The Age of Immigration

**Document A:** U.S. Ark of Refuge (Sign reads: No oppressive taxes; no expensive kings; no compulsory military service; no knouts [metal whips] in dungeons)

1. Who are the characters in this cartoon?
2. What is Uncle Sam offering the immigrants? Why?
3. What might the figures in the dark clouds in the upper right-hand corner of the cartoon represent?
4. How has the artist portrayed the immigrants? Do they appear deserving of Uncle Sam’s welcome? Explain.

**Document B:** The Proposed Emigrant Dumping Site: Statue of Liberty – “Mr. Windom, if you are going to make this island a garbage heap, I am going back to France.”

1. What are the ships dumping on Liberty’s island?
2. What is the Statue of Liberty thinking? Why?
3. What is ironic about the Statue’s reaction in this cartoon?
4. What is the artist’s attitude toward immigration? Explain.
Document C: Resolution from the Boston Clothing Cutters and Trimmers Union, 1868
WHEREAS, The present immigration laws of the United States debar from landing on our shores only a few of those immigrants who are undesirable for admission to this country by reason of their ignorance, lower standards of living and of morals, criminal tendencies and anarchistic beliefs; and WHEREAS, The large immigration of recent years have given rise to unhealthy competition in the labor market by the introduction of foreign workmen living under degraded conditions, incompatible with the standard of living of American workingmen; and WHEREAS, The immediate enactment by Congress of laws for the further restriction and stricter regulation of immigration is necessary for the preservation of our national character, institutions, and standards of living; therefore, be it RESOLVED, That the [Boston Clothing Cutters and Trimmers Union] respectfully urge upon the Congress of the United States the importance of the early enactment of laws for the further restriction and stricter regulation of immigration.

Document C:
1. What are some of the characteristics of immigrants the resolution claims makes them “undesirable for admission”
2. Why do you think Unions would want Congress to restrict immigration further?

Document D: History Marches On; Nativism Marches In Place
1. Looking at the cartoon above, what is nativism? Who has been the target in the past? Who is it now?
2. According to this and the previous cartoons, what were people most concerned about in regards to immigrants coming to America?

Document E: Immigration to the United States in 1854 and in 1907
1. Which country/countries were most immigrants coming from in 1854? In 1907?
2. The “Old Immigrants” were presumably more welcome in the United States in the 1800s when there was a wilderness to be populated and a need for cheap labor. What had changed by the time “New Immigrants” arrived, causing them to face harsher treatment?