

Chapter 4

American Citizens, Symbols, and Government



How do our government and its citizens work together?

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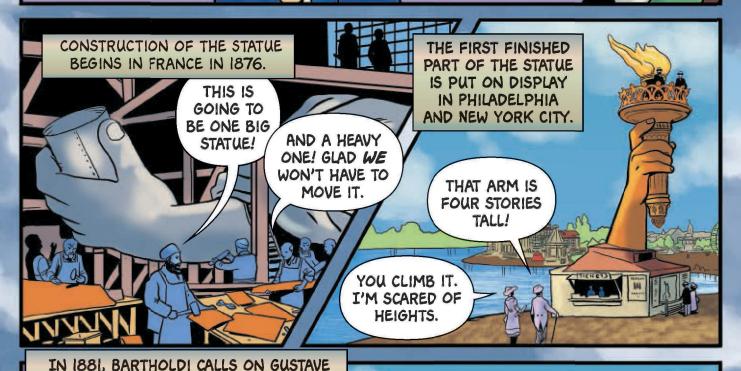
The Story Of The Statue Of Liberty

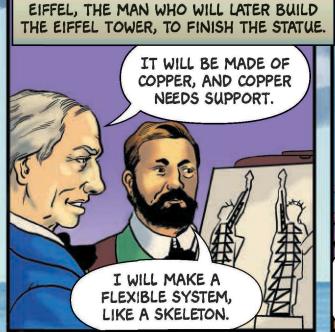
IN 1865, EDOUARD
DE LABOULAYE HAS
AN IDEA. HE HIRES
FRÉDÉRIC-AUGUSTE
BARTHOLDI TO
SCULPT A
MONUMENTAL
STATUE.

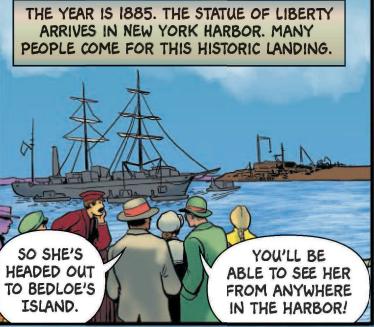


AND THE IDEAL OF FREEDOM ITSELF.



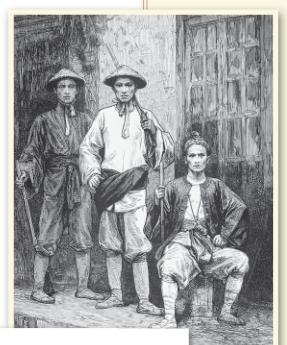








ANUNFAIR



This illustration shows what Chinese workers in California looked like in the 1800s.

WordBlast

What word means the opposite of exclude?

The United States is a country filled with people from other places. During the 1800s, many immigrants came to California from China. They worked in the gold fields, in factories, and on the railroads. However, some Americans wanted to stop people moving to the United States from China. They were afraid Chinese workers would take too many jobs.

In 1882, a law called the Chinese Exclusion Act was passed. When you **exclude** something, you do not let it in.

The law stopped almost all Chinese immigration for ten years. It also made it hard for Chinese people already in the United States to leave and come back. Then, after ten years had gone by, the law was passed again. This time, it did not have an end date.

The law was not fair, but it stayed in place for many years. Finally, in 1943, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called the law a "historic mistake." He helped to make the law less strict. However, it was not fully **repealed** until 1965.

WordBlast

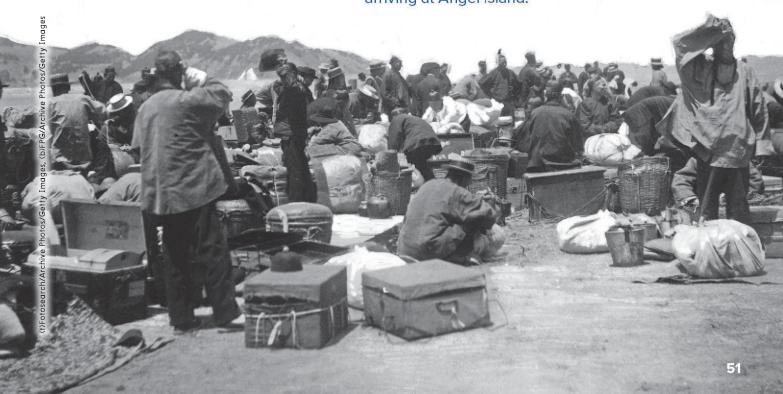
The word *repeal* comes from an old French word that means "to call back." What do you think happens when a law is repealed?

LIFE ON ANGEL ISLAND

Angel Island is near the coast of San Francisco. It became an immigration center in 1910. Most Chinese immigrants had to pass through the island to enter the United States. It was often the hardest part of the journey. Men were separated from women and children. Everyone had to be tested for illness. People sometimes waited weeks or months before they could come into the United States.



The photographs show Chinese immigrants arriving at Angel Island.



SPEAKING WITH SEVEN TONGUES

Dolores Huerta grew up in Stockton, California in the 1930s. She and her brothers lived with their mother and grandfather. Dolores learned to speak her mind early in life. In fact, her grandfather called her "seven tongues" because she talked so much—and so well.

When Dolores was a child, the United States was struggling through the Great Depression. Many of her neighbors were farm workers. They moved from place to place to pick the ripe crops. They were hired for short periods of time. They worked very long hours and were paid very little money. Dolores saw how hard their lives were.



Migrant farm workers in the 1930s

After World War II, Dolores' mother ran a small hotel. She often let the farm workers stay there for free. Dolores learned about fairness and kindness from her mother. Dolores did not see her father very often, but she learned from him, too. He worked as a miner and as a farm worker. He showed Dolores that she could work to change things she didn't like.

Growing up around farm workers led Dolores to want to help others. She wanted to be a voice for change. As an adult, Dolores became an **activist**. She used her voice and her skills to fight for the rights of farm workers. She and her friend César Chávez started the Farm Workers Association to do just that.

It took several years, but their efforts made a big difference. The farm workers were able to ask for better wages and working hours. Dolores didn't stop there. She kept fighting for others, and she is still working and speaking.

Dolores Huerta uses her "seven tongues" to speak for those in need. She continues to work hard to help others today.

WordBlast

What does an activist do?



Dolores Huerta has spoken out for many years.

DISASTER!

THE NATIONAL GUARD

Whom are you going to call if there's an earthquake, a hurricane, or a forest fire? Whatever the disaster, the National Guard is there to help!

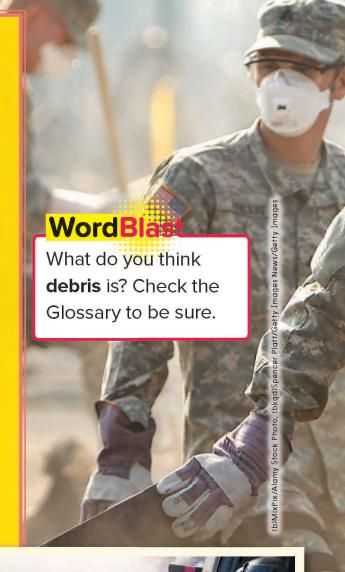
The National Guard is a reserve military force for the United States. Their purpose is to be ready to protect and help Americans in an emergency. If there is a natural disaster, the governor of a state can call out the National Guard units.

A Guard soldier must be ready for anything. When tornadoes strike, Guard soldiers are sent out to clear fallen trees and other **debris**. When an area floods, the Guard might use boats to search for people who are trapped. They bring victims to shelters. They provide cots and blankets for people in need. And they don't just rescue people! One group, the Louisiana National

Guard, has rescued more

than 1,400 pets.

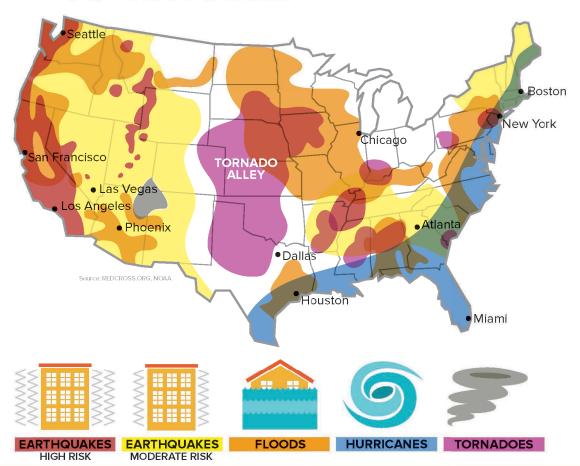
A National Guard soldier views a forest fire from above.







US NATURAL DISASTERS



Use the map to answer the questions.

- On which coast are earthquakes more likely to happen?
- What does the orange color on the map show?
- What kind of disaster would the National Guard likely help with in Oklahoma?
- If you lived in Miami, what might you need to prepare for?



First Daughters

Every four years, the United States elects a president. Sometimes we vote to keep the same person for four more years. Sometimes we vote for a new person. But every time a new president takes office, the same thing happens. One family moves out of the White House and another family moves in.

Jenna Bush Hager and Barbara Bush are twins. They were teenagers when their father, George W. Bush, was elected president in 2000. The twins lived in the White House for eight years.



twins also wrote a letter. Their letter went to President Obama's daughters, Sasha and Malia.

In the letter, the Bush daughters gave Sasha and Malia some good advice. They told the 7- and 10-year-old girls to have fun. They said it was okay to slide down the bannisters.

They told them to play on the White House

lawn and have pets. They also said it was important for the girls to keep their good and loyal friends.

The Bush daughters didn't have to write a letter. But they wanted to help. They wanted to make the White House feel like a home for two little girls. And when the Obamas left the White House in 2017, the Bushes wrote them a new letter. It said welcome back to the "real" world!





CONNECT THROUGH LITERATURE

Inviting the Bears

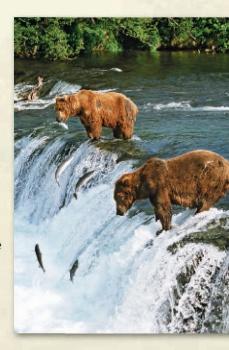
A Retelling of a Tlingit Folktale

There was once an old man who was alone in the world. One day, the man saw two huge grizzly bears fishing in a stream. The bears snorted and growled when they saw the man.

But the man hid his fear. "Hello, great Grizzlies. I have no friends or family to share my table. Please come and feast with me this evening."

The bears looked at him quietly, and nodded. The man rushed home to prepare for his guests. That evening he served the bears a great feast. After the meal, the largest bear turned to him. "I too have lost family and friends. The bears will always be your friends."

To this day, the Tlingit make friends by feasting together.



THAT BECAME A LAW?

Most laws make sense when you think about them. Buckle your seat belt. Do not litter. However, there are some laws that don't make a whole lot of sense today. Or maybe they never quite did!



MINNESOTA: It is illegal to eat hamburgers on Sunday in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Better get your burgers on another day!



ARIZONA:

Even if your barn is full, it's against the law to let your donkey sleep in the bathtub.



NEVADA: It is illegal to drive a camel on the highway. Find another way to cross the desert!

WASHINGTON: You may not chase or bother Bigfoot, Sasquatch, or any other undiscovered animal. (Hopefully, they won't chase you either!)

Take Action!

More to Explore

Here are some ideas for you to think about!

What are some laws that you think are fair? What are some laws you think are unfair?

Who are some other people working to make changes today?

What other groups help people during and after disasters?

WordBlast

- What is something an activist might do?
- Why is debris a problem after a natural disaster?
- If you exclude someone from a game, how does that person feel? Why?
- How do you think the repeal of the Chinese Exclusion
 Act might have changed lives?



Reflect

How do our government and its citizens work together?