

New Paths, New Voices

Trace how immigration policy and newcomers changed postwar communities.

8.8b "The postwar United States experienced increasing immigration, debates over immigration policy, and an increase in cultural diversity."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline the 1965 policy change. Circle three examples of diversity or contributions. Mark two contrasting policy viewpoints with 1 and 2.

Immigration Changes Communities

- ① After World War II, immigration helped change the United States. Earlier national-origins quotas favored northern and western Europe. The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 replaced that system, emphasizing family reunification and needed job skills. It reduced discriminatory barriers, especially for Asian immigrants, but also introduced a numerical limit on immigration from the Western Hemisphere. The law changed opportunities without ending all restrictions.
- ② New York City showed these changes clearly. Families from the Dominican Republic, China, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Jamaica, Nigeria, and many other places built lives in its neighborhoods. Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, Bengali, Arabic, and other languages became more common in homes, stores, and community groups. Newcomers opened businesses, worked in hospitals and construction, created art and food traditions, and started religious and civic organizations. Their contributions helped shape the city's economy and daily life while adding to its cultural diversity.
- ③ Immigration policy remained debated after 1965. Some people argued that immigration strengthens the economy, reunites families, and brings new ideas. Others worried about competition for jobs, pressure on housing or schools, or how the government should enforce border and visa laws. Congress and presidents have disagreed about legal admission numbers, refugee policies, work permits, and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants. These debates show that immigration affects communities and raises questions about fairness, security, and the nation's future.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What immigration system did the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 replace, and what did the new law give preference to?

2 Name two details from the passage that show cultural diversity in New York City.

3 Identify two ways that newcomers contributed to New York City's economy or daily life.

4 What is one argument in favor of immigration and one concern about immigration policy described in the passage?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a realistic four-sentence snapshot of a post-1965 newcomer group in a U.S. neighborhood. Include one connection to immigration policy, two cultural or economic changes the group brings, and one immigration-policy debate the community might discuss.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline the 1965 policy change. Circle three examples of diversity or contributions. Mark two contrasting policy viewpoints with 1 and 2. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What immigration system did the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965 replace, and what did the new law give preference to?	It replaced the national-origins quota system. The new law gave preference to family reunification and people with needed job skills.
2	Name two details from the passage that show cultural diversity in New York City.	Answers may include people from many countries, languages such as Spanish or Bengali, food and art traditions, religious organizations, or civic organizations.
3	Identify two ways that newcomers contributed to New York City's economy or daily life.	Answers may include opening businesses, working in hospitals or construction, creating art and food traditions, or starting religious and civic organizations.
4	What is one argument in favor of immigration and one concern about immigration policy described in the passage?	Supporters said immigration can strengthen the economy, reunite families, and bring new ideas. Concerns included job competition, pressure on housing or schools, and enforcement of border and visa laws.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After 1965, a Bangladeshi family joins relatives in a New York neighborhood. They open a grocery store, hire local workers, and sell foods that introduce neighbors to new traditions. Bengali is heard in the store and at a new community organization. At a public meeting, residents debate whether immigration rules should admit more relatives, balancing family reunification with concerns about housing.

Accept any passage-based details for Questions 2 and 3. For the open response, accept a plausible imagined community snapshot that includes all four required elements and accurately presents a debate rather than treating one view as a proven fact.