**New Immigration Quick Fact Sheet!**

* Main reasons for leaving a nation: war, forced military service, famine, religious persecution, overpopulation, “**land of opportunity**”
* First step in immigration was the **voyage** over to America. This was a difficult journey as most immigrants booked passage in **steerage** (the cheapest)
* Starting in 1892, new immigrants coming from southern and eastern **Europe** would go through their inspection at **Ellis Island**, New York City
* Starting in 1910, new immigrants coming from **Asia** would be processed at **Angel Island**, off the coast of San Francisco
* Ellis Island Process:
	+ Baggage Room (1st Floor) – As immigrants first enter the building, they will encounter the **baggage** area. You would be expected to drop off your luggage before continuing through the inspection process.
	+ Great Hall (2nd Floor) – In the great hall is where you will experience your **medical inspection**. There would usually only be a few medical personnel to deal with hundreds of immigrants a day. The inspectors would usually only spend about **60 seconds** with someone before either detaining them or allowing them to pass through.
	+ Board of Special Inquiry (2nd Floor) – Once an immigrant has passed the medical inspection, it is time for the **legal inspection**. Here, an immigrant would be questioned about many aspects of his or her life, including childhood, criminal history, and family.
	+ If an immigrant makes it through all these steps, they will then be expected to pass a naturalization test to officially become a citizen of the United States of America.
* **The Oath of Citizenship** - "I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince ,potentate, state, or sovereignty of whom or which I have hertofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf noncombatant of the service United in States the Armed when required Forces of by the law; United that I States will perform when required by law; that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by law; and that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God. In acknowledgment whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature."
* Once the immigrants were granted entry into the nation, they often would live in **tenements** (poorly constructed and maintained apartment buildings).
	+ **Jacob Riis**, an immigrant himself, took many photographs of the horrendous conditions and published them in his book, ***How the Other Half Lives***.
* Immigrants faced discrimination from many places and would often be forced into taking the most undesirable jobs
	+ **Nativism** 🡪 extreme dislike/distrust of immigrants by native-born people
	+ **Chinese Exclusion Act** (1882) 🡪 banned all Chinese immigration for 10 years and prevented Chinese already in American from becoming citizens. Renewed in 1892 and became permanent in 1902. The law was not repealed until 1943.