

Name _____

Torch of Meaning Answer Key

1. **Torch:** The torch symbolizes hope, guidance, and enlightenment, especially for immigrants arriving in America.
2. **Broken Chains:** They represent freedom from oppression and tyranny, connecting to the broader theme of liberty.
3. **Crown with Seven Rays:** This symbolizes universal liberty, with rays extending to all continents to show that freedom is a global ideal.
4. **Beacon of Democracy:** Newspapers used this phrase to suggest that the statue symbolized America's role as a leader in promoting democratic values.
5. **Deeper Understanding:** Recognizing symbols allows readers to see that the statue was more than a monument; it was layered with meaning, hope, and political messaging relevant to both immigrants and American citizens.

Teacher Note: Guide students to see that symbols often carry multiple interpretations depending on time, place, and perspective. Encourage them to connect these historical symbols to how monuments and icons are viewed today.