

## Teaching with Primary Sources Assessment

**Grade Level:** High School (9-10)

**Standard(s) or Objectives:** CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.2 Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.  
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetoric to advance that point of view or purpose.

### Library of Congress or Morris Special Collections Resources:



Ansel Adams, Manzanar War Relocation Center photographs, 1943,  
Featuring the Tojo Miatake family

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2002695956>

### Topic Background:

Months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which authorized the evacuation and relocation of “any and all persons” from “military areas.” Within months, all of California and much of Washington and Oregon had been declared military areas. The process of relocating thousands of Japanese Americans began. Japanese Americans were required to register and received identification numbers. They were given just days to divest themselves of all that they owned, including businesses and family homes. Bringing only what they could carry, they were told to report to assembly centers: large facilities like racetracks and fairgrounds while they waited to be assigned and sent to a war relocation center, such as Manzanar.

Excerpted from:

[http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/internment/pdf/teacher\\_guide.pdf](http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/internment/pdf/teacher_guide.pdf)

### Source(s) Used:

The source used for this assessment is a photograph taken by Ansel Adams of the Tojo Miatake family, in their residence at the Manzanar relocation center. The photograph depicts the family in a bedroom room with incomplete walls. The father and mother watch their daughter draw at a desk while the sons sit on a bed. The tidy room is decorated by pictures such as an angel, a Christmas tree, and a windmill.

### Answer Key:

Question 1 – B

Question 2 – C

**Tojo Miatake Family, Manzanar Relocation Center  
Photograph by Ansel Adams, 1943**



**Questions:**

1. Consider the wall decorations, the toys, and the clothing depicted in this photograph. What message do these details convey about this Japanese-American family? (CCSS. RI.9-10.2)
  - a. This family is working hard to hide their Japanese heritage.
  - b. This family is like any other family within the United States.
  - c. This family is clearly trained for espionage against the United States.
  - d. This family is foreign to the norms and culture of the United States.
  
2. Based on this photograph, it is most likely that Ansel Adams feels: (CCSS. RI.9-10.6)
  - a. The United States is justified in its treatment of Japanese-Americans.
  - b. Japanese-Americans are a threat to national security.
  - c. The United States is unjustly detaining its own citizens.
  - d. Internment camps are regrettable, but important to support the war effort.