Prisoner in My Homeland Part 2 Teacher Guide

Guiding Question: What was it like for Japanese Americans to live, work, and go to school in prison camps like Manzanar?

Mission Reflection

After completing Part 2, discuss the questions below.

- 1. Describe Henry's high school experience at Manzanar. Who is his teacher? What is the classroom like? What are they learning about?
- What are some different opinions you have heard from Japanese Americans at Manzanar about cooperating with the camp administrators and US government?
- 3. What choices did you make, as Henry, about how to respond to your father and his difficulty adjusting to life at Manzanar? Did anything seem to work?
- 4. Have you ever been accused of being something that you are not, or doing something that you did not do? Describe how it felt and how you responded.

Time: 15 minutes

Instructions

Take 5 minutes to have students review their **Decision Tracker** and then use the Mission Reflection Questions to lead a 10-minute discussion.

By the end of Part 2, Henry has explored the camp, taken a job, and gone to school. His father has reunited with the family in Manzanar. Through the various people Henry has met—including Mr. Yamamoto, Mr. Ueno, Tadashi, Meiko, and Miss Nelson—he has heard a range of opinions about the extent to which Japanese Americans should cooperate with or resist the US government in response to their incarceration. As Henry, students must decide how Henry will act on the spectrum between cooperation and resistance.

Additional optional discussion questions:

- What are your impressions of Miss Nelson? Is she effective in looking out for her students' best interests?
- How is Henry's relationship with Tadashi going? What choices have you made about whether to befriend Tadashi or not? Why?
- How did you approach asking Meiko to the dance? Did you muster the courage to ask? Did she say yes?
 Why or why not?

