

Historical Role Play Instructions

Activity Overview

What: Historical role play in a simulated meeting with understanding of historical time and place [research-based]

Who: One of the four fictional persons from Historical Identify Vignettes 1–4

Where: Annual Planning Meeting of Henry Street Settlement Visiting Nurse Service, Lower East Side of Manhattan, New York City

When: 1934

Instructions

1. Read carefully the brief biographical information about the person on your copy of Historical Identity Vignettes.
2. Review and add to the questions to consider, so that your research using primary and secondary sources can help you make informed inferences about the person's perspectives. Establishing your person's perspectives are important as you play the role of that person at the simulated meeting.
3. In preparation for the simulated meeting, use primary and secondary sources to research and identify issues of the time and place that might have impacted this person. The handout includes a couple relevant primary sources from [Outside / Inside Digital Gallery](#). In addition, below are additional resources for your research:
 - "[Lillian Wald](https://www.henrystreet.org/about/our-history/lillian-wald/)," *Henry Street Settlement*. <https://www.henrystreet.org/about/our-history/lillian-wald/>
 - "[Our History](https://www.henrystreet.org/about/our-history/)," *Henry Street Settlement*. <https://www.henrystreet.org/about/our-history/>
 - "[Our History](https://www.vnsny.org/who-we-are/about-us/history/)," *Visiting Nurse Service of New York*. <https://www.vnsny.org/who-we-are/about-us/history/>
 - "[Progressive Era to New Era, 1900-1929](https://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/timeline/progress/)," *American Memory Timeline*. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/timeline/progress/>
 - "[Great Depression and World War II, 1929-1945](https://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/timeline/depwwii/)," *American Memory Timeline*. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/presentationsandactivities/presentations/timeline/depwwii/>
 - "[Photographs Concerning Labor, Housing and Social Conditions in the United States](https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/photographs-concerning-labor-housing-and-social-conditions-in-the-united-states#/?tab=about)," *New York Public Library Digital Collections*. <https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/collections/photographs-concerning-labor-housing-and-social-conditions-in-the-united-states#/?tab=about>
 - "[Determinants of Health](https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/about/foundation-health-measures/determinants-of-health)," *Healthy People 2020*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/about/foundation-health-measures/determinants-of-health>
 - "[Social Determinants of Health](https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/social-determinants-health)," *Healthy People 2030*, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. <https://health.gov/healthypeople/objectives-and-data/social-determinants-health>

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4. Prepare research notes to help you play the role of the assigned person at the simulated meeting set in New York's City's Lower East Side in 1934. Your role play should demonstrate the person's perspectives that reflect at minimum:
 - approaches to health and medical care
 - cultural, economic, and social ideas and status
 - historical time and place