

American Response

- “Old” immigrants--English, Irish, Germans, Scandinavians are more accepted
- “New” immigrants from southern and eastern Europe and Asia had a difficult adjustment; language and religion
- Most immigrants stay in the cities where they landed

- Immigrants settle in their own neighborhoods
- Those who acculturated (held on to older traditions while adapting to a new culture) were more accepted
- Nativists want to keep immigrants out
 - Different culture
 - Took jobs for low pay
 - Fear--many negative stereotypes

- Nativists targeted Jews and Italians, Mexicans and Chinese
- The Chinese Exclusion Act: U.S. law barred Chinese workers
 - Prejudice and violence against Chinese
- Nativists tried to get laws passed to deny entry to immigrants who could not read