



Lesson 4: Internment Experiences

How Does My Identity Shape My Experience in America?

Activity 4: Daily Motion

How did the identities of Japanese Americans shape their internment experiences?

Objective:

Students utilize primary sources to understand what life was like at Manzanar and other internment camps.

Procedure:

Have students read the *Manzanar Free Press* newspapers and/or other camp newspapers. The Densho online archive contains 3,938 newspapers representing all 10 camps. Go to www.densho.org, click on Archive, log in, click on Camp Newspaper Collections (left side) and choose a newspaper.

Divide the class into small groups. Refer students to their “daily log” (Lesson 4 Activity 3).

Have students work in pairs on the following tasks and questions:
*Compare the newspapers, ID booklets, the film **Remembering Manzanar** and find three similarities and three differences when you compare your daily log activities to internees’ lives in the war relocation centers.*

How were the daily activities in war relocation centers

similar to how the rest of America was living? How were they different?

How do day-to-day activities in early 1942 differ from later dates of 1944-45?

If the people in the war relocation centers were conducting their lives as other Americans were, why were they interned?

Have each group share their answers with the entire class.

Grade Level: 10 & 11

Time: 60 minutes

Materials:

Manzanar Free Press

newspapers

Student journals

Internet access

Densho member login

Concepts Covered:

Analyze primary sources.

Compare & contrast

ideas and themes.

Summarize main points.

CDE Standards:

10th Grade

English/Language Arts

Reading

2.4 2.5

Listening & Speaking

2.1 2.5

History/Social Science

10.8.6

11th Grade

English/Language Arts

Reading

3.2

Listening & Speaking

1.4 2.2

History/Social Science

11.7.3 11.7.5

Assessment:

1. Group Participation
2. Successful completion of comparison assignment.

Extension:

1. Encourage students to read non-camp newspaper articles written between 1942 and 1945. Newspapers may include **San Francisco Chronicle, Los Angeles Times, Seattle Times, New York Times**, etc. **San Francisco Chronicle** examples can be found at www.sfmuseum.org, by searching by year, subject or through the index.