HTY 110HA Module 3 Study Questions

Use the following study questions to guide your reading:

Immigrant Struggles, Immigrant Gifts
- Italian Americans (begins on p. 55)
  - When did the term Mafia first come into common usage?
  - Why have Italians persistently been identified with organized crime?
  - How have negative stereotypes of Italian immigrants affected American perceptions of them?
  - Why are Christopher Columbus, John Cabot, and Amerigo Vespucci important to Italian-American history?
  - What were the differences between early (pre-1880s) and later Italian immigrants?
  - What were the Push and Pull factors related to post-1880 Italian immigration?
  - What were the positive and negative roles of the Padroni for new immigrants?
  - How did Remittances relate to the Italian Immigration Process?
  - Where did Italian immigrants settle during the major period of Italian immigration?
  - In what occupations were Italian immigrants concentrated?
  - Why did most Italians settle in urban areas rather than rural farming areas?
  - Describe the factions related to Italy's regions that characterized Italian immigrants. How did the presence of these factions affect Italian immigrants in America?
  - Why was the Catholic Church less important to early Italian immigrants than to later Italian immigrants?
  - What facilitated the assimilation process for 2nd generation Italian Americans?
  - What prejudices did Italian Americans endure?
  - What was the perceived relationship between immigrants and alcohol?
- Eastern Europeans Americans (begins on p. 97)
  - In which areas did most Eastern European immigrants settle?
  - In which occupations were Eastern European immigrants concentrated?
  - What problems did high rates of return migration cause for Slavic immigrants?
  - What role did Eastern Europeans play in the labor movement?
  - What role did Henry Cabot Lodge play in the immigration debate?
  - What were the stereotypes ascribed to Eastern European/Slavic immigrants?
  - Despite the prejudice they endured, what advantage did Eastern European immigrant groups have over African Americans and Asian Americans?
  - How and why did Jewish-American enlistment during World War II improve relationships between Jewish and Christian Americans?
  - What injustices were Jewish veterans unwilling to tolerate after WWII?
  - What was the role of Jews in the Civil Rights Movement?
- Jewish Americans
  - Describe Henry Ford’s campaign against the Jews.
  - How were the Russian Revolution and Jews linked in the minds of some Americans?
  - “Even as Jews were depicted as radical communists, they were also tagged as rapacious capitalists,” how does this quote from the chapter illustrate the difficulties faced by Jews in America?
  - What were the prejudices and stereotypes many Americans held against the Jews?
  - What were the Push factors for European and Russian Jews?
  - What were the fundamental differences between the Jewish and Christian faiths?
  - What was the Jewish settlement pattern in the U.S. after 1840?
  - Toward which occupations did Jews gravitate?
  - In what ways was Jewish economic success unable to shield Jews from discrimination?
  - In what ways were Jews better off than Asian and African Americans?
  - What illustration did Professor Horace Kallen provide to explain his idea of America as cultural pluralist rather than a melting-pot society?
  - What were the differences between Jewish socialists and Zionists?
o Why did established German-Jewish Americans resent newly arrived Jews from Eastern Europe and Russia?

o How did Jewish women contribute to the household economy?

o What have been some key contributions to American society made by Jews?

Immigration: A Documentary and Reference Guide, Chapter 3

- What were the characteristics of most immigrants who came to America between 1880 and 1920?
- What was the percent of foreign-born Americans in 1910?
- What was the percent of foreign-born and children of foreign-born Americans in America’s 12 largest cities?
- What distinctions did the Dillingham Commission Report draw between the old and new immigrants?