

## Glossary Terms for Middle and High School

### Listed by Topic

#### GEOGRAPHY:

- Absolute Location
- Delta
- Migration
- Region
- Relative Location

#### RIGHTS:

- Civil Rights
- Constitutional Rights
- Four Freedoms
- Human Rights

#### INFRINGEMENT OF RIGHTS:

- Forced Evacuation
- Forced Migration
- Jim Crow Laws
- Relocation
- Segregation

#### JAPANESE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE:

- Alien Land Laws
- Assembly Centers
- Concentration Camp
- Executive Order 9066
- Issei
- Japanese American
- Jerome
- Loyalty Questionnaire
- Nisei
- Rohwer

## Glossary of Terms for Middle School and High School

1. Absolute Location – The exact location of a place using latitude and longitude.
2. Alien Land Laws – Enacted after 1910 in several Western States, these laws denied Asian immigrants from purchasing property and agricultural land on the basis of their status as being ineligible to become naturalized citizens.
3. Assembly Centers - 16 temporary assembly centers established to house the over 110,000 people of Japanese ancestry forced to leave their homes by Executive Order 9066, en route to confinement in concentration camps being constructed in remote interior areas.
4. Civil Rights – Enforceable rights or privileges when infringed upon by another may give rise to a legal action. In the United States these rights belong to citizens, most residents and even in some cases non-residents.
5. Concentration Camp – A concentration camp is defined as a place where political prisoners, members of an ethnic, religious or minority group are confined simply for who they are.
6. Constitutional Rights – A set of guarantees enumerated in the Constitution that afford to individual citizens of the United States the rights that include freedom of speech, press, assembly, the right to vote, freedom from involuntary servitude, and the right to equality in public places.
7. Delta - A low triangular area where a river divides before entering a larger body of water. The agricultural area of Arkansas that borders the Mississippi River is an example of a delta.
8. Executive Order 9066 – Signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on February 19, 1942, this order authorized military commanders to designate areas "...from which any or all persons may be excluded." Under this order over 110,000 Japanese Americans were removed from West Coast regions to guarded camps in the interior.
9. Forced Evacuation – The act of involuntarily vacating or departing from a place or area under duress.
10. Forced Migration – Movement from a place or country of residence, other than by a voluntary decision of the individual or group involved.
11. Four Freedoms – On January 6, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt's State of the Union Address to Congress set forth four freedoms: Freedom of Speech and Expression, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, and Freedom from Fear, and called for liberty to be extended throughout the world. In 1943, Norman Rockwell depicted the Four Freedoms in paintings published in *The Saturday Evening Post*.

12. Human Rights – Basic rights and freedoms to which all humans are entitled.
  13. Issei – Japanese word translated as “first generation” and used to refer to the first generation of people who emigrate from Japan to settle in the United States, Canada, Mexico, South America, etc. The first wave of Issei came to the United States beginning in the late 1880s.
  14. Japanese American – A person of Japanese origin or ancestry who is a permanent resident of the United States.
  15. Jerome – One of ten World War II Japanese American concentration camps. Located in Drew and Chicot Counties, southeastern Arkansas, it opened October 6, 1942 and closed June 30, 1944. Jerome, in operation only 634 days, had the shortest tenure of any of the ten camps.
  16. Jim Crow Laws – Laws enacted to maintain racial segregation and the disenfranchisement of African Americans that began in the late 1800s. Jim Crow laws varied among communities and states.
  17. Loyalty Questionnaire – In 1943, all Japanese American adults confined in the United States concentration camps were required to complete a questionnaire misleadingly entitled "Application for Leave Clearance." The two questions below were designed to determine the loyalty of Japanese American citizens and non-citizens alike in order to facilitate their entry into the military, even before the change in the draft law that had declared them ineligible for military service; however, the form and wording of the questions contributed to misunderstanding and undue confusion. The two questions read as follows:
    27. Are you willing to serve in the armed forces of the United States on combat duty, wherever ordered?
    28. Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any and all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and forswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese Emperor, or any other foreign government, power, or organization?
- Both citizens and non-citizens who answered “no” to both, or even to one, of the “loyalty questions,” or who refused to answer were designated as “disloyal” to the United States and were subsequently relocated to the newly established Tule Lake Segregation Center. Many who answered “no” questioned how the government could ask Japanese Americans to fight in the armed services while denying their civil rights. In addition, the immigrant generation, legally barred from becoming naturalized U.S. citizens, was fearful that they would become people without a country by renouncing ties to Japan. The questionnaire led to mass confusion, distress and fears that ultimately divided many families and the community at large.
18. Migration - The movement of persons or goods from one country or locality to another.

19. Nisei – Japanese word translated as “second generation” and used to refer to the first generation of children born to Japanese immigrants. In the United States, the Nisei are American citizens by birth.
20. Region - A large indefinite location on the surface of the Earth, for example, the delta region of Arkansas.
21. Relative Location – The approximate location of a place using direction from a reference point such as a landmark.
22. Relocation - The resettlement of people from one location to another.
23. Rohwer – One of ten World War II Japanese American concentration camps. Located in Desha County, southeastern Arkansas, it opened September 18, 1942 and closed November 30, 1945.
24. Segregation – A social policy that is legally and/or socially enforced resulting in separate areas of residence and facilities for some groups.

## REFERENCES

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