

Prisoner in My Homeland Prologue & Part 1

Exit Ticket Answer Key

Exit Questions

1. What is the difference between Nisei—like Henry and Lily—and Issei—like their parents?
 - a) Nisei went to college and issei did not
 - b) Issei were born in Japan, but nisei only went to school there
 - c) Nisei were born in the United States and were therefore citizens, while issei were born in Japan and were not citizens.**
 - d) Nisei believed it was important to maintain their Japanese culture no matter what, while issei thought Japanese Americans must give up their culture in order to protect their families.

Answer explanation: *Issei* is the term that Japanese Americans use to describe first generation immigrants to the United States, or those who were born in Japan and migrated to the U.S. *Nisei* is the term Japanese Americans use to describe the children of *Issei* who were born in the United States. Under the 14th Amendment, anyone born in the United States is a citizen; therefore *Nisei* were automatically American citizens. Laws in the 1940s prohibited residents born in Japan from becoming citizens.

2. Why is the Tanaka family's strawberry farm legally in Henry's name?
 - a) Henry's father thought it safest to put the farm in Henry's name in case anything ever happened to the rest of the family.
 - b) At the time it was illegal for immigrants from Japan to own land in the state of Washington.**
 - c) His parents were preparing Henry to take over the farm as soon as he turned 18.
 - d) A government clerk mistakenly wrote Henry's name on the deed to the farm and refused to correct the error.

Answer explanation: In the game, players learn that it was illegal in Washington state for immigrants from Japan to own land. Due to anti-Asian racism and anti-Japanese discrimination, from 1913 to the end of World War II twelve western states, from Arkansas to Washington, passed Alien Land Laws that prohibited Japanese immigrants and those of Japanese descent from owning land.

3. Which of the following is NOT true about Executive Order 9066?
 - a) It was issued by President John F. Kennedy in 1942.**
 - b) It gave the U.S. military power to forcibly remove Japanese Americans from their homes on the West Coast and imprison them in camps.
 - c) Because of it, 120,000 Japanese Americans were forced by the government to spend World War II behind barbed wire.
 - d) Two thirds of the Japanese Americans who were imprisoned because of the order were American citizens

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Answer explanation: Soon after the December 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor by Japan, suspicion of people of Japanese descent living in the United States reached a fever pitch. The FBI and local law enforcement arrested thousands of so-called “enemy aliens” and searched Japanese American households without search warrants. On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt (not John F. Kennedy) signed Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942, authorizing the forced removal and incarceration of approximately 120,000 Japanese Americans who lived in the western United States.

4. Which of the following is true about the barrack where the Tanakas lived when they arrived at the Manzanar camp?
- a) The Tanakas had their own barrack, but shared a kitchen with another family.
 - b) The barrack was constructed of bricks that protected the Tanakas from the wind and blowing sand.
 - c) The Tanakas slept on the floor.
 - d) There were no bathrooms, and the camp latrines were still under construction.**

Answer explanation: In the game, students learn that the Tanakas shared their entire barrack with the Yamamoto family. There was no kitchen; they were provided meals in the camp mess hall. The Tanakas slept on metal bunks with mattresses stuffed with straw. The barrack was made of wood and tar paper, and knotholes in the wood allowed wind to blow sand inside. The Tanakas barrack had an oil-burning stove that did not last through the night. Not only was there no bathroom in their barrack, but the latrines for the camp had not yet been completed when they arrived at Manzanar.

5. How does Mr. Yamamoto think Nisei like him and Henry should act at Manzanar in order to prove their loyalty?
- a) He thinks they should cooperate with the authorities.
 - b) He thinks they should volunteer to work or fight for the United States.
 - c) He thinks they should be willing to give up some of their Japanese traditions.
 - d) All of the above.**

Answer explanation: Mr. Yamamoto tells Henry that he, a Block Manager, heard about Henry’s search for Lilly from a camp supervisor. In the conversation that follows, Henry learns that Mr. Yamamoto believes that Nisei should do everything they can to prove they are loyal United States citizens, including cooperating with authorities, volunteering to work and fight for the country, and giving up their traditions in order to fit in.