

American Literature
The House on Lemon Street
Essay Questions

Directions: Each group member must choose a different one of the following writing assignments concerned with issues raised in Chapter 7: *The House on Lemon Street*

1. A "different" family has moved into your neighborhood, and "For Sale" signs are being posted on lawns. Your family is discussing the possibility of moving. Write a persuasive speech encouraging them to stay.
2. Write a screenplay for this story. What title would you choose? Identify celebrities who will play the main characters. Identify three pieces of music for the soundtrack. What rating will your movie receive? Who is your target audience?
3. Read and review the creed issued by the Japanese-American Citizenship League in the document "A Pledge of Allegiance." You have been selected to respond to the first official reading of the creed. Write your response and present a dramatic reading to the class.
4. After spending more than two years in a desert concentration camp, you have been released with only a few belongings in your possession. Someone tells you about a house where other former prisoners are getting a new start in their lives. You arrange to take a room at the house on Lemon Street. Keep a journal describing your first week there - the people you meet, the stories you hear, the feelings you experience.
5. Write a series of three to five traditional Japanese haiku reflecting different aspects of this story, such as "Early Morning at the George Washington Restaurant," "My Heart Is American" or "New Neighbors."