

Lesson 5: Social Studies—Class, Equality and Interacting with People Who are Different

Standard

6th Grade Social Studies

Standard 4: Students explore the cultures of ancient civilizations.

Objective 1: Explore the culture of the Fertile Crescent and ancient Egypt

Objective 2: Explore the cultures of ancient Greece and Rome.

Objectives

Students will understand the following:

- Many civilizations throughout time have practiced similar social structures such as social classes.
- Social classes can take many forms. They may or may not be unequal; they may or may not involve people who are culturally different.
- It is important to keep a history so that other people later will know what you and your culture were like.

Procedures

1. Ask class members

a. Can anyone explain what social classes are?

In addition to class members' answers, you may want to suggest the following:

- Social classes are groups that have a particular amount of importance in society.

b. What are some reasons that societies are broken into different classes?

In addition to class members' answers, you may want to suggest the following:

- One group may think that they are better than another group.
 - Wealth
 - Family lines
 - Race/Ethnicity
- Different groups have different skills.
 - Reading and writing skills
 - Ruling skills
 - Farming skills
- A particular religion might assign or require classes.
- When one country conquered another, they often took prisoners as slaves.

- Criminals were also sometimes made slaves.
 - People that owed other people money were sometimes made slaves.
- c. What are some ancient civilizations that have had different social classes?
- Mesopotamia
 - Egypt
 - India
 - China
 - Greece
 - Rome
 - Olmecs
 - Aztecs
 - Incas
- d. Have there been social classes in modern civilizations?
- England
 - India
 - U.S.A.
- e. Do we have social classes today?
- You may choose to discuss that India still has a caste system and that many countries still have formal social classes.
 - You may also choose to discuss the informal social classes that exist in many societies (including England and the United states).
 - This can be a thought question for the students to answer in their notebooks. You may or may not choose to discuss this question as a class.
2. Depending on which ancient civilization is your favorite, the students' favorite, or currently being covered in your lessons, you may want to discuss social classes in a particular area in more detail.
 3. Students may or may not remember, but the population of the planet that they are going to rescue at the simulator is currently divided into different classes by order of the planet's government. The humans and the aliens who moved to the planet make up the classes. The aliens are called "Outlanders".

Who is the Alien?

When the students come to the simulator for "Midnight Rescue", they will be going on a mission to rescue humans and aliens from Earth's Embassy on a planet called New Earth.

Imagine that you lived so far away from anyone else that you didn't know anyone besides your culture even existed. What would you think when suddenly other people showed up on your land? Since we've already discovered all the land on Earth, sometimes we wonder if someone from another planet (that we don't even know exists) might come and visit us. We call them aliens.

1. Ask students "What is an alien?"

In addition to students' answers, you may want to suggest the following:

- An alien is anything or anyone from another place. For example, if I am from California, then I am an alien to Utah because I'm from another place.
 - I'm not scary because I'm an alien. I'm not mean because I'm an alien. I'm not ugly because I'm an alien. Aliens come in all shapes and sizes.
2. Ask students to raise their hands if they are an alien to Utah

Ethnic Cleansing

Ethnic cleansing refers to various policies or practices aimed at the displacement of an [ethnic group](#) from a particular territory in order to create a supposedly ethnically "pure" society

The following web site contains an excellent lesson plan for teaching intolerance and ethnic cleansing. We recommended it be used as your primary lesson to help your students understand that intolerance, class hatred, and genocide still exist today. This kind of hatred is explored in this year's mission "Midnight Rescue".

<http://www.learningtogive.org/lessons/unit125/lesson2.html>

To help your students understand, the following examples of intolerance and ethnic cleansing are given as a reference. **(This information was taken from Wikipedia and references back to its website.)**

20th Century Examples

0. The [Armenian Genocide](#), [Assyrian Genocide](#), and [Pontian Greek Genocide](#) perpetrated by the [Young Turks](#) during 1914–1922.[38]
1. [Massacres of the Turkish population by the Greek army of occupation](#) and [Greek scorched earth policy](#) by Greek troops after their defeat in the Greco Turkish war. Sack of [Smyrna](#) by Turkish troops.
2. The [Population exchange between Greece and Turkey](#) of Greeks from Turkey and of Turks from Greece after the [Greco-Turkish War \(1919-1922\)](#) as a consequence of the [Treaty of Lausanne](#) in 1923.
3. The [Bolshevik](#) regime killed or deported an estimated 300,000 to 500,000 [Don Cossacks](#) during the [Russian Civil War](#), in 1919-1920.[39]
4. [Deportation of Poles](#) by the [Soviet Union](#) from [Belarus](#), [Ukraine](#)

and European Russia to [Kazakhstan](#) in 1934-1938.

5. [Deportation of Koreans](#) by the [Soviet Union](#) from [Russian Far East](#) to [Soviet Central Asia](#) from September to October of 1937. More than 172,000 Koreans were deported.\
6. The persecutions and expulsions of over seven million [Jews](#) in [Germany](#), [Austria](#) and other [Nazi-controlled](#) areas prior to the initiation of [mass genocide](#) in 1941.[40]
7. During the [Finnish](#) occupation of [East Karelia](#) during [World War II](#) the Russian speaking population of the city of [Petrozavodsk](#) was held in an [concentration camp](#).
8. [Expulsion of Poles by Germany](#). During World War II, Nazis planned to ethnically cleanse the whole Polish population. Eventually during [Nazi occupation](#) up to 1.6 to 2 million [Poles](#) were expelled, not counting millions of [slave labourers](#) deported from Poland.[41]
9. More than 250,000 [Serbs](#) were expelled from [Croatia](#) by the extreme nationalist [Ustashe](#) regime during the [Serbian Genocide](#), in 1941-1945.[42]
10. Deportation of [Volga Germans](#) by [Soviet Union](#) to [Kazakhstan](#), [Altai Krai](#), [Siberia](#), and other remote areas, in 1941-1942.
11. [Deportation of Crimean Tatars](#), [Kalmyks](#), [Chechens](#), [Ingush](#), [Balkars](#), [Karachays](#), and [Meskhetian Turks](#) by [Soviet Union](#) to [Central Asia](#) and [Siberia](#), 1943-1944.
12. The ethnic cleansing and [massacres of Poles in Volhynia](#) by nationalist [UPA](#) which took place in 1943 and 1944, with the bulk

of victims reported for summer and autumn 1944.

13. [Expulsion of Germans after World War II](#). From 1944 until 1948, between 13.5 and 16.5 million [Germans](#) were expelled, [evacuated](#) or fled from Central and Eastern Europe. Estimated number of those who died in the process is being debated by historians and estimated between 500,000 and 3,000,000.[43]
14. [Istrian exodus](#) during and after World War II. The [diaspora](#) of ethnic [Italians](#) from [Istria](#), [Fiume](#) and dalmatian [Zara](#) lands, after the collapse of Italian [fascist](#) regime.
15. The mass deportation of [Ukrainian](#) speaking ethnic minorities from the territory of [Poland](#) after [World War II](#), culminating in [1947](#) with the start of [Operation Wisla](#). Millions of [Poles](#) were simultaneously deported from [the eastern territories annexed by the Soviet Union](#) into the western territories, which Soviets transferred from Germany to Poland. By 1950, 5 million Poles had been settled in what the government called the [Regained Territories](#).
16. Mass expulsions of [Hindus](#) and [Sikhs](#) from [Pakistan](#) to [India](#), and of [Muslims](#) from India to Pakistan. The controversy surrounding this move resulted in the killings of [Hindus](#), [Muslims](#) and [Sikhs](#) in riots. This was known as the [partition of British India](#) in [1947](#).[44] Well over 10 million people were violently displaced, making it *the largest single instance of ethnic cleansing in recorded history*.
17. After the annexation of the [Muslim-ruled](#) state of [Hyderabad](#) by India in 1948, about 7,000 Hadrami [Arabs](#) were interned and deported from [India](#).[45]
18. The [Nakba](#) or [Palestinian exodus](#), in which the substantial majority

of Arab [Palestinians](#) (approximately 700,000) in the areas of [Palestine](#) that became part of [Israel](#) fled or were deported by Israeli forces following the [1948 Arab-Israeli War](#).[\[46\]\[47\]\[48\]](#)

19. [Jewish exodus from Arab lands](#), in which 99 percent of [Jews](#) (approximately 800,000) from Arab countries were deported by Arab governments, or fled oppression and discrimination, between the [1948 Arab-Israeli War](#) and the [Six Day War](#) in 1967. The major populations affected were in [Iraq](#), [Syria](#), [Yemen](#), [Egypt](#), [Libya](#), [Algeria](#), [Tunisia](#) and [Morocco](#).[\[49\]\[50\]\[51\]\[52\]](#)
20. After [Indonesia](#) received independence from the [Netherlands](#) in 1949, around 300,000 people, predominantly [Dutch Indonesians](#), fled or were expelled from Indonesia.[\[53\]](#)
21. The mass deportation of ethnic minorities from their homelands, including [East Timor](#) and [Papua](#), by the [Indonesian](#) government, beginning with Indonesian independence in 1949 (and subsequent occupation and annexation of Papua until the present day and of East Timor until 1999).[\[54\]\[55\]](#)
22. Displacement of [Kashmiri Hindus](#) living in [Kashmir](#) due to the ongoing and anti-[Indian](#) insurgency. Some 300,000 Hindus have been internally displaced from Kashmir due to the violence.[\[56\]](#)
23. On 5 July 1960, five days after the [Congo](#) gained independence from Belgium, the [Force Publique](#) garrison near [Léopoldville](#) mutinied against its white officers and attacked numerous European targets. This caused the fear amongst the approximately 100,000 [whites](#) still resident in the Congo and mass exodus from the country.[\[57\]](#)

24. Mass expulsion of the [pied-noir](#) population of European descent and [Jews](#) from [Algeria](#) to [France](#). In just a few months in [1962](#), 900,000 of these Europeans and native Jewish people left the country.[\[58\]\[59\]](#)
25. The ethnic cleansing of the [Arabs](#) and [Indians](#) from [Zanzibar](#) in [1964](#).[\[60\]](#)
26. During the [Bangladesh War of Independence](#) of [1971](#) around 10 million [Bengalis](#) fled the country to escape the killings and [atrocities](#) committed by the [Pakistan Army](#).
27. The forced expulsion of [Uganda's](#) entire [Asian](#) population by [Idi Amin's](#) regime.[\[61\]](#)
28. The ethnic cleansing in 1974-76 of the entire Greek population of the areas under Turkish military occupation in [Cyprus](#) during and after the [Turkish Invasion of Cyprus](#)[\[62\]](#).
29. [Forced removals](#) of non-white populations in South Africa under [Apartheid](#).[\[63\]\[64\]](#)
30. At least one million Iraqi [Kurds](#) were displaced during the [Al-Anfal Campaign](#) (1986-1989).
31. The forced assimilation campaign of the late 80s directed against ethnic [Turks](#) resulted in the emigration of some 300,000 [Bulgarian Turks](#) to Turkey.
32. The [Nagorno Karabakh](#) conflict has resulted in the displacement of 528,000 (this figure does not include new born children of these [IDPs](#)) [Azerbaijanis](#) from Armenian occupied territories including Nagorno Karabakh, and 220,000 Azeris, 18,000 Kurds and 3,500

Russians fled from [Armenia](#) to Azerbaijan from 1988 to 1989.[65] 280,000 persons—virtually all ethnic [Armenians](#)—fled [Azerbaijan](#) during the 1988–1993 war over the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh.[66]

33. Since April 1989, some 70,000 black Mauritians -- members of the [Peul](#), [Wolof](#), [Soninke](#) and [Bambara](#) ethnic groups -- had been expelled from [Mauritania](#) by the Mauritanian government.[67]
34. In 1989, after bloody pogroms against the [Meskhetian Turks](#) by [Uzbeks](#) in Central Asia's [Ferghana Valley](#), nearly 90,000 Meskhetian Turks left [Uzbekistan](#).[68][69]
35. The [expulsion of the Muslims from Jaffna](#) was an act of ethnic cleansing carried out by the [Tamil militant Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam](#) (LTTE) organization in [October 1990](#). In order to achieve their goal of creating an ethnically "pure" [Tamil](#) state in the North and East of [Sri Lanka](#), the LTTE forcibly expelled the entire Muslim community - numbered at around 80,000 - from the northern [Jaffna](#) peninsular of the island. They were forced to leave within 48 hours of an LTTE warning and not permitted to take any of their belongings, which were subsequently looted by the LTTE.
36. The widespread ethnic cleansing accompanying the [Yugoslav wars](#) from 1991 to 1999, of which the most significant examples occurred in eastern [Croatia](#) and self-proclaimed [Republic of Serbian Krajina](#) (1991-1995), in most of [Bosnia](#) (1992-1995), and in the [Albanian](#)-dominated breakaway [Kosovo](#) province (of [Serbia](#)) (1999). Large numbers of [Serbs](#), [Croats](#), [Bosniaks](#) and [Albanians](#) were forced to flee their homes and expelled.[70]

37. The forced displacement and [ethnic-cleansing](#) of more than 250,000 people, mostly [Georgians](#) but some others too, from [Abkhazia](#) during the conflict and after in 1993 and 1998.[71]
38. The 1994 massacres of nearly one million [Tutsis](#) by [Hutus](#), known as the [Rwandan Genocide](#)[72]^[better citation needed]
39. The mass expulsion of southern [Lhotshampas](#) (Bhutanese of Nepalese origin) by the northern [Druk](#) majority of [Bhutan](#) in 1990.[73] The number of refugees is approximately 103,000.[74]
40. Displacement of more than 500,000 [Chechen](#) and ethnic [Russian](#) civilians living in [Chechnya](#) during the [First Chechen War](#) in 1994-1996.[75][76][77]
41. More than 800,000 Kosovo [Albanians](#) fled their homes in [Kosovo](#) during the [Kosovo War](#) in 1999. By November 1999, most of the Albanians had returned to Kosovo. Over 200,000 [Serbs](#), fearing retribution, and other non-Albanian minorities fled or were expelled from Kosovo after the war.[78][79]

21st century

1. Expulsion of [white](#) farmers by the [Mugabe](#) regime in [Zimbabwe](#) in 2000. There were 270,000 [whites in Zimbabwe](#) (when the country was known as [Rhodesia](#)) in 1970. There are only a few thousand whites left in Zimbabwe today.
2. The removal of around 8,500 Jews (including the forced removal of about half of them)[80] from the [Gaza Strip](#), and around 660 from four small settlements in the [West Bank](#),[81] in 2005 through the implementation of [Israel's unilateral disengagement](#)

[plan](#).[\[82\]](#)[\[83\]](#)[\[84\]](#)[\[85\]](#)

3. Attacks by the [Janjaweed Arabs](#), [Muslim](#) militias of [Sudan](#) on the [African](#) population of [Darfur](#), a region of western Sudan.[\[86\]](#)[\[87\]](#)
A July 14, 2007 article notes that in the past two months up to 75,000 Arabs from [Chad](#) and [Niger](#) crossed the border into Darfur. Most have been relocated by the Sudanese government to former villages of displaced non-Arab people. Some 2.5 million have now been forced to flee their homes after attacks by Sudanese troops and Janjaweed militia.[\[88\]](#)
4. Currently in the [Iraq Civil War](#) (2003 to present), entire neighborhoods in [Baghdad](#) are being ethnically cleansed by [Shia](#) and [Sunni](#) Militias. Some areas are being evacuated by every member of a particular secular group due to lack of security, moving into new areas because of fear of reprisal killings. As of June 21, 2007, the [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees](#) estimated that 2.2 million Iraqis had been displaced to neighboring countries, and 2 million were displaced internally, with nearly 100,000 Iraqis fleeing to Syria and Jordan each month.[\[89\]](#)[\[90\]](#)
5. Although [Iraqi Christians](#) represent less than 5% of the total Iraqi population, they make up 40% of the [refugees](#) now living in nearby countries, according to [UNHCR](#).[\[91\]](#)[\[92\]](#) In the [16th century](#), Christians constituted half of Iraq's population.[\[93\]](#) In 1987, the last Iraqi census counted 1.4 million Christians.[\[94\]](#) But as the [2003 invasion](#) has radicalized Islamic sensibilities, Christians' total numbers slumped to about 500,000, of whom

250,000 live in Baghdad.[95] Furthermore, the [Mandaean](#) and [Yazidi](#) communities are at the risk of elimination due to the ongoing [atrocities](#) by [Islamic](#) extremists.[96][97] A May 25, 2007 article notes that in the past 7 months only 69 people from Iraq have been granted [refugee status](#) in the [United States](#).[98]

In October 2006, [Niger](#) announced that it would deport the [Arabs](#) living in the Diffa region of eastern Niger to Chad.[104] This population numbered about 150,000.[105]