help.





Lesson 12.7: Immigration Expert Project

Group Members: _____ Berlin Group

Expert on Immigration Introduction: Leonie Bouchard in Berlin, NH, in 1868

Your name is Leonie Bouchard, and you have lived in Berlin, NH, for 14 years. You have a husband, Anton, and a family. You immigrated in 1854 with your parents from French-speaking Canada because of a lack of opportunity and jobs. You met Anton once you arrived in Berlin, and you two married in 1858. Anton is also from French Canada, and he works as a logger, which is dangerous but profitable. You take in mending and sewing jobs to help the family while you take care of your children. Some of them work in the paper mills. Berlin has a strong French-Canadian community with a Catholic church, although sometimes you feel the settled townspeople are intolerant. Your brother, Andre Marcoux, has recently written you from the homeland asking for your advice and your help.



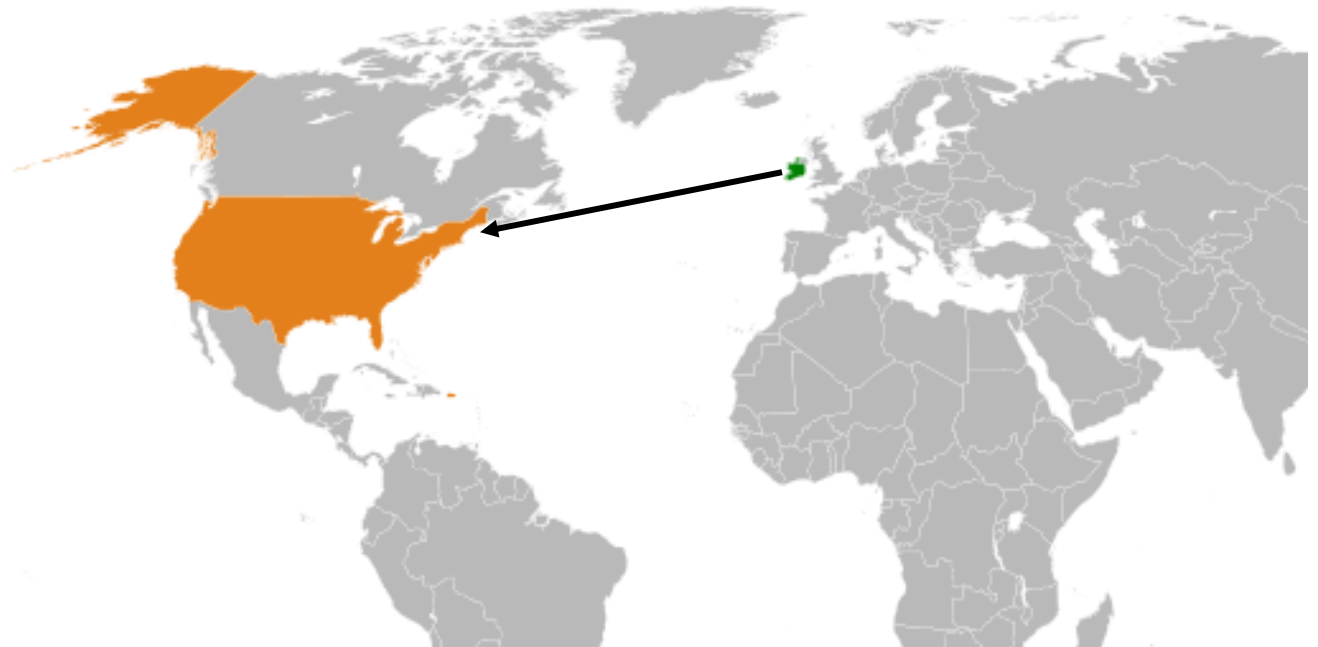


Lesson 12.7: Immigration Expert Project

Group Members: _____ Manchester Group

Expert on Immigration Introduction: Cathleen Kenefick in Manchester, NH, in 1849

Your name is Cathleen Kenefick, and you have lived in Manchester, NH, for four years. You have a husband, Liam, and a family. You immigrated in 1845 from Ireland because of failing crops and famine. You and Liam immigrated with two children, and you have grown your family since then. Liam works in a textile mill with the two oldest children, and you care of the young ones while taking in laundry to make extra money. You enjoy the Irish community in Manchester, although sometimes the settled townspeople are intolerant of your Catholic religion. Your cousin, Niall McGowan, has recently written you from the homeland asking for your advice and your help.





July 20, 1906

Portsmouth Letter 1

Dear Brother Yakou,

It was so good to get your letter and hear how the children are growing. It must be very exciting sending them to school in the new country. Are they learning a lot about America?

Our news here is not as good. My husband's shop has not been doing well. He is as talented a tailor as ever, but people are not coming to hire him. Even Russians who used his father twenty years ago are deciding they do not want Jews here and so will not give him business. His shop has not failed yet, but we are having trouble. We need a place with more opportunities.

The children are doing well. Rebeckah is becoming quite the artist. She draws the things she sees around her everyday—yesterday, she drew a picture of me and Leah winnowing the Temple's grain.

We are thinking about immigrating to the United States, as so many of our people have done. I know it has been more than 15 years since you immigrated, but I was hoping you could answer some questions for us, my dear brother. How did you get to the United States? What was it like on the trip? How much did it cost? What did you bring? Please help however you can.

Love, Your sister Natasha



August 30, 1906

Portsmouth Letter 2

Dear Yakou,

Thank you so much for your letter. Your details about the trip to New Hampshire and the United States were helpful. Could you help us more? I am afraid our troubles are continuing. Without enough business, we have not enough money to buy food. We have our little garden and our goats, but we are hungry. I am worried about how to pay the landlord his due at the end of the season. Plus, I heard about violence and riots against the Jews from Abram's family near Kiev. It is becoming very clear they do not want us here.

I know that you work in your grocery store with Sarah and the children help when they can. If we came, can we help with that until Abram can establish himself as a tailor? Are there other jobs available? What is the work like? We are not sure what we are doing to do. What do you think?

What is your home like? If we came over, could we live with you for a while? I know that there are five of us, but we would help however we can and earn our keep. Do you think there would be a place for us in Portsmouth? I am afraid there is not very much left for us in the homeland.

Fondly and with hope,
Your sister Natasha



September 15, 1906

Portsmouth Letter 3

Dearest brother Yakou,

I have not even received your newest letter telling us about jobs and housing in Portsmouth. I have to write—there has been another attack on Jews. This time, it was in our village, in our home. The Russian soldiers burned our shop but then prevented us from running away. I think they wanted to see our fear. A neighbor family lost their father and two sons. We must do something before that happens to us. We have decided: there is nothing for us here, we must emigrate.

We have so many questions about our new country. What is the community like? Can we worship the way we want? How can my husband Abram attend services? What else do you do when not working? Do you think Sarah could show me the traditions of American women?

How do people treat Jewish people in New Hampshire? There must be many Russian Jews there now. What do the Americans think of us?

Write to us in Odessa. We will go there as soon as we can to await passage to Boston.

Many thanks and love,
your sister Natasha



October 12, 1906

Portsmouth Letter 4

My dearest brother Yakou,

Thank you, thank you! We received your letters with great joy. I knew our family could count on you. We will help out and will work so hard that we will not be a burden on you for long.

We have sold or left everything we own, and travel with only a few bags. But we really have everything we need since we have our family and our God. We are hearing that our steamship to Boston will come soon. I am a little nervous about the trip since your letter described such a difficult voyage, but what choice do we have?

Tell me the truth: are you glad you immigrated? Is it very difficult in the new country? What do we really need to know to be ready for life there?

We cannot wait to see you again after fifteen years, and to meet Sarah and your family. I hope that your last letter reaches me before we leave—how will we find you once we get to Portsmouth?

Many, many thanks and blessings,
Your sister Natasha



July 20, 1868

Berlin Letter 1

Dearest Leonie,

It was so good to get your letter and hear how the children are growing. It must be very exciting sending them to work in the new country. Are they learning a lot about factory work?

Our news here is not as good. I was not able to secure enough land for farming all my crops this season. It is really amazing how the population has grown here—and all of them farmers. There is less and less land available. This was a fine area for growing up in, but now that the children are getting bigger, I am thinking more and more about working in a big town like you and Anton.

We are thinking about immigrating to the United States, as so many of our countrymen have done. I know it has been a few years since you immigrated, but I was hoping you could answer some questions for us, my dear sister. How did you get to the United States? What was it like on the trip? How much did it cost? What did you bring? Please help however you can.

Love,

Your brother Andre



August 30, 1868

Berlin Letter 2

Dear Leonie,

Thank you so much for your letter. Your details about the trip to New Hampshire and the United States were helpful. Could you aid us more? I am afraid our troubles are continuing. With no extra crops, I have nothing to sell and so no money. My landlords are not being kind. They show us no understanding when we try to tell them why we have no money to pay the rent. I fear that soon we will have no place to live.

I know that your husband Anton works logging the forests and that some of your children are old enough to work in the paper mills. What is the work like? Are there other jobs available? We are not sure what we are doing to do. What do you think? I keep seeing the advertisements for workers needed in the magazines. They even write in French! The advertisements are very positive.

Where do you live? If we came over, could we live with you for a while? I know that there are five of us, but we would do whatever we can and earn our keep. Do you think there would be a place for us in Berlin? I am afraid there is not very much left for us here in the homeland.

Fondly and with hope,
Your brother Andre



September 15, 1868

Berlin Letter 3

Dearest Leonie,

I have not even received your newest letter telling us about jobs and housing in Berlin. I have to write—we have been thrown out of our home because we do not have enough money to pay rent. We have nothing now. I do hope there is a letter on the way telling us we can stay with you.

We have decided: we must emigrate. We have many questions about our new country. Are the churches strong and well-attended? What else do you do when not working?

How do people treat the French in New Hampshire? What do you think the Americans think of us? Is it ok to speak French?

I ask for your prayers for my dear boy, Jacques. His sickness continues. He seems to be doing better now, he is stronger, but we really need to have more food and warmer clothes for him. He and our other children are the main reason we must go to America.

Write to us in Montreal. We will go there as soon as we can to await passage to New Hampshire.

Many thanks and love, Andre



October 12, 1868

Berlin Letter 4

Dearest Leonie,

Thank you, thank you! We received your letters with great joy. I knew our family could count on you. We will help out and will work so hard that we will not be a burden on you for long.

We are hearing that our train to New Hampshire will come through soon. I am borrowing some money from our uncle for all the tickets, but I am sure I will be able to repay him soon. I am a little nervous about the trip, but what choice do we have? We must have work and we must have opportunities for our children.

Tell me the truth: are you glad you immigrated? Is it very difficult in the new country? What do we really need to know to be ready for life there?

We cannot wait to see you again after fourteen years. I hope that your last letter reaches me before we leave—how will we find you once we get to Berlin?

Many, many thanks and blessings,
Your brother Andre



July 20, 1849

Dear cousin Cathleen,

It was so good to get your letter and hear how the children are growing. It must be very exciting sending them to work in the new country.

Our news here is not as good. The potato blight is back and has infected about half our crops. It is horrible. When you cut a potato in half, you can see the black blight all through it. It's like a rot that infects everything. If anyone tries to eat potatoes that have blight, and they get sick.

We are not sure what we are doing to do. If half the crops are gone, we will not have enough to pay rent, eat, and plant for next year. If we cannot eat enough, how will we have the energy to work?

We are thinking about immigrating to the United States, as so many of our countrymen have done. I was hoping you could answer some questions for us. How did you get to the United States? What was it like on the voyage? How much did it cost? What did you bring?

Please help however you can.

Love, cousin Niall



August 30, 1849

Dearest cousin Cathleen,

Thank you so much for your letter. Your details about the voyage were helpful. Could you help us more? I am afraid the blight is spreading and that soon we will have no choice but to leave. Our landlords are not being kind. They show us no understanding when we try to tell them why we have no money to pay the rent. I fear that soon we will have no place to live.

I know that Liam works in the textile factory and that the children can work there too. What is the work like? Are there other jobs available? As you know, my wife and oldest daughter have kept the skill of making lace. Do you think they could get work with that? They could teach others.

Where do you live? If we came over, could we live with you for a while? I know that there are five of us, but we would help however we can and earn our keep. Do you think there would be a place for us in Manchester? I am afraid there is not very much left for us in the home country.

Fondly and with hope,
Niall



September 15, 1849

Dearest cousin Cathleen,

I have not even received your newest letter telling us about jobs and housing in Manchester. I have to write—we have been thrown out of our home because we do not have enough money to pay rent. I do hope there is a letter on the way telling us we can stay with you. For we have decided: we must emigrate.

We have so many questions about our new country. What is the community like? Are the churches strong and well-attended? What else do you do when not working?

How do people treat the Irish in New Hampshire? There must be many Irish there now. What do you think the Americans think of us?

It is hard here to see our landlord's riches while we have nothing. Remember where the landlord's sheep graze, so close to our house? You must know that if we even touched them, we would be killed, but being so hungry it has been very difficult.

Write to us in Cork. We will go there as soon as we can to await passage to Boston.
Many thanks and love, cousin Niall



October 12, 1849

Dearest cousin Cathleen,

Thank you, thank you! We received your letters with great joy. I knew our family could count on you. We will help out and will work so hard that we will not be a burden on your for long.

We are hearing that our passage to Boston will happen soon. We are waiting at Cork, and the girls are making lace! So much lace—we have been waiting a little while. I am a little nervous about the trip since your letter described such a difficult voyage, but what choice do we have? I am trying to be positive.

Tell me the truth: are you glad you immigrated? Is it very difficult in the new country? What do we really need to know to be ready for life there?

We cannot wait to see you again after four years. I hope that your last letter reaches me before we leave—how will we find you once we get to Manchester?

Many, many thanks and blessings,
Niall