

Arrival Changes Answer Key

A strong student response should include:

- At least one accurate similarity (for example: both require inspection and approval to enter)
- At least one accurate difference (for example: long ship journeys vs. fast air travel; medical checks then vs. technology-based checks now)
- Accurate historical reference to Ellis Island era and today's airport immigration
- 5-7 complete sentences with clear comparison language (then/now, similar, different)

Teacher's Guide

Before Writing

- Review key terms: immigration, inspection, documentation, approval
- Show images of Ellis Island processing halls and modern airport immigration areas
- Brainstorm similarities and differences as a class list on the board

Scaffolding and Differentiation

- Provide sentence starters such as "One major difference is..." or "In both times..."
- Offer a word bank (ship, airplane, medical exam, passport, technology, waiting)
- Allow verbal rehearsal before writing

Engagement Ideas

- Students create a side-by-side sketch illustrating both arrival experiences
- Role-play: one student as an Ellis Island inspector, another as a modern customs officer
- Compare a primary source (Ellis Island interview) with a modern traveler video clip

Extension Opportunities

- Research how immigration laws have changed from 1900 to the present
- Write from the perspective of an immigrant from each time period
- Create a classroom timeline of major immigration policy moments in U.S. history