



Name _____

Date _____

THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

The United States is a nation of immigrants. Since the beginning, immigrants have come to America looking for a better way of life. In the late 1800s they came in large numbers. There had never been so many immigrants at one time. It was faster and easier to cross the Atlantic Ocean than ever before. It took just five days to cross the ocean from England.

Those who came after 1886 were greeted with the sight of the Statue of Liberty. The Statue of Liberty is 15 stories high. In one hand she holds the torch. In the other hand she holds the tablet bearing the date of the Declaration of Independence. The people of France presented this statue as a gift to the United States. It was meant to celebrate the friendship between the two countries.

Some immigrants became farmers in the West, but most immigrants moved to cities such as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Boston. Here they looked for work to support their families. Members of the same immigrant groups often lived together in the same neighborhoods. This made it easier to communicate with one another and share similar customs and traditions.

These immigrants were often poor. They did not speak English and they were unskilled workers. They would usually take any jobs they could get. They had to work hard with very low pay. Often the entire family, including the children, were required to work to make ends meet.

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What is the main idea of paragraph three?
 - a. to inform the reader about the Statue of Liberty
 - b. to explain the struggles immigrants had getting into the United States
 - c. to explain the role that the government played in donating the statue
 - d. to explain where immigrants went for work once they arrived
2. Which country presented the United States with the Statue of Liberty?
 - a. Russia
 - b. France
 - c. Germany
 - d. Ellis Island
3. Which of the following statements is an opinion?
 - a. These immigrants were often poor.
 - b. Here they looked for work to support their families.
 - c. The Statue of Liberty is a beautiful reminder of the purpose of this country.
 - d. Those who came after 1886 were greeted with the sight of the Statue of Liberty.