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English 1101-D403

Assignment: “America and I” Essay Questions from Textbook

“ America and I”-

**1) What is Yezieka’s initial impression of America? How does she compare it to her life on Russia?**

- Yezieka’s first initial impression of America was that it was a land of living hope, woven dreams, and a flame with longing and desire. She compares her life in Russia by saying, ”Choked for ages in the airless oppression of Russia”(54)

**2) What does she aspire to do when she first arrives in America? What must she do first?**

- Yezieka first feels the sensation of being free. All this time in Russia she felt that she was caged and limited on what she wanted to do, so this freedom was a bliss to her. Then she wanted to see her dreams come true. The talents and capabilities she has, she wants them to come in use for the society and for her so she can enjoy what she will do. However, she realizes she need money to do all those things she longs for. She starts working in odd jobs to start and earn money.

**3) Do you think her “ Americanized family” treats her fairly? Why or why not?**

- In my opinion, I do not think her “ Americanized Family” treats her fairly because the way they responded to her question to her wages. She came into the family thinking she will work and get money, the comfort and food , she thought came with the package of working. When it was her first month, she went to ask the owners of the house for her wages, they looked at her and thought why is she asking us. They responded that why are you asking for wages when you have everything in this house. You get three meals a day, a bed to sleep on, cold air when its hot, and warm when its cold. They treated her as a servant without money.

**4) What was the best part of her second job on Delancey Street? Why did she end up losing it?**

**-** The best part of her second job on Delancey Street was that she felt that she could walk in boldly and say I could work at something, even if it was only sewing on buttons. She felt proud that she can work in something and she earns her own money, and she supports herself. She ended up losing it because of the boss, the boss made her lose it because she makes her work more than necessary and feels that she doesn't treat her fairly.

**5) What kind of work does Aniza prefer to do? What is stopping her?**

**-** Aniza wants to do something with her feelings and mind. She wants to contribute to the society by using her mind and feelings and what she thinks its right. The thing that is stopping her is her english. She needs to know and understand english to be in the first step of what she wants.

**6) Do you agree with the author’s agreement that immigrants should receive free room and board? Why and why not?**

**-** I do agree with the author's argument that immigrants should receive free room and board but until they are capable enough to earn their own money. Immigrants come to America to get a better future and earn good enough money to support themselves and their family. If immigrants come and help out America by doing odd jobs and they should at least be helped out in some sort of way. Room and board is good way to help them start and when they will have enough money they will go their own way.

**7) 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?**

**-** Well, she learned alot of lessons from herself and the Pilgrims. She wanted and learned that she needs to be on her own and take care of herself. She learned that no one is there for you, and you need to make your own living, and don't expect from others. This knowledge transformed her idea by making her take steps to succeed on her own. I do agree with her assessment because she learned to be on her own and make a living in her own.

**8) How does the author utilize the concepts of “hunger” and “ appetite” to bring out her thesis?**

- Well, the concepts of hunger and appetite are used not only by the definition, but she uses it to explain her situation. Hunger and appetite are big things that she was unaware of and she knew the loss of these and how much it affected her. She referred back to hunger and appetite to things that were affecting her alot. For example she would say, english is like hunger and appetite, so hard to get and the more you want the more harder it is get/understand.