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ENG1101

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Assignment- Immigrants and the American Dream

1. What is Yezierska’s initial impression of America? How does she compare it to her life in Russia?

Yezierska’s initial impression of America was that America is a country full of hope, place of dream, and everything Yezierska desired. Yezierska thought that living in Russia, was like living in a prison.

1. What does she aspire to do when she first arrives in America? What must she do first?

When Yezierska arrived in America, she aspired to be a free human being. She thought that what ever she could not do in Russia, it is possible in America. She aspired to be a creator, a giver, and a free human being. First, she must work to get her some food, clothes, and especially to survive.

1. Do you think her “American family” treats her fairly? Why or why not?

For someone that just arrived to America. Yes, her “Americanized family” did treat her fairly. The “Americanized family” gave them, shelter, food and everything that she needed to survive.

1. What was the best part her second job on Delancey Street? Why did she end up losing it?

The best part of her second job in Delancey Street was that despite working for a long time, she had the evening to herself, and also the night to herself. She ended, losing the job, because the boss, forced them to work extra hours, and she was fed up with it. She told her boss that, she just wants to go home, and have the evening to herself. The boss said that, just by living in America, she already started complaining, and wanted her to leave the job.

1. What kind of work does Anzia prefer to do? What is stopping her?

Anzia prefers to work somewhere, where she does not need to work much, and also in a place where the boss does not complain a lot. She cannot work in that category of job, unless she proofs that she has that standard, and also experience.

1. Do you agree with the author’s argument that immigrants should receive free room and board? Why or why not?

I do agree with author’s argument. Immigrants should receive free room and board at least until they are settled, and are capable to go out, and work in their own. When they just arrive to America they don’t know what to expect, and they also have to adjust to the system.

1. What lessons did she learn from the Pilgrims? How did this knowledge transform her idea of what it takes to succeed in America? Do you agree with her assessment?

She learns that she cant b complaining all the times, and she also can’t just demand. She thought that America is a place, where you don’t have to work or be slaved. What she thought was fiction, and eventually she had to come back to reality. She finally succeeded after she, did what she needed to do, instead of doing what she wanted to do. Yes I do agree with her assessment.

1. How does the author utilize the concepts of “hunger” and “appetite” to bring out her thesis?

The author utilized the concept of “hunger” and “appetite” to bring out her thesis was by portraying both the concept, to motivate people to work hard and to survive. When you work hard and try your best to survive, you also learnt to adjust at the same time. The two concepts opened up many other concepts of work, survival, learning, teaching, and succeeding, which eventually helped the author to complete the survival.