

City of Immigrants Part 4, Part 5, & Epilogue

Guiding Question: How do immigrants balance their commitment to family, cultural, and religious traditions with their desire to assimilate or explore the new opportunities in America?

Decision Tracker Reflection

After completing all parts of the mission, reflect on your journey in the game by answering the following questions:

1. Reflection: What value(s) did you prioritize?

- Which of the four values—maintaining traditions and family, making money and succeeding in America, fighting for fairness and change, or assimilating—did you choose to prioritize? Explain why you chose them.

2. Reflection: Did you act according to the values you chose in the game?

- How successful were you in putting those values you chose into action?
- What other factors guided your decisions in the game?

3. Reflection: What factors influence your choices in your life today?

Given the time and place that Lena lived, the choices she faced in her life are different in many ways than the choices we face in our lives today. Yet, in other ways, the influences and pressures she experienced may also be very similar to our own.

- What feels most similar between the choices Lena faced and the choices you face in your life?
- What feels most different?

4. Discussion: How well can we understand Lena?

Lena was a poor, Jewish immigrant from Russia living in a tenement and working in a factory at the start of the 20th century in one of the most crowded communities in the world. Your world is very different.

- What makes it *hard* to understand the experience of an immigrant like Lena—how she thought and felt, and why she made the decisions she did?
- What makes it possible for you to understand a turn-of-the-20th-century immigrant's experience despite all the differences?