

Open Or Closed Answer Key

Because this is opinion writing, answers will vary, but strong responses should include:

- A clear stance for more open or more restrictive immigration policies
- At least one historical example (Ellis Island, Chinese Exclusion Act, quota laws, naturalization process, etc.)
- Logical explanation connecting history to the argument
- At least 6-8 complete sentences with correct focus on the prompt

Look for accurate historical references and text-based reasoning rather than unsupported opinions.

Teacher's Guide

Suggested Instructional Steps

- Brainstorm reasons for both sides of the argument as a class
- Review relevant historical facts from previous lessons
- Model how to connect evidence to a claim using a sentence frame: "This shows that..." or "History proves that..."

Differentiation Strategies

- Provide sentence starters (e.g., "I believe...", "For example...", "This matters because...")
- Allow students to outline verbally before writing
- Offer extended time or typed responses for students who need support

Engagement Ideas

- Classroom debate: students defend their stance using historical evidence
- Gallery walk: students post responses and leave supportive feedback
- Use real primary sources (newspaper headlines, photos) to spark ideas

Extension Opportunities

- Connect current events relating to immigration policy and compare viewpoints
- Write a second paragraph addressing counter-arguments
- Research a personal or famous immigration story and relate it to policy questions