

Name:

Date:

Discrimination in Canada: The Head Tax, Komagata Maru, and Residential Schools Questions

The Head Tax: Use the Counterpoints textbook to answer these questions – pages 9-11

1. What is the head tax? Why did the Canadian government introduce it?

2. How much money were the Chinese people coming to Canada required to pay in 1885? What increases to the tax were made in 1900 and 1903? Why do you think the government increased this tax?

3. What is the Chinese Exclusion Act? Why do you think Chinese Canadians refer to July 1, 1923, the day the federal government introduced the Chinese Exclusion Act, as Humiliation Day?

4. What significant event happened in 2006? Do you think we should try to right the wrongs of past generations? Why or why not?

Use the “Background to Chinese head tax” handout to answer these questions

5. Why did Chinese immigrants come to Canada?

Use the “Response to Chinese head tax” handout to answer these questions

6. There were mixed reactions to the redress agreement among Chinese Canadians. If you were a head tax payer, would you be satisfied with the government’s apology and financial compensation? Why or why not?

Komagata Maru: Use the Counterpoints textbook to answer these questions – page 11

7. What is the Continuous Passage Act? How did it impact immigration to Canada?

8. What happened when the Komagata Maru's passengers challenged the Continuous Passage Act?

9. What significant event happened in 2008?

Use the “Background to the Komagata Maru Incident” handout to answer these questions

10. In western Canada, why were many people against immigration to Canada from India?

11. What laws were passed that discouraged immigration of Indians to Canada?

12. What happened when the Komagata Maru arrived with its passengers in Vancouver's Burrard Inlet?

Use the “Response to the Komagata Maru Incident” handout to answer these questions

13. Did anyone apologize for the Komagata Maru incident? Why do you think this was done? Did it help?

Residential Schools: Use the Counterpoints textbook to answer these questions – page 12

14. What are residential schools and why did the Canadian government establish them?

15. What happened to the Aboriginal children who attended residential school?

Use the “Background to Residential Schools” handout to answer these questions

16. What was the main goal of the residential school system?

17. Look at the pictures of Thomas Moore on page 2. What do they reveal about students’ experiences?

18. What are some of the negative effects felt by the survivors of residential school?

Use the “Response to the Residential Schools” handout to answer these questions

19. What is the Truth and Reconciliation Commission? Why do you think it is important?

20. What significant event happened in 2008?