

The Secret Symbolism of the Statue of Liberty

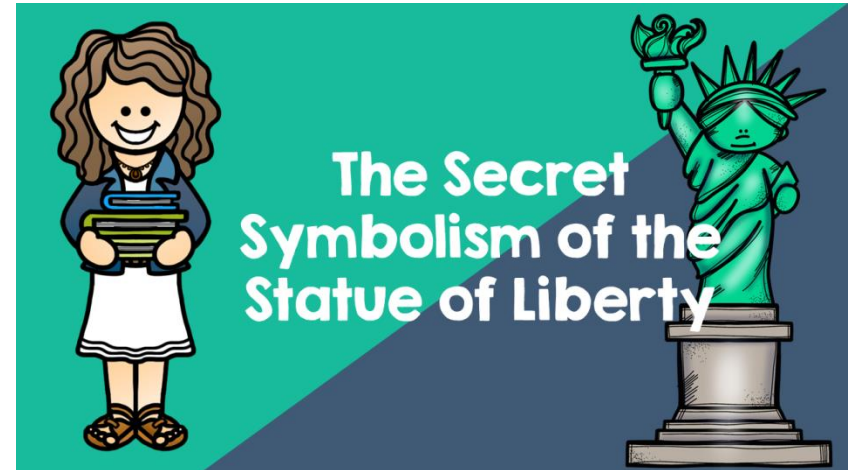


Activities

1. **2-Minute Informative Video** <https://youtu.be/QqpOQhW24O4>

2. Organizer

After students watch the video, have them complete the organizer found in this document in the **Printables & Answer Keys** section below.



3. Matching Activity

Students match "The New Colossus" Phrase to the Visual Symbol / Meaning Connection from the poem **The New Colossus** By Emma Lazarus.

4. Creative Writing: Design a Modern "Monument of Meaning"

Ask students: If you were designing a monument to represent a big idea today (like Kindness, Perseverance, or Community), what symbols would you use? Students draw a quick sketch of their own statue and label four specific elements, explaining what each part represents, just like the torch, tablet, and crown.



5. Geography & History: The Tale of Two Islands (Mapping Activity)

Provide students with the map of New York Harbor. Have them draw the path an immigrant ship would take as it passed Lady Liberty. Students can write a short journal entry from the perspective of a child immigrant in 1892, describing what it felt like to see the "literally stepping out of chains" stance as they neared the harbor.

Extension Activities

- Use the scale bar to calculate approximate distances traveled through the harbor. Students can compare that to modern ferry routes or estimate how long the journey from ship to Ellis Island might have taken.
- Invite students to draw or color rays of light or arrows radiating from Liberty Island, labeling each with a symbolic meaning (freedom, hope, opportunity, safety). This visually reinforces the "stepping out of chains" idea.

6. Math Connection: "Statue by the Numbers" Scale Comparison

Provide students with a list of the statue's actual measurements (e.g., the index finger is 8 feet long, the nose is 4 and a half feet long). Have students use yarn or measuring tapes to measure their own fingers and noses, then calculate or visually compare how many "student sizes" it takes to equal one "Lady Liberty size."

Organizer

Assembly Instructions

I love interactive notebooks. I have found students return again and again to their notebooks to find rules and examples. The only problem is foldable organizers take a lot of time to create. Because of this, I played around with paper to come up with a design that is quick and easy for students to make.



Note: The organizers in the photos are for demonstration purposes only. Not all are included in this unit.

PRINTABLE VERSION -- Organizers

STEP 1 - Print the organizers.

Print the organizers directly from this packet.



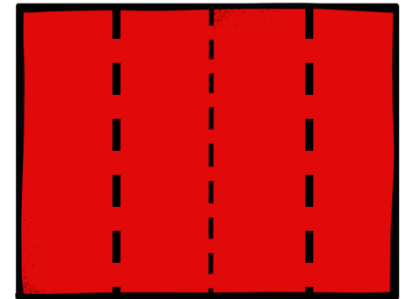
STEP 2 - Using the Organizers:

Have students watch the instructional video that goes with the organizer.

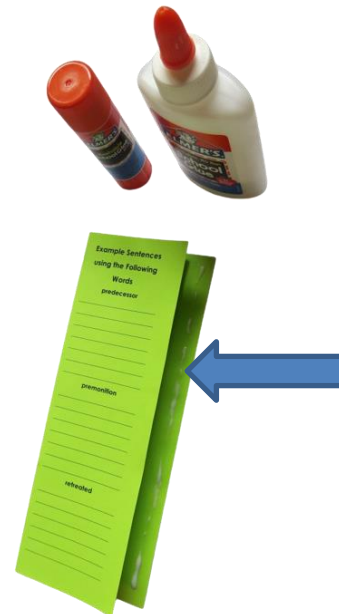


STEP 3 - Fold the Organizer.

This organizer requires no cutting or coloring. I recommend telling students that they can color the blackline drawings at home if they wish to, but it is not necessary. The organizer folds like a fan. Make sure the first fold is under, so the educational material is on top and will be visible when flipping through the interactive notebook.



STEP 4 - Gluing the Organizer Flip the organizer over with the text box containing the title panel face down. Have students place a single line of white school glue down the back right-hand side of the organizer. Glue the organizers two to a page (four to an open notebook). See photos on the next page.



Print

Pun

Fill in the blanks to complete the definition of pun.

A pun is a missing, the different possible, of a word or the fact that there are words which alike but have meanings.

Example

A chicken farmer's favorite car is a coupe.



She had a photographic memory but never developed it.



Read the word or phrase in each sentence that makes it a pun. Under the sentence, write this word and then explain its two meanings.

 I am a baker because I knead the dough. Dough: _____ OR _____	 It's pointless to write with a broken pencil. Pointless: _____ OR _____	 What do you call a sleeping bull? ----- A bulldozer. Dozer: _____ OR _____
 I was struggling to figure out how lightning works when it struck me. Struck: _____ OR _____	 What was the reporter doing at the ice cream shop? ----- Getting the scoop. Scoop: _____ OR _____	 What do you get from a pampered cow? ----- Spoiled milk. Spoiled: _____ OR _____

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Fan Fold

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Glue

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Hyperbole

Fill in the blanks to define hyperbole.

Hyperbole is a figure of speech in which _____ is used for emphasis or it may be confused with a _____ because it often compares two items. The difference is that with a hyperbole the comparison is an _____.

Example



The fish I caught was so big that I couldn't get it inside the house.

Alliteration

Fill in the blanks to define alliteration.

Alliteration is when several words in a row begin with the _____.

[You may have words in between alliterated words that don't start with the same _____ as they don't [the sound pattern].]

Examples

Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer rose rapidly into the air.



The snake slithers secretly across the sand.



Assonance

Fill in the blanks with words to show the definition of assonance.

Assonance is the repetition of _____ words. It is used to reinforce the meanings of words or to set the _____ that is the important and not the _____ used.

Example

It beats _____ as it sweeps _____ as it cleans! - slogan for Hoover vacuum cleaners.



Onomatopoeia

Fill in the blanks with words to show the definition of onomatopoeia.

Onomatopoeia is the _____ of natural _____ in word form. These words help us form mental _____ about the _____ or _____ that are described.

Examples

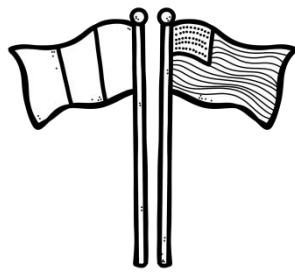
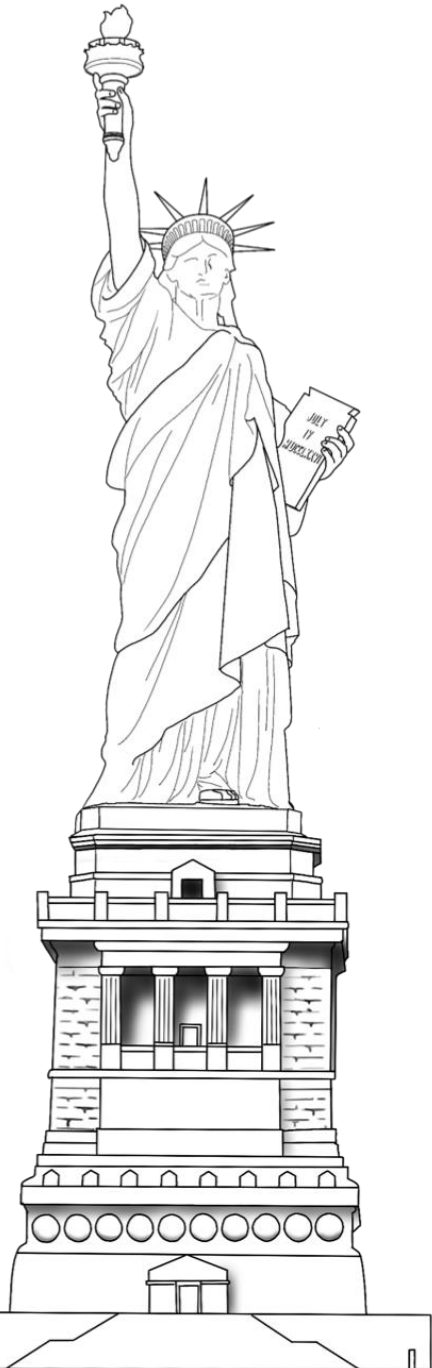




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Printables & Answer Keys

The Secret Symbolism of the Statue of Liberty

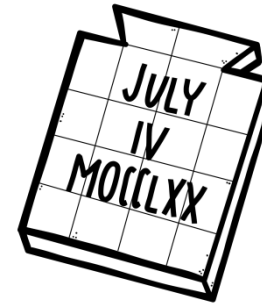


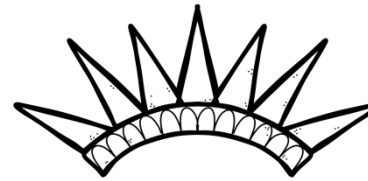
Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi



Every part of the statue carries meaning:

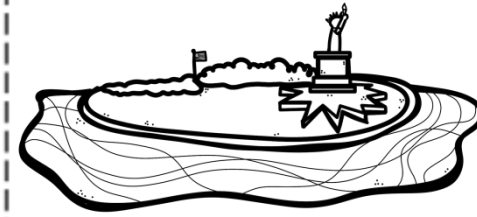








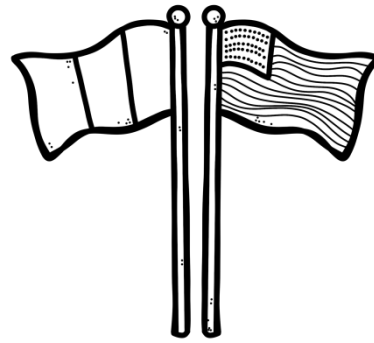
Liberty Island



Ellis Island



The Secret Symbolism of the Statue of Liberty



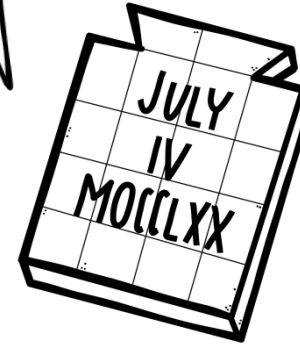
When French sculptor Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi designed the statue in the 1870s, the _____ had just ended. Slavery had been _____. The nation was rebuilding. Bartholdi wanted Lady Liberty to celebrate America's _____, but also the end of _____.



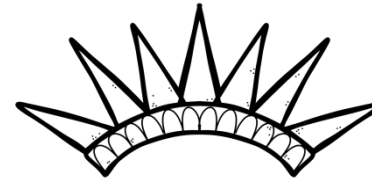
Every part of the statue carries meaning:



The torch represents _____.



The tablet shows the date of American _____.

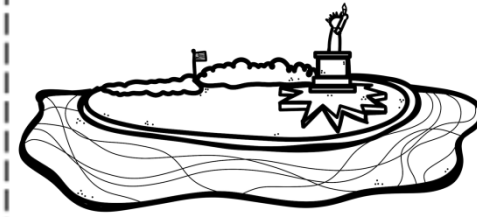


The seven rays of her crown symbolize liberty reaching every _____.



The broken chains at her feet honor the triumph of _____ over oppression.

Liberty Island



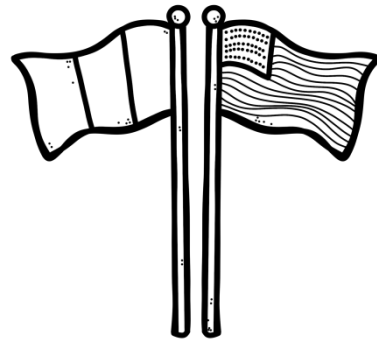
The Statue of Liberty sits on _____ **Island** just a half mile away from the Immigration Station on _____ **Island**.

Millions of _____ arrived at Ellis Island seeking _____ greeted by a statue literally stepping out of _____.

Ellis Island



The Secret Symbolism of the Statue of Liberty



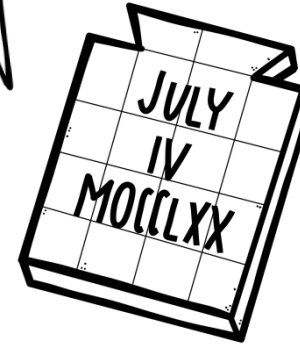
When French sculptor Frédéric-Auguste Bartholdi designed the statue in the 1870s, the Civil War had just ended. Slavery had been abolished. The nation was rebuilding. Bartholdi wanted Lady Liberty to celebrate America's independence, but also the end of slavery.



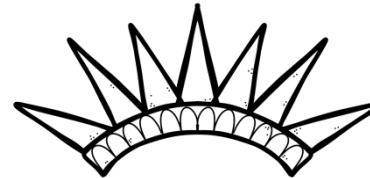
Every part of the statue carries meaning:



The torch represents enlightenment.



The tablet shows the date of American independence.

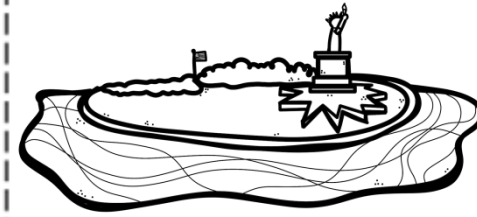


The seven rays of her crown symbolize liberty reaching every continent.



The broken chains at her feet honor the triumph of freedom over oppression.

Liberty Island



The Statue of Liberty sits on **Liberty Island** just a half mile away from the Immigration Station on **Ellis Island**.

Millions of immigrants arrived at Ellis Island seeking freedom greeted by a statue literally stepping out of chains.

Ellis Island



The New Colossus

BY EMMA LAZARUS

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
“Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!” cries she
With silent lips. “Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!



**"A mighty woman
with a torch,
whose flame / Is
the imprisoned
lightning..."**

**Ellis Island /
Immigration
Station**

**"I lift my lamp
beside the golden
door!"**

**"...and her name /
Mother of Exiles."**

**The Torch /
Enlightenment**

**STATUE
-OF- LIBERTY-**

**The Seven Rays of
the Crown**

**The Broken
Chains / Shackles**

**"Give me your
tired, your poor, /
Your huddled
masses yearning
to breathe free..."**

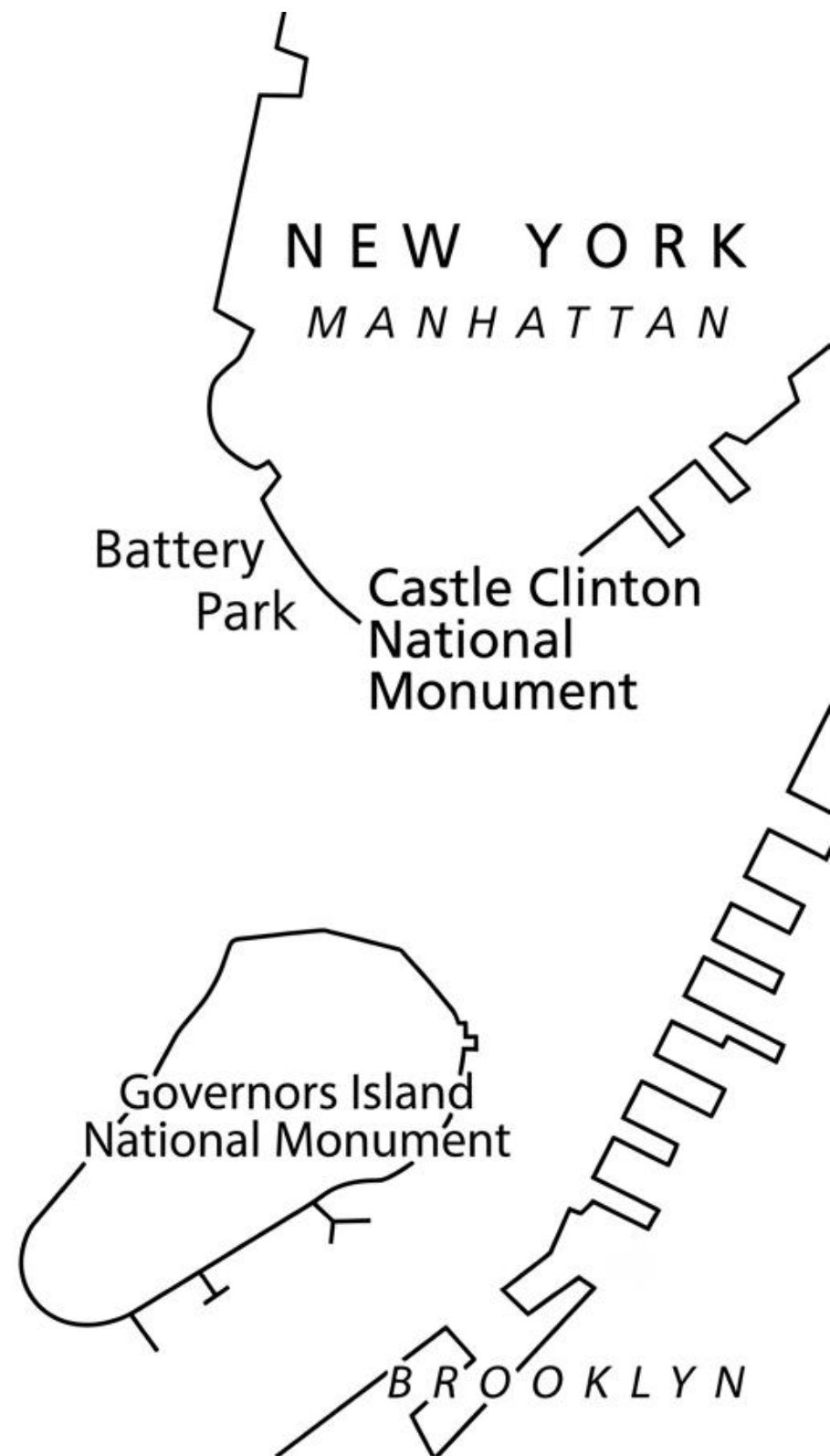
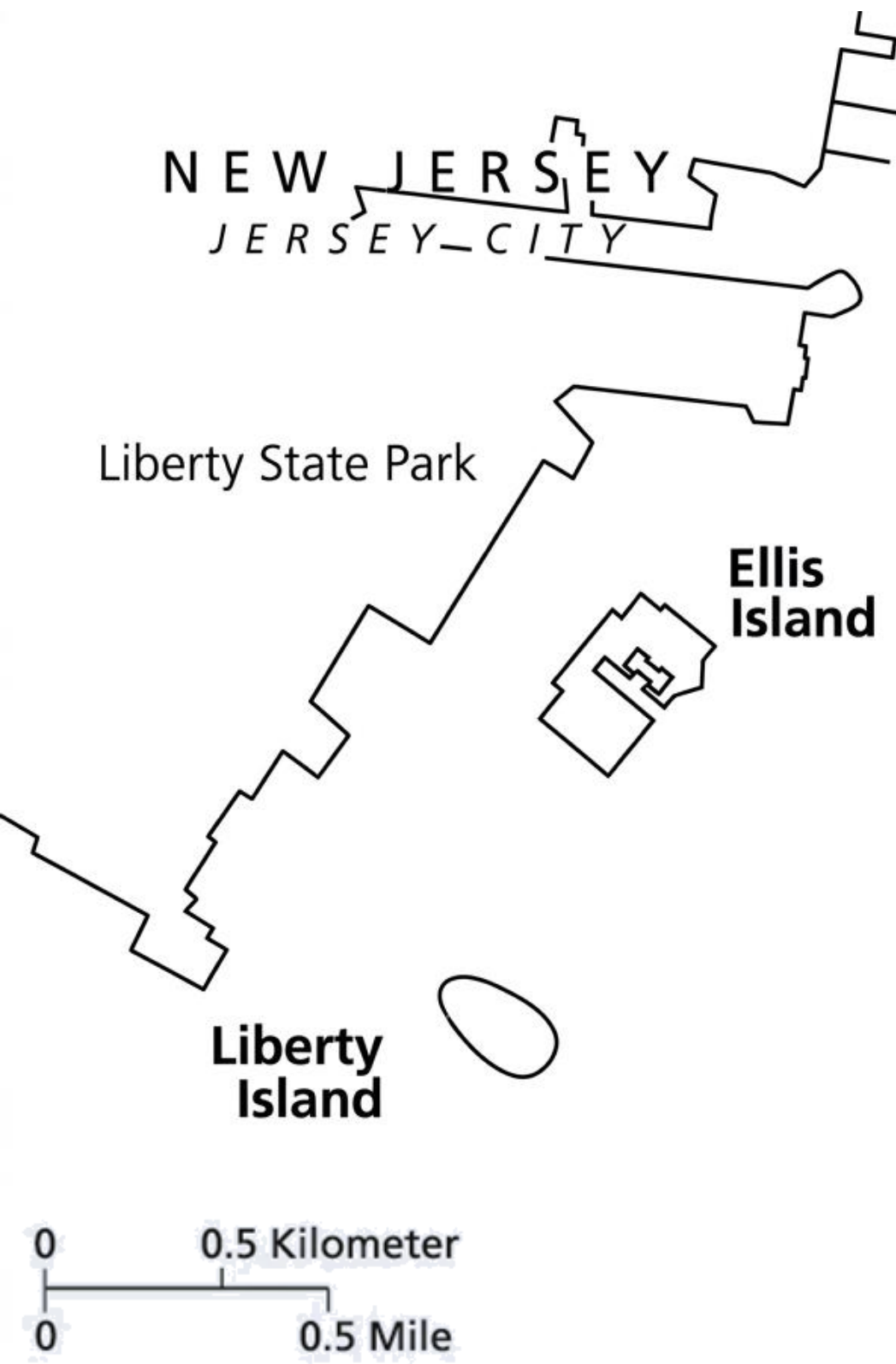


**"From her
beacon-hand /
Glows world-wide
welcome..."**

**Liberty Island /
New York Harbor**

Answer Key

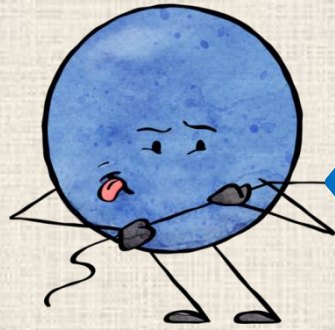
"The New Colossus" Phrase	Visual Symbol / Meaning Connection
"A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame / Is the imprisoned lightning..."	The Torch / Enlightenment • Connection: Represents a bright, shining light that guides the way and shares knowledge with the world.
"From her beacon-hand / Glows world-wide welcome..."	The Seven Rays of the Crown • Connection: Shows that the welcome and the message of liberty stretch across all seven continents and oceans.
"...and her name / Mother of Exiles."	Ellis Island / Immigration Station • Connection: Exiles are people forced to leave their homelands. Lady Liberty stands as a welcoming mother figure to millions arriving at Ellis Island.
"Give me your tired, your poor, / Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..."	The Broken Chains / Shackles • Connection: "Yearning to breathe free" matches the triumph of freedom over oppression and escaping the chains of unfair treatment.
"I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"	Liberty Island / New York Harbor • Connection: The harbor acts as a "golden door" or entrance to a brand-new life and new opportunities in America.





Credits

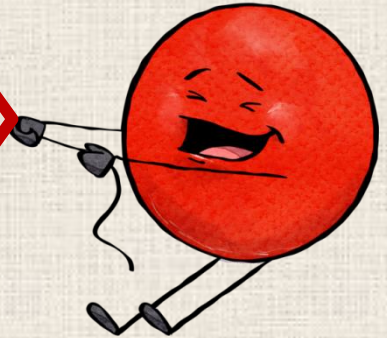




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