

First Steps Here

Read how immigrants arrived and began new lives in New York State.

4.7a "Immigrants came to New York State for a variety of reasons. Many immigrants arriving in New York City were greeted by the sight of the Statue of Liberty and were processed through Ellis Island."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each reason people came to New York State. Circle the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island to show two important parts of many immigrants' arrivals.

Arriving in New York

- ① During the 1800s and early 1900s, people left many countries and traveled to New York State. Some fled hunger, poverty, or unfair treatment. Others hoped to find jobs, join family members, or practice their religion freely. Irish families, for example, left during the potato famine, when a plant disease ruined much of Ireland's potato crop.
- ② The Statue of Liberty was dedicated in 1886, and Ellis Island opened as an immigration station in 1892. For many later arrivals by ship, the statue was an unforgettable sight. Many immigrants then went to Ellis Island. Officials checked names and papers, asked questions, and looked for signs of serious illness. The process could feel confusing and stressful, especially for families who did not speak English.
- ③ After arrival, families had to build new lives. They searched for homes and work, learned how to get around a busy city, and adjusted to unfamiliar customs. Some found help from relatives or people from the same community. Immigrants brought languages, foods, music, skills, and traditions that helped New York State grow and change over time.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE Use the passage

1 What are two reasons people came to New York State?

2 What sight greeted many people arriving by ship in New York City, and where did many immigrants go next?

3 Name two things government officials did at Ellis Island.

4 Name two things immigrants brought that helped New York State grow and change.

3 YOUR TURN Your own words

Write a three-sentence story about an invented immigrant arriving in New York City in 1905. Include a specific reason for leaving home, what the person sees or does on arrival, and one challenge the person faces.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each reason people came to New York State. Circle the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island to show two important parts of many immigrants' arrivals. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What are two reasons people came to New York State?	Any two: to escape hunger, poverty, or unfair treatment; to find jobs; to join family members; or to practice religion freely.
2	What sight greeted many people arriving by ship in New York City, and where did many immigrants go next?	They saw the Statue of Liberty, and many then went to Ellis Island.
3	Name two things government officials did at Ellis Island.	Any two: checked names and papers, asked questions, or looked for signs of serious illness.
4	Name two things immigrants brought that helped New York State grow and change.	Any two: languages, foods, music, skills, or traditions.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

In this invented story, Anna leaves Italy because her family needs work. When her ship reaches New York City in 1905, she sees the Statue of Liberty and goes to Ellis Island for questions. She worries because she does not understand much English.

Accept only reasons, arrival details, and contributions stated in the passage for Questions 1 through 4. For the open response, accept varied invented details if all three required parts are included and the information is historically reasonable.