

Overview

Immigration Debate

The question, “Who gets to be an American?” frames students’ engagement with the Marina Budhos novel, *Ask Me No Questions*. Text-based inferencing is a central skill for this final unit, along with analysis of plot development in fiction. Students practice note-taking from varied nonfiction sources to prepare argumentative essays about the immigration debate.

LITERATURE

Ask Me No Questions (Budhos) - Novel set in the aftermath of September 11th focusing on a Bengali immigrant family’s struggle to stay in the U.S.

Hot Topics: Immigration (Hunter) - An exploration of immigration as a worldwide phenomenon

America Street (Mazer) - A multicultural anthology of stories about young people

FLUENCY TOPICS

green cards, post September 11th restrictions on immigrants, the Muslim Registration Act, racial and ethnic profiling by police forces, routes to legal immigration and citizenship, Americanization, illegal immigration

FOCUS

Literary analysis

- Interrelation of character, plot, setting
- Tracking the development of plot across a novel, focusing on problem/resolution

Reading comprehension

- Summarizing, clarifying, predicting, and questioning as components of Reciprocal Teaching
- Question-answer relationships (QAR): contrasts between “right there,” “think and search,” “author and me,” and “on my own” questions

Decoding

- Time, negation, and direction prefixes

Debate

- Should there be open borders?
- Will legal status help the Hossain family live out their hopes and dreams?