



Refugees: Real People...Real Stories...Real Life

Grade Level: Middle School (5-8)

Concept Areas: English, Language Arts

Included:

Poster Analysis: What's Wrong Here?

Reading a New Language

Just Imagine: Free Writing Activity

Perspective of a Refugee

Handouts

Poster Analysis: What's Wrong Here?

DIRECTIONS: Look at the poster below and determine one thing that stands out to you about the picture.



WHAT'S WRONG HERE?

One thing that stands out about the picture is _____

Reading a New Language

In this rotation you will experience what it is like to learn to read a new language.

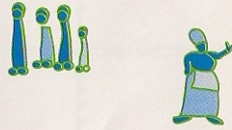
STEP 1: Read what Thiba and Kherber took when they left Afghanistan.

Here is what Thiba, Mina's mother, packed when they left Afghanistan:



- 6 nans*
- 1 doll
- 3 blankets

*A nan is a type of flat bread very common in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India.



Their neighbour, Kherber, took:

- 7 photos
- 4 nans
- 3 pullovers



STEP 2: Using the chart below and the words you learned above, list what Najmia took.

- Now figure out what Najmia, Kherber's sister, took with her. To do that, look closely at the descriptions in English and in Farsi*, and then at the table which explains the Farsi numbers.

*Farsi is one of the languages spoken in Afghanistan, it is read right to left.



۱	۱	۶	۶
۲	۲	۷	۷
۳	۳	۸	۸
۴	۴	۹	۹
۵	۵	۱۰	۱۰

List what Najmia took below:

EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

Now imagine that you have to run away with your family—with no prior warning. You have just a couple of minutes to pack a few things—taking only what seems important.

Write a list of what you would take. Compare your list with a group member.

Perspective of a Refugee

Learning about the Experiences of Refugees

While you listen to the stories of the refugees told by your classmates, record **ONE** detail about the refugee's life on the capture sheet below.

REFUGEE'S NAME	DETAIL ABOUT HIS/HER LIFE
Hashmat Suddat	
Michael	
Abdul Sheikh	
Zlatko Haveric	
Vjollca Jakupi	
Ana Cerbu	
Zbigniew Zarudzki	

One thing I learned about the refugees from reading/hearing the stories of their lives is _____

Pictures Tell A Story

DIRECTIONS: Examine the sequence of pictures below. Use the sentence starter to write **ONE** sentence explaining the story you think the pictures are telling.



I think the pictures are telling the story of _____

because _____.

What Do You Know About Refugees?

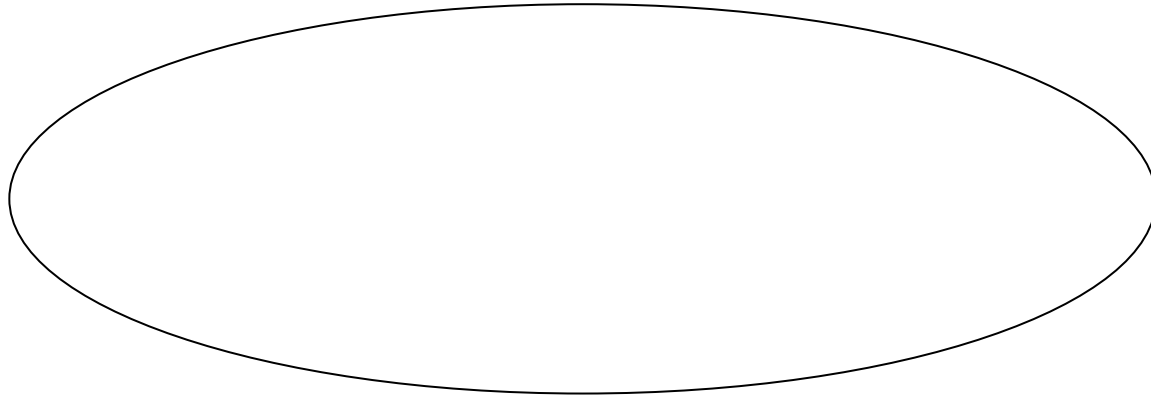
KWL Chart

What I Know	What I Want to Know	What I Learned

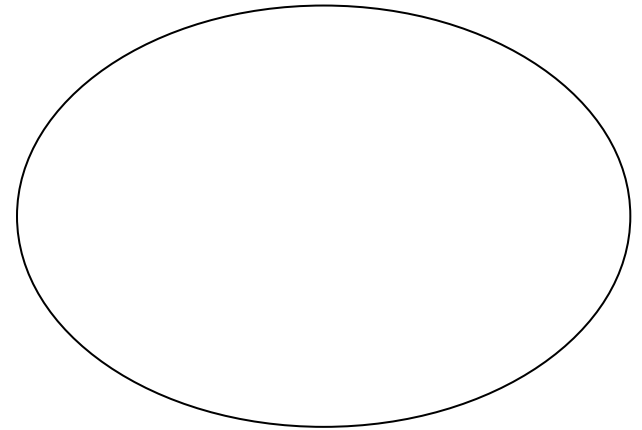
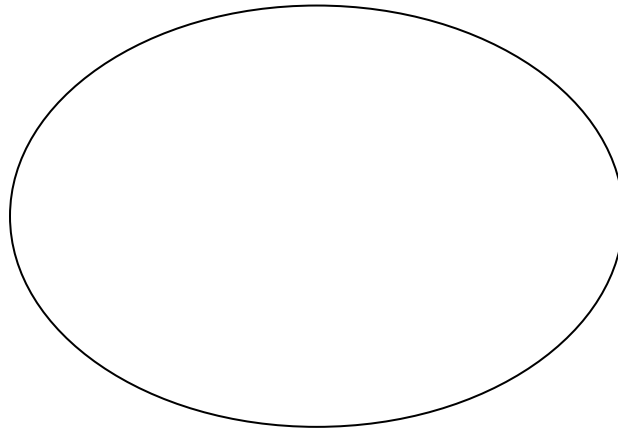
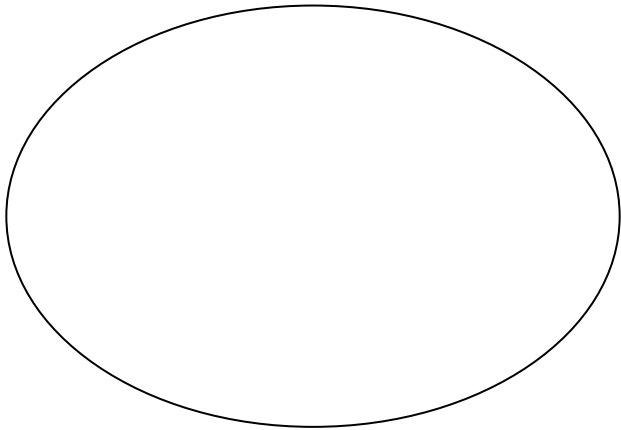


Defining Refugee

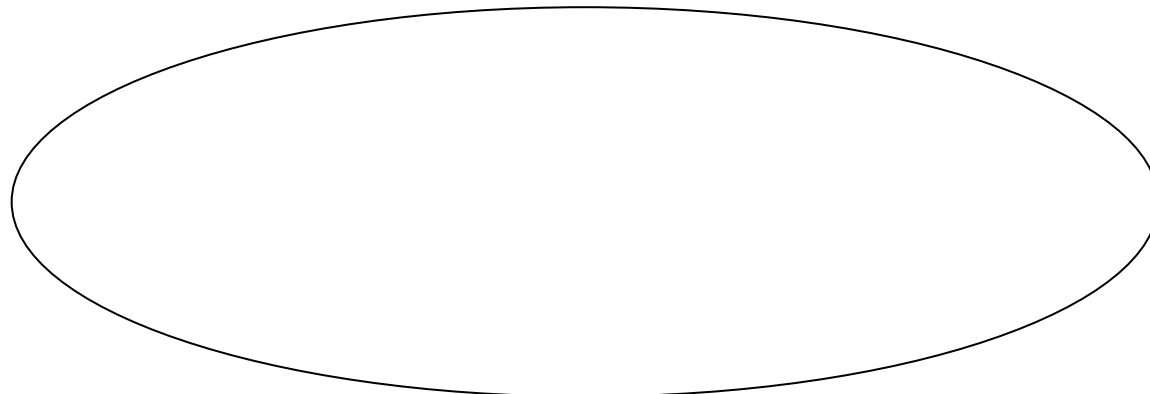
**My
Definition**



Video Definitions



**Our
Definition**



Reading Pictures: The Life of a Refugee

PREDICTION

DIRECTIONS: Examine the pictures below and predict what you think each are of life is like for a refugee.

PHOTO	PREDICTION	PHOTO	PREDICTION
<p data-bbox="256 483 478 524">SHELTER</p> 		<p data-bbox="1234 451 1444 492">SCHOOL</p> 	
<p data-bbox="296 963 438 1003">FOOD</p> 		<p data-bbox="1283 954 1388 995">FUN</p> 	

The Life of a Refugee: "To Be A Refugee" VIDEO

DIRECTIONS: While watching the video, record details about each child's experience as a refugee as it relates to his/her shelter, education and food source.

REFUGEE NAME	SHELTER	SCHOOL	FOOD
JOHN			
MINA			
SREISOR			
DEMIR and MEDIN			

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WHAT'S WRONG HERE?

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STEP 2: Using the chart below and the words you learned above, list what Najmia took.

• **Now figure out what Najmia, Kherber's sister, took with her. To do that, look closely at the descriptions in English and in Farsi*, and then at the table which explains the Farsi numbers.**

*Farsi is one of the languages spoken in Afghanistan, it is read right to left.

1	۱	6	۶
2	۲	7	۷
3	۳	8	۸
4	۴	9	۹
5	۵	10	۱۰

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EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

Now imagine that you have to run away with your family—with no prior warning. You have just a couple of minutes to pack a few things—taking only what seems important.

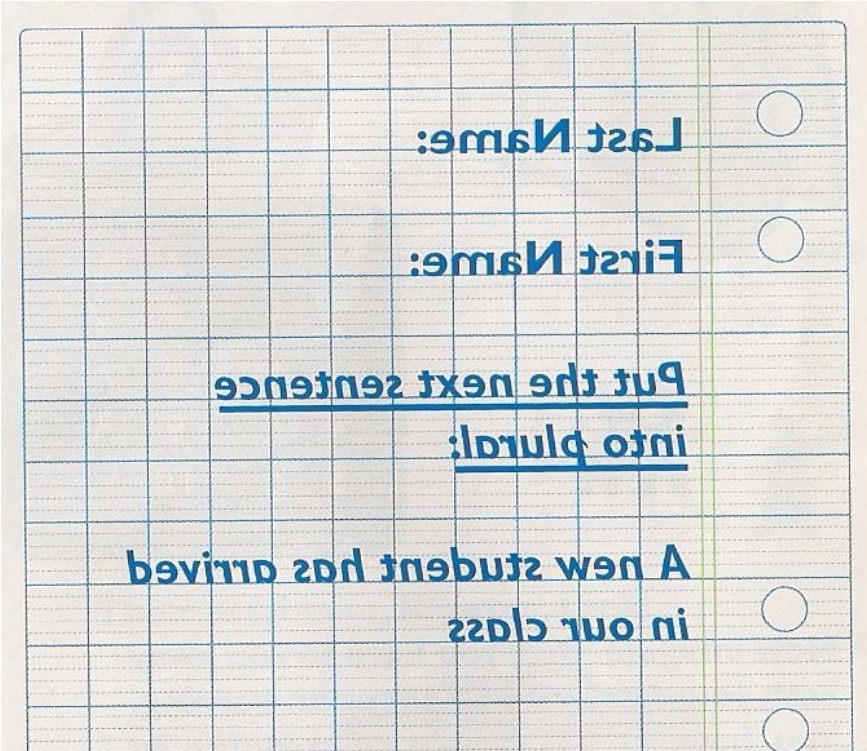
Write a list of what you would take. Compare your list with a group member.

Writing a New Language

In this rotation you will experience what it is like to learn to write a new language.

Imagine having to learn a new alphabet, do you think it would be difficult to change your writing habits?

Complete the worksheet below by first reading from right to left and then writing your response from right to left with the letters backwards.

READ	WRITE
	

EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

Write the names of your group members using the new (right to left/backwards) language.

Rights of Students

Definition of Rights:

RIGHTS OF STUDENTS	RULES OF CLASSROOM

Perspective of a Refugee

Your group will be reading to find out about the life of a refugee.

Before reading, identify group members for each of the following roles:

Reader: _____ Recorder: _____ Reporter: _____

During reading, listen for the answers to the questions below.

After reading, respond to the following questions about the life of the refugee you read about.

QUESTION	RESPONSE
What was the person's life like before he/she became a refugee?	
Why did the person flee his/her country?	
What was the person's life like when he/she became a refugee? Consider what his/her shelter was, food source, job, education.	
What is the person doing now (since becoming a refugee)?	

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