Gateway to the New World

A Read the text and answer the questions.



Life in Ireland in 1889 was hard for Annie Moore and her family. They were poor and it was difficult for her parents to earn enough money for food and clothes. In the end, Annie's parents made a difficult decision. They left their children in Ireland and moved to America to make a new life for their family. Two years later, fourteen-year-old Annie and her two younger brothers, Anthony and Phillip, made the long journey to New York to join their parents. They left Queenstown in County Cork on 20 December 1891 onboard a ship called the S.S. Nevada. The journey wasn't easy. The ship was very crowded and cold and many people got seasick.

Fortunately, twelve days later, on 31 December, the S.S. Nevada arrived safely in New York Bay. When Ellis Island opened for the first time on 1 January 1892, Annie Moore was the first passenger registered at the new immigration station. To celebrate the important occasion, American officials gave Annie a \$10 gold coin and welcomed her warmly to the United States.

- 1 Why did Annie Moore emigrate to the United States?
- 2 Where did she emigrate from?
- 3 How did she travel to the USA?
- **4** Who did she travel with?
- 5 What was the journey like?
- 6 When did she register at Ellis Island?
- 7 Why was she a special immigrant?
- **B** Work in a group. Research another person or family who emigrated to the United States. Write a short text about the person's emigration story. You should include the following:
 - Why they emigrated to the USA.
 - Where they emigrated from.
 - When they emigrated.
 - How they travelled to America.
 - Who they travelled with.
 - Any other interesting information.
 - A picture of the emigrant.