

Main Idea and Supporting Details/Context Clues


REVIEW

Directions: Read the passage. Then read each question about the passage. Choose the best answer to each question. Mark the letter for the answer you have chosen.

The Struggle for America

Large numbers of Chinese people came to California during the Gold Rush in the mid-1800s. They were not made welcome in their new country. They were often forced to pay special taxes and fees. Only a few jobs, such as laundry work and mining, were open to them. In some places, schools refused to accept Chinese children. No state let them argue in court against non-Chinese people, and they were not allowed to become citizens.

Prejudice against Chinese people in America was intense enough in 1882 for the U.S. to pass the Chinese Exclusion Act. This barred Chinese people from entering the country as immigrants for more than sixty years. During this time, many Chinese Americans tried to change the law by going to court.

During World War II, thousands of Chinese Americans joined the U.S. armed forces. Thousands of others went to work in defense factories. In 1943, the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act meant that Chinese immigrants were welcome again.

Since that time, Chinese immigration has grown rapidly. Chinese Americans have settled in many states besides California. Today, Chinese Americans have better opportunities for education and employment.

- The main idea of this passage is that—
 - Chinese people came to America after the Gold Rush.
 - Chinese immigrants paid special taxes and fees.
 - Chinese Americans are citizens today.
 - Racial prejudice once denied opportunities to Chinese Americans.
- The word prejudice in this passage means—
 - exclusion.
 - strong dislike.
 - Chinese.
 - immigrants.
- Because of prejudice, Chinese people in America—
 - had few rights.
 - settled in California.
 - became citizens.
 - paid no taxes.
- The Chinese Exclusion Act kept Chinese people from—
 - going to court.
 - going to school.
 - entering the United States.
 - becoming citizens.
- Chinese immigration grew when—
 - the Exclusion Act was overturned.
 - Chinese Americans fought in court.
 - World War II began.
 - California became a state.



Notes for Home: Your child identified the main idea and supporting details of a passage and used context clues to understand new words. **Home Activity:** Have your child tell you the main idea of an article. Encourage him or her to use context clues to understand new words.