

Brainstorming --- *The Immigrant*

Pre-Screening

What are you expecting from a film from 1917?

Black and white

Silent

Charlie Chaplin is the writer/director/star. Have you heard of him?

So you think you will like this film?

Post-Screening

Live music --- Introduce Mrs. Garland

How did you select the music?

Were you given a score?

Let her talk about music of the time and the music setting the mood

The film

Charlie Chaplin starred/directed/wrote this film.

He himself was an immigrant but from England

Well off as an immigrant – high pay and no language barrier

What about this film was different than the films you see today?

No talking --- how do they get their message across?

Physical comedy and exaggerated movements ---- Who uses this now? SNL, Tom Green, The Three Stooges

Makeup --- exaggerating the expressions of the actors to get message across

Camera angles

Very basic- presentation like theater just filmed.

1917 filmmaking was very young and difficult without technology

Took a long time to film the various shots and so films very short.

The Journey to America

From the film what do you expect it was like?

What did they do on the boat?

Conditions on the boat---

In the film --- on the top deck ... in reality down below

Food poor Poor food

Gambling and other entertainments

Who came to America?

Perhaps a chart with different groups and years --- a map (something that can be displayed on a slide/powerpoint)

Why did they come between 1880-1917?

Better life, religious freedom,

Are these different reasons than why people came before? Show chart with who came from what years

Arrival in America

What happened when the boat arrived in America --- how did you know Chaplin had arrived?

The Statue of Liberty - They were herded into a roped off area and tags were put on

Talk about Ellis Island and other points of entry --- perhaps see photographs from the collection on screen

Life for Immigrants

What happens to Chaplin when he gets to United States?

Poor? How do you know

Discrimination? Problems with language and literacy? --- menu and treatment by waiter

Immigration today

How many of you immigrated from another country or your parents did?

Where did you come from? Where are today's immigrants coming from?

(chart/map)

What kinds of challenges do today's immigrants face? Are the challenges similar to those of past generations?

Art of Immigrants displayed