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?