Paths to Idaho

Read about challenges faced by three groups of newcomers.

4.SS.5.2 "Describe the challenges experienced by people from various cultural, racial, and religious groups that settled in Idaho from various parts of the world."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one challenge faced by each group. Circle words that show how that challenge affected people's lives.

Making a Home in Idaho

1. In the 1800s, many Chinese workers came to Idaho to mine gold. Mining camps could be crowded and cold, but some workers faced another problem: unfair treatment. Idaho Territory charged Chinese miners a special tax that other miners did not have to pay. This left them with less money from their work. Some people also refused to welcome Chinese neighbors, making it harder to feel safe and at home.

2. Basque people came to Idaho from areas of Spain and France. Many found work caring for sheep on open land. A shepherd might spend weeks far from town, sleeping in a small wagon and watching the flock. The long time alone could feel lonely. Some Basque newcomers also spoke little English, so talking with people in town or asking for help could be difficult.

3. Families from Mexico also came to Idaho for farm work, including growing and harvesting sugar beets. Some moved from place to place as jobs changed with the seasons. Moving often could make it hard for children to stay in one school. Farm families sometimes lived in crowded housing and faced prejudice because of their background. These challenges were not the same as a special tax or weeks alone with sheep.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the special tax affect Chinese miners?

2. Why could life on the open land be hard for Basque shepherds?

3. How could moving for farm work affect children in families from Mexico?

4. Describe one difference between the challenges faced by Chinese miners and Basque newcomers.

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Write a three-sentence museum label about two groups in the passage. Describe a different challenge faced by each group, then suggest one way neighbors today could help people facing a similar challenge.

ANSWER KEY

Paths to Idaho

GRADE 4 · 4.SS.5.2

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one challenge faced by each group. Circle words that show how that challenge affected people's lives. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the special tax affect Chinese miners?	**It left Chinese miners with less money from their work.**
2	Why could life on the open land be hard for Basque shepherds?	**They could spend weeks far from town, which could feel lonely.**
3	How could moving for farm work affect children in families from Mexico?	**Moving often could make it hard for children to stay in one school.**
4	Describe one difference between the challenges faced by Chinese miners and Basque newcomers.	**Chinese miners had to pay a special tax, while some Basque newcomers had trouble talking with people in town because they spoke little English.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Chinese miners had to pay a special tax, leaving them with less money. Basque shepherds often spent weeks alone, far from town. Today, neighbors could invite newcomers to community gatherings so they have chances to meet people.

Accept any two accurate, distinct challenges from the passage. The final sentence should suggest a helpful action that fits at least one of those challenges.