One Harbor, Many Views

Read how people experienced New York Harbor at different times.

4.G.8 "Identify historical perspectives about Native Americans, Africans, early settlers, and other immigrant groups."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline one detail that shows how each group viewed or experienced the harbor: Lenape people, Dutch settlers, enslaved Africans, free Black New Yorkers, and Irish immigrants. Label your underlines L, D, A, F, and I.

New York Harbor Through Many Eyes

1. Long before New York City had busy docks, Lenape communities lived near its harbor. They traveled by canoe, fished, and traded along the shore. The water was part of their home and helped feed their families. In the 1600s, Dutch settlers arrived to trade and build a colony. Many settlers saw the harbor as a place for ships, goods, and new homes. Their plans changed land the Lenape already used.

2. The Dutch colony also brought enslaved Africans to the harbor. Some were forced to build roads, unload ships, and work on farms. For them, a ship could mean being taken far from home, not a chance to trade. Enslaved people resisted in different ways and sought freedom. In later years, some free Black New Yorkers worked on the docks and built communities nearby.

3. In the 1840s and 1850s, many Irish families arrived at New York's harbor after hunger and hardship in Ireland. A newcomer might see the docks as a first step toward work and safety, while also worrying about finding a place to live. Irish immigrants often faced unfair treatment. The same harbor meant home, trade, forced labor, or a new start to different people at different times.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. How did the Lenape and Dutch settlers see the harbor differently?

2. How might an enslaved African and a Dutch settler have felt differently about a ship at the harbor?

3. How could a free Black dockworker in later years experience the waterfront differently from an enslaved African forced to unload ships?

4. Why might an Irish newcomer feel both hope and worry at the docks?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Imagine an Irish immigrant and a free Black dockworker talking at the harbor in the 1850s. Write four lines of dialogue, two for each person, that show different hopes or concerns and include at least two accurate details from the passage.

ANSWER KEY

One Harbor, Many Views

GRADE 4 · 4.G.8

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline one detail that shows how each group viewed or experienced the harbor: Lenape people, Dutch settlers, enslaved Africans, free Black New Yorkers, and Irish immigrants. Label your underlines L, D, A, F, and I. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did the Lenape and Dutch settlers see the harbor differently?	**For Lenape communities, the harbor was part of their home and helped feed their families. Many Dutch settlers saw it as a place for ships, trade, and new homes.**
2	How might an enslaved African and a Dutch settler have felt differently about a ship at the harbor?	**A ship could mean being taken far from home for an enslaved African. A Dutch settler might see ships as a way to bring goods for trade.**
3	How could a free Black dockworker in later years experience the waterfront differently from an enslaved African forced to unload ships?	**A free Black dockworker could work there and be part of a nearby community. An enslaved African was forced to work there and sought freedom.**
4	Why might an Irish newcomer feel both hope and worry at the docks?	**The docks could be a first step toward work and safety, but the newcomer might worry about finding a place to live.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Irish immigrant: My family came from Ireland after hunger and hardship.
Free Black dockworker: I work on these docks, near the community we have built.
Irish immigrant: I hope to find work, but I worry about finding a home.
Free Black dockworker: I hope our community can keep growing here by the water.

Accept historically grounded inferences supported by the passage. For the dialogue, look for two lines per speaker, distinct hopes or concerns, and at least two accurate passage details.