



1-2

Canada: Day 1 Exhibition

Lesson Pack

Explore the exhibition at the
Borealis Gallery
Legislative Assembly Visitor Centre

**August 27 to
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Hosted by



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Canadian Museum of
Immigration at Pier 21
Musée canadien de
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Canada

Lesson Packs for teachers of adult English language learners

In this lesson pack you will find materials and teaching ideas for adult English language learners who are working at the Canadian Language Benchmarks level 1-2.

All of the texts and materials in this lesson pack are drawn directly from the Canada: Day 1 exhibit.

Introduction

Canada: Day 1 tells us about newcomers to Canada.

We can learn about how newcomers feel: afraid, excited and hopeful.

When you visit *Canada: Day 1*, maybe you will think about your own journey to Canada. When you see the story of another person, you will see your own.

When you think of your first day in Canada, what words come to mind?

Circle the words that describe how you were feeling the first day you arrived in Canada.

happy

afraid

excited

shy

unsure

confused

tired

Can you put these words about feelings in alphabetical order?

Arrival

“My first day in Canada started at Toronto [Pearson] airport. I will never forget that day...There were so many people with different faces, skin colour, hair, clothes and languages.”

– Jayavathana Kuganesan, arrived from Sri Lanka, 2000.

Questions about Jayavathana Kuganesan

What was his point of entry into Canada?

Where is *Jayavathana Kuganesan* from?

What year did he come to Canada?

What surprised him about the people in Canada?

Things to see at the exhibit

Look at the photos on the next page.

All these things are at the *Canada: Day 1* exhibit.

Which word goes with which photo?

Copy the word on the line below the correct photo.

suitcase

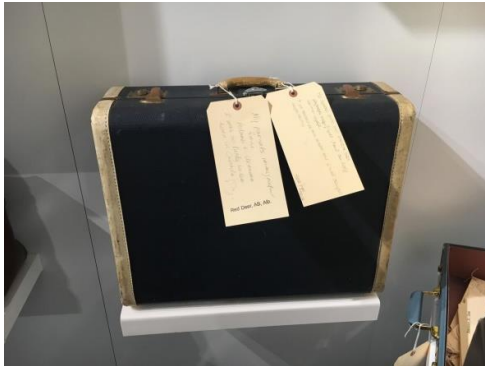
laundry soap

skates

books

passport

family photo



Stories of immigrants to Canada

You will see and hear from people who have come to Canada as immigrants.

Here are some of their stories.

When you visit the exhibit, look for these people.

Fredrick Wangabo Mwenengabo

Fredrick Wangabo Mwenengabo was born on December 25th 1975.

He was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

He went to university in Kisangani.

Fredrick has part-pygmy heritage.

He experienced racism as a child.

He worked for human rights.

He was put in jail by the government.

He escaped from jail and went to Uganda.

In 2009, he came to Canada.

He lives in New Brunswick.

He is a teacher.

Difficult words:

pygmy –tribes from central Africa

heritage – family background and history

human rights – making things fair for all people

Read each sentence about Fredrick Wangabo Mwenengabo.

If it is correct, circle yes.

If it is not correct, circle no.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Fredrick Mwenengabo was born in 1925. | yes / no |
| 2. The family of Frederick was partly from a pygmy background. | yes / no |
| 3. Fredrick did not study at university. | yes / no |
| 4. Fredrick experienced racism when he was a child. | yes / no |
| 5. Fredrick worked to help others have equal rights. | yes / no |
| 6. The university put Fredrick in jail. | yes / no |
| 7. When he escaped, Fredrick went first to Canada. | yes / no |
| 8. Fredrick is now a teacher in New Brunswick. | yes / no |

Chairuth Bouphaphanh

Chairuth Bouphaphanh was born in Vientiane, Laos on 22 October 1967.

He lived there with his parents and two younger brothers until 1978.

His family was one of many that left the country after the Vietnam War.

In 1978, Chai and his mother and brothers took a boat across the Mekong River and escaped into Thailand.

The family lived in a refugee camp in Nong Khai, Thailand for two years.

Chai's family came to Canada as refugees.

Chai and his family first came to Edmonton, then they flew to Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on 1 February 1980. Finally they moved to the small village of Drake, Saskatchewan.

Chai and his parents and brothers all became Canadian citizens in 1985.

Chai works as a photographer.

Answer the following questions about Chairuth Bouphaphanh.

1. Where was Chairuth Bouphaphanh born?

2. Who did Chai live with in Laos?

3. When did many families leave Laos?

4. Which river did Chai and his family cross to get to Thailand?

5. How long did Chai and his family live in Thailand?

6. What was the first city Chai and his family came to in Canada?

7. What is Chai's job?

Re-tell Chairuth's story

Write a number next to each sentence to show the correct order of Chairuth's story.

The first one has been done for you.

_____ Chai and his family left Laos.

_____ Chai is a photographer.

1_____ Chai was born in 1967.

_____ Chai lived in Thailand in a refugee camp.

_____ Chai moved to Drake, Saskatchewan.

_____ Chai and his family flew to Canada.

_____ Chai became a Canadian citizen.

_____ Chai and his family first went to Edmonton.

Arriving in a new country

Coming to a new country means a chance to do different activities and learn new traditions.

For some, putting on a pair of ice skates might be strange. For others, it's a chance to try their new country's traditions, or simply a chance to have fun.

"I love winter, which is strange... I learned to skate the first day. I went out to the pond. I wanted to learn how to play hockey. And we went to my friend's farm ... and learned how to skate but I couldn't do it. Everybody gave up on me, but I kept going at it and I learned to skate the first day and play hockey. "

—Chai Boupaphanh, arrived from Laos via Thailand, 1980.

Answer in complete sentences

What does Chai love? He loves _____.

What did Chai learn to do in Canada? He learned to _____.

Where did Chai learn to skate? He learned to skate at _____.

What game did Chai want to play? He _____.

Do you like winter? _____

What have you learned to do in Canada? _____

What game do you want to play in Canada? _____

What will I eat?

"It took time to adjust to a new place. The local people who were not exposed to new cultures, the harsh weather, Canadian teenagers, and a lack of the ethnic food I was used to, all made me feel lonesome."

— Om Sharma, arrived from India, August 2, 1967.

Check all the things that made Om Sharma feel lonesome (lonely).

☒ people without exposure to new cultures

☐ a lack of food he was used to

☐ Canadian adults

☐ teens in Canada

☐ time

☐ the harsh weather

"I didn't like the food, especially the porridge. It was lumpy and salty."

— Ernest Jackson (Misaq Tomadjian), arrived from Turkey, 1924.

Ask your classmates:

What is one food you really enjoyed when you first got to Canada?

What is one food in Canada you do not like?

What is one food from home you miss?

Have you tried the following food in Canada?

Circle any of these foods that you have tried.



poutine



perogies



tourtière (meat pie)



maple surup



bacon



bannock (bread)

(Pictures Used with permission from Microsoft.)

Where will I work?

“All the jobs I did in the first few years were labour jobs. Nanny, office cleaner, factory worker, you name it.
—Tu Nguyen, arrived from Vietnam, 1980s.

Questions

What jobs did Tu Nguyen have when she first arrived in Canada? *Circle 2.*

- a) Office cleaner
- b) Factory manager
- c) Nanny
- d) Naming things

What jobs have you had in Canada?

What job would you like to have?

How will I communicate?

"The lady at the cash register asked 'Will that be cash or charge?' ... I didn't know the meaning of either 'cash' or 'charge'. So I explained in my broken English that I wanted to pay with 'money'".

– Petra Goodhead, arrived from Germany, October, 1976.

Discussion Questions

What was the lady asking Petra when she said, "cash or charge?"

Talk about an experience you had when you first went shopping in Canada.

What was the first thing you bought in Canada?

How will I learn so many new things?

"A new country, new language, new life, new everything. All that in only in 15 days!

— Antonino Masciotra, arrived from Italy, March 7, 1955.

Make a list

What are some new things you have experienced or learned since your first day in Canada?

Reflection on life in Canada

“After all these years, we adjusted well to life in Canada. Looking back, I can say I have been totally satisfied and happy to have made the decision to come to Canada. Our family grew with a feeling of being proud Canadians and will always remain so.”
— Syed Moinuddin Quadri, arrived from Pakistan, 1967

Reading Questions – circle the correct answer

Is Syed Quadri happy his family moved to Canada?

Yes / No / I don't know

How does his family feel about being Canadian?

happy / lonely / excited / proud

Write a reflection about how you feel about coming to Canada.

While you are at the *Canada: Day 1* exhibit

Look for the following items and pictures in the *Canada: Day 1* exhibit.
Check off each item when you find it.

