

Lesson Date: Humanities

Listening/Speaking: *The Chicago Outfit*

Speaking Warm Up

For this speaking assignment, you will be working in groups of three. Two members of the group will speak, and the third will be a moderator. You will have one minute to respond to a prompt, but no preparation time. After the two speakers finish their responses, the moderator will spend approximately 3 minutes asking questions to both speakers. **After you finish the first task, name a different moderator, and continue until everyone has had one turn as a moderator.**

Prompt 1: *Comfort food refers to the food you like to eat when you are feeling a little down. What is your favorite comfort food? Why do you like it? When do you eat it? Use reasons and details.*

Prompt 2: *Who was your first crush? How old were you? Did he or she share your feelings of young love? Use examples and details in your response.*

Prompt 3: *Is it better to raise children in America or in your home country? Why do you think so? Use examples and details in your response.*

Listening Exercise 1: Watch the following film about the early American gangsters and answer the questions. After the film compare your responses to those of a partner.

Vocabulary

Squalor – poor and dirty conditions

Dismal – hopeless

Spawn – give birth to

Hoodlums – young urban troublemakers

A far cry – very different from

Ruled the roost - lead

At the hands of – dependent on

Enclave – isolated part

Compatriots – people of the same country

Renegade - rebel

Field day – period of intense activity

Signature –adj. -

Extortion – profiting from threats

Took their knocks – underwent difficult times

Learn the ropes – learned the basic skills

Bygone era - past

Swagger – many of moving with confidence

Lap it up – consume quickly and enthusiastically

Emulate – admire and imitate

Riveting - enthralling

Become entranced – pay intense attention to

Thumbing your nose – ignore with disdain

Template -model

Larger than life – having a big personality

Questions

Why did Italians and Jews come to America? What did they come for?

How did America fail to meet their expectations?

What do gangs offer their members?

What is the meaning of the name “dead rabbits”?

In what ways did early gangs resemble modern ones?

Why does he mention campus freshman?

What was the most populated part of the world in the late nineteenth century?

What were conditions like in the slums? Give an example.

What were some early crimes committed by early gangs?

What made gangs alluring to young immigrants living in Little Italy?

What are the “two options” referred to by the speaker?

How did the Italian gang differ from previous ones? What were they called?

How did the early film industry characterize the Black Hand?

What was the nickname of the black hand members?

What was the radical move to fight the Italian gangs engaged by Joseph Petrocino? Did it work? What happened to Petrocino?

How did the Black Hand differ from other gangs?

What were the gangs actually defending? What kind of territory?

How did the street gangs expand their operations?

How did the public respond to gangsters in movies? Why is this ironic? Is this still true?

What is the first gangster movie? Why was it groundbreaking and why did it cause a sensation?

In addition to realism, what also led to the appeal of gangster movies?

How did the movies actually influence the real gangsters?

What is the phrase that every gangster wishes he had first said?

Why does the public admire the gangsters in film?

What was the fatal flaw or vulnerability of gangsters?

What was now replacing the older gangs? Where did they originate in America?

How did the Italian mafia start out?

What was the price of protection from the mafia?

Who were the Godfathers?

Where does the word “racket” come from?

How did the mafia stay in power?

Who was allowed in the mafia? What were some of the codes of the mafia?

How did the mafia become involved in the labor disputes?

Who was the definitive crime boss of the era?

Where did Capone “make his name”?

What was Chicago like in the early 1900’s?

What was Capone’s first job in Chicago? What was his nickname?

What were some of Capone’s characteristics described in the film?

How did Capone differ from other gangsters?

Speaking Assignment : Complete the extemporaneous prompts from class.

Listening Assignment 2: Listen to three lectures related to this topic. Determine the main idea, the three reasons to support each idea, and at least one detail or elaboration to support each reasons.

LECTURE 1:

Main Idea:

Reason 1 with elaboration

Reason 2 with elaboration

Reason 3 with elaboration

LECTURE 2:

Main Idea:

Reason 1 with elaboration

Reason 2 with elaboration

Reason 3 with elaboration

LECTURE 3:

Main Idea:

Reason 1 with elaboration

Reason 2 with elaboration

Reason 3 with elaboration

Homework Assignment:

1. Compose five vocabulary sentences.
2. This weekend watch a gangster movie and write a discussion of it. Begin by describing the content of the movie. Next, discuss how the gangsters are characterized. Finally, give your own opinion as to whether or not this is harmful for society.
3. Study for vocabulary quiz

Homework Assignments: