

Travel to the Truth

Take a Trip Without Leaving Your Desk

GOAL

This lesson will teach students to use the internet, museums, the library and human interaction to gain knowledge and separate fact from fiction in culture and history.

OVERVIEW

In "Now Chinatown", Lee tells about life in China and how she misses her home. Steve tells her about all there is to see in Los Angeles inspiring her to venture out further. By learning about the sights, Lee's dreams become very real. This is a versatile lesson that may be used in a variety of units including communications, cultural arts, performing and visual arts, language arts, social sciences, broadcasting and geography.

METHODOLOGY

- In one scene of "Now Chinatown", Steve tells about his past travels around the world. Use this scene to examine people's perceptions of a place based upon what knowledge they have of such a place.
- Ask students to list all the resources available to learn about a new place.
- Students should then pick a country to study.
- Using at least two different resources, students should write an essay about a sight to see in that country and the history that makes the sight significant.

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS

- Students can make a visual display to share with the class about that country. This may include actual items from that country, food, clothing, collages, or maps. Encourage students to be creative in exploring how to visually communicate details of that place.
- Students can interview someone from that country to give a personal perspective on the culture of that country and how it is similar to or different from this country.
- Students can create a presentation to the class in the style of an ambassador from their chosen country and develop their public speaking skills.
- Students can present a performance alone or as a group that is indicative of their chosen country and explain the origin and significance of the performance.

