

## Immigration Famous Immigrants

The United States has a rich history of immigrants. Many have overcome great odds to rise to the top of their fields. Find out more about their **remarkable**<sup>1</sup> **feats**<sup>2</sup> by reading the chart below.

Name	D.O.B.	Origin	Profession	Interesting Facts
Peter Jennings	1938 d. 2005	Toronto, Canada	T.V. Broadcast Journalist	Anchor of ABC's <i>World News Tonight</i> .
Martina Navratilova	1956	Prague, Czech Republic	Professional Tennis Player	Winner of a record 167 singles titles, including Wimbledon, the French Open, and the U.S. Open.
Madeleine Albright	1937	Prague, Czech Republic	Former Secretary of State	Escaped both Nazi and Communist governments in Europe.
Gene Simmons	1949	Haifa, Israel	Singer	Co-founder of the rock group KISS. Used to be a schoolteacher.

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Gloria Estefan	1957	Havana, Cuba	Singer	Received her B.A. in Psychology at the University of Miami.
Arnold Schwarzenegger	1947	Thal, Austria	Actor, Former Governor	Named Mr. Universe five times for bodybuilding.
Alex Trebek	1940	Sudbury, Canada	TV Game Show Host	First worked as a newscaster.

<sup>1</sup> **remarkable** – worthy of notice

<sup>2</sup> **feats** – acts showing great skill, strength, or daring

Albert Einstein	1879 d. 1955	Ulm, Germany	Scientist	Lived and worked in Princeton, NJ for nearly 30 years, until his death in 1955.
Mikhail Baryshnikov	1948	Riga, Latvia (U.S.S.R.)	Ballet Dancer	Starred in several motion pictures, including <i>The Turning Point</i> (1977), <i>White Nights</i> (1985), and <i>Dancers</i> (1987).

Name	D.O.B.	Origin	Profession	Interesting Facts
Andy Garcia	1956	Havana, Cuba	Actor	Garcia's family fled Cuba's communist government when he was five and started a perfume company in Miami, FL worth millions of dollars.
Bob Hope	1903 d. 2003	London, England	Actor, Comedian	Appeared in over 50 films. Winner of five Academy Awards.
Henry Kissinger	1923	Furth, Germany	Former Secretary of State	Came with his family to the U.S. in 1938 to escape Nazi persecution of Jews. Won a Nobel Peace Prize in 1973.

Name	D.O.B.	Origin	Profession	Interesting Facts
Hakeem Olajuwon	1963	Lagos, Nigeria	Professional Basketball Player	Leading shot-blocker in NBA history with 3,830 blocked shots.
Alexander Graham Bell	1847 d. 1922	Edinburgh, Scotland	Inventor	Patented the telephone, which <b>revolutionized</b> <sup>3</sup> communication, at the age of 29.
Patrick Ewing	1962	Kingston, Jamaica	Professional Basketball Player	Holds New York Knicks' team record for scoring, rebounding, blocked shots, and steals.
Audrey Hepburn	1929 d. 1993	Brussels, Belgium	Actress	This Oscar-winning film and Broadway star also became an <b>ambassador</b> <sup>4</sup> for UNICEF. She worked to aid hungry children in Africa and Latin America.

<sup>3</sup> **revolutionized** – changed completely

<sup>4</sup> **ambassador** – the top person sent by a country to represent it in another country

Yoko Ono	1933	Tokyo, Japan	<b>Composer</b> <sup>5</sup> , poet, singer.	Married John Lennon in 1969, just before the Beatles broke up. Made albums with Lennon.
Elie Wiesel	1928	Sighet, Romania	Author	Won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, after having survived Nazi concentration camps.

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<sup>5</sup> **composer** – a writer of music

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is the interesting fact about the one dancer on this list?
  - a. He played in the NBA.
  - b. He fled Cuba's communist government.
  - c. She was a professional tennis player.
  - d. He starred in several motion pictures.
  
2. How does the author organize the information in this passage?
  - a. The author lists and provides information about famous immigrants to the United States.
  - b. The author compares and contrasts famous immigrants to the United States.
  - c. The author uses evidence to persuade the reader of the importance of United States immigrants.
  - d. The author summarizes the accomplishments of immigrants by providing information in groups.
  
3. Regarding the information on Nazis, what can be inferred about their presence in other countries?
  - a. Nazis were present in several countries and caused people to flee and come to the United States.
  - b. Nazis were present in only Germany, and caused Henry Kissinger to come to the United States.
  - c. Nazis were present only in Romania, and caused Elie Wiesel to come to the United States.
  - d. Nazis were present in all other countries.
  
4. What can be inferred about the relationship between immigrants and TV and film?
  - a. Several immigrants gained fame in TV and film.
  - b. Immigrants completely took over the TV and film business.
  - c. Immigrants mostly shied away from careers in TV and film.
  - d. Immigrants did not ever enter the TV and film business.

5. Read the sentence:

“The United States has a **rich** history of immigrants.”

Which word could best replace **rich** as used in this sentence?

- a. wealthy
- b. cheap
- c. prosperous
- d. strong

6. This list is mostly about
- a. wealthy immigrants
  - b. notable immigrants
  - c. elderly immigrants
  - d. immigrants who were musicians

7. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence below.

Gene Simmons is the co-founder of the rock group KISS, \_\_\_\_\_ previously he was a schoolteacher!

- a. but
  - b. except
  - c. in conclusion
  - d. next
8. What can be concluded about the contributions of immigrants to American government?

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9. How many immigrants have become notable for their athletics?

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10. What can be concluded about the history of immigrants in the United States after reading this passage?

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## Teacher Guide and Answers

**Passage Reading Level:** Lexile 750

**Featured Text Structure:** Enumerative – the writer includes a list, giving examples of something. This text structure is often combined with cause/effect or problem/solution.

**Passage Summary:** In “Immigration: Famous Immigrants,” the author provides a list of famous immigrants. Each name is accompanied by his or her date of birth (and date of death, if applicable), origin town and country, profession, and one interesting fact.

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Gene Simmons is the co-founder of the rock group KISS, \_\_\_\_\_ previously he was a schoolteacher!

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- c. in conclusion
- d. next

8. What can be concluded about the contributions of immigrants to American government?

**Suggested answer:** Several immigrants contributed to American government, including Madeline Albright, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Henry Kissinger.

9. How many immigrants have become notable for their athletics?

**Suggested answer:** Four immigrants have become notable for their athletics: Patrick Ewing, Hakeem Olajuwon, Mikhail Baryshnikov, and Martina Navratilova.

10. What can be concluded about the history of immigrants in the United States after reading this passage?

**Suggested answer:** Immigrants have contributed to and had accomplishments in many areas of United States history, including TV and film, government, athletics, music, and science.