

Name: _____

Date: _____

Guided Reading Questions for Immigration Readings

Reading #1: Mark Twain's observations about Chinese Immigrants in California-1872

Link to reading:

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/timeline/riseind/chinimms/twain.html>

Terms to know: *Tractable*-obedient. *Cipher*-Read. *Industrious*-hard working. *Exorbitant*-expensive. *Marketable*-something that can be sold. *Swindle*- to cheat. *Rubbish*- Garbage.

1. What positive character traits does Twain say the Chinese have?
2. What “sins” of the white man does he say the Chinese are made to suffer?
3. What kinds of work does he say the Chinese are known for doing?
4. Who does Twain say is guilty of abusing the Chinese?
5. What do you think Twain's main point is about opponents of Chinese immigration?

Reading #2: “*Our Misery and Despair*”-Dennis Kearney of the Workingman’s Party blasts Chinese Immigration-1878

Link to reading: <http://historymatters.gmu.edu/d/5046/>

Terms to know: *Speculation*- investing in a natural resource. *Unparalleled*- without equal or unique. *Barbarous*- uncivilized or primitive. *Aristocracy*- rulers or upper class citizens. *Curs*- dogs. *Hoodlumism*- criminal activity. *Penitentiary*- jail or prison. *Incendiaries*- people who set things on fire or cause explosions. *Serf*- nearly a slave.

1. Who does Kearney blame for importing the Chinese to America?
2. How does Kearney describe the Chinese? Be specific.
3. How does Kearney say the Chinese negatively affect American workers?
4. What does Kearney say might happen if his party doesn’t win at the ballot box?
5. Do you think this type of speech will be effective in achieving his goals? Explain.

