

Many Voices, One Nation

Read how migration, city growth, conflict, and civic action shaped the United States.

8.23 "Culture. The student understands the relationships between and among people from various groups, including racial, ethnic, and religious groups, during the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries. The student is expected to: identify racial..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each racial, ethnic, or religious group named in the passage. Circle each reason people came or were brought to North America, then number three ways people responded to conflict or contributed to society.

Newcomers, Cities, and Change

- ① During the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries, people arrived in North America for different reasons. English Puritans sought communities where they could practice their religion. Quakers, including many from England, also wanted religious freedom in Pennsylvania. Enslaved Africans were forcibly brought across the Atlantic and built lives and cultures under cruel conditions. Irish immigrants fled poverty and famine in the 1840s. German immigrants often sought land, jobs, and political freedom after unrest in Europe at home.
- ② As cities grew rapidly, crowded neighborhoods brought people with different religions, incomes, and political ideas into close contact. In the 1840s and 1850s, some native-born Protestants feared Catholic Irish and German newcomers. Nativist groups supported laws and candidates that favored native-born Americans, while immigrants organized to defend their interests. Factory owners, skilled workers, and poor laborers also disagreed over wages and working conditions. Such tensions sometimes led to discrimination, riots, and violent attacks, especially during elections or economic hardship.
- ③ People responded to conflict in many ways. Immigrant communities created mutual-aid societies, churches, newspapers, and schools that offered support and a public voice. Reformers pushed for fairer treatment, while some political leaders sought votes from immigrant neighborhoods. African Americans formed churches, schools, abolitionist organizations, and conventions to resist slavery and claim equal rights. Women contributed as reformers, workers, writers, and organizers. For example, Sojourner Truth spoke against slavery and for women's rights, and Jane Addams later organized settlement-house services for urban families.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 Choose two groups from the first paragraph. Explain why each group came to North America, or explain how one group was brought here.

2 How did rapid urbanization help create conflict among people in the 1840s and 1850s? Use two details from the passage.

3 Identify two ways people addressed conflicts or unfair treatment. Explain how each way could help a group gain support or a public voice.

4 What contributions did African Americans and women make to American society, according to the passage?

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Write a 70 to 100 word proposal for an 1850s city neighborhood. Include three specific actions that could reduce conflict caused by religious differences, social class, or political beliefs, and explain how the actions could help.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each racial, ethnic, or religious group named in the passage. Circle each reason people came or were brought to North America, then number three ways people responded to conflict or contributed to society. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Choose two groups from the first paragraph. Explain why each group came to North America, or explain how one group was brought here.	Puritans and Quakers sought religious freedom. Irish immigrants fled poverty and famine. German immigrants sought land, jobs, and political freedom. Enslaved Africans were forcibly brought across the Atlantic.
2	How did rapid urbanization help create conflict among people in the 1840s and 1850s? Use two details from the passage.	Crowded cities brought people with different religions, incomes, and political beliefs into close contact. Some native-born Protestants feared Catholic Irish and German immigrants, and workers and owners disagreed over wages and conditions.
3	Identify two ways people addressed conflicts or unfair treatment. Explain how each way could help a group gain support or a public voice.	Answers include creating mutual-aid societies, churches, newspapers, schools, abolitionist organizations, or conventions; organizing to defend immigrant interests; pushing for fairer treatment; and seeking votes from immigrant neighborhoods. These actions offered aid, organization, communication, or political influence.
4	What contributions did African Americans and women make to American society, according to the passage?	African Americans formed churches, schools, abolitionist organizations, and conventions to resist slavery and claim equal rights. Women contributed as reformers, workers, writers, and organizers. Sojourner Truth spoke for abolition and women's rights, and Jane Addams organized settlement-house services.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Our neighborhood should open a mutual-aid society where Irish, German, and African American families can share food, job news, and emergency help. A weekly public meeting should let Catholic and Protestant residents discuss rumors before elections. A women-led reading room and newspaper column should report unfair hiring and invite workers and owners to discuss wages. These actions give different groups a voice, reduce religious suspicion, and address class conflict without violence.

Accept equivalent details and explanations that are supported by the passage. For the open response, look for three realistic actions, a clear connection to at least one source of conflict, and an explanation of how each action could reduce tension.