# **Lesson Plan: Inside Out and Back Again**

VISION	TRANSFER		
	What kinds of long-term, independent accomplishments are desired?  Students will demonstrate an understanding of Migration and Identity and apply it to a new problem or situation.  Grade 8 (19 students) English Language Arts + History Duration of the lesson: 45 minutes DAY 3	TEXT What authentic text will you use to support performance of this objective? What leveled texts are you using for this? Title: Inside Out and Back again Author: Thanhha Lai¹	
	Students will understand and keep considering  Essential Question (Topical):  1. How does migration affect people's understanding of self and community?  Essential Understanding:  1. Migration impacts many aspects of a community and individual's identity  2. Self-identity is a fluid and complex construct that changes in response to the changing context		

<sup>1</sup> Lai, T. (2012). *Inside out and back again*. St Lucia, Qld.: University of Queensland Press.

ACQUISITION OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS		
<ul> <li>Students will know:</li> <li>religion may or may not be a large component of someone's identity</li> <li>religion is one factor that brings communities together</li> <li>readers and writers can differ in opinions</li> <li>differences in social and political setting of Vietnam and the U.S.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Students will be able to:</li> <li>describe the author's purpose and opinion</li> <li>compare the author's perspective to one's own perspective with justification</li> <li>compare and contrast various social and political settings</li> <li>empathize with refugees and respect their life choices</li> <li>analyze aspects of their own identity</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>Students already know:</li> <li>The background of the Vietnam Refugee Crisis through pre-reading the given article<sup>2</sup> and watching a video<sup>3</sup></li> <li>Social and political setting of the U.S. and Vietnam through previous lessons</li> <li>The journey of Hà and her family until they reach Florida through previous lessons</li> </ul>		

Rupp, G. (2008, June). 1975: The Largest Refugee Resettlement Effort in American History [IRC at 75]. Retrieved March, 2016, from <a href="http://www.rescue.org/blog/1975-largest-refugee-">http://www.rescue.org/blog/1975-largest-refugee-</a> resettlement-effort-american-history-irc-75

History.com. (n.d.). Vietnam War History Videos. [Video File]. Retrieved March, 2016, from <a href="http://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war/vietnam-war-history/videos/after-the-fall-of-">http://www.history.com/topics/vietnam-war-history/videos/after-the-fall-of-</a>

saigon

ASSISSING	LESSON ASSESSMENTS				
	a) Anchor Questions				
	<ul> <li>What did you know about the Vietnamese War and refugee crisis before this? What are some of the things that you learned?</li> <li>What are some aspects of the the social and political setting in the U.S. that are different from Vietnam's setting?</li> <li>Why would sponsors prefer applications that say "Christians" (p. 108)?</li> <li>Do you agree with Hà's mother that "all beliefs are pretty much the same" (p. 108)?</li> <li>Do you think she did the right thing by saying that the family is Christian? How did her moving away from home inform her decision?</li> </ul>				
	b) Performance Task				
	Writing an op-ed piece on one of the following topics (Personal or Character's point of view):  1) All beliefs are pretty much the same 2) Does a piece of paper decide your religion?  Understanding and respecting other people's choices in life				
	c) Other Assessments				
	1) Information about the Vietnamese Refugee Crisis: KWL Chart				
	K: What I already know W: What I want to know L: What I learned				

### 2) Independent reading chart

What was the author's mother's perspective on religion?	What is your character's perspective on religion?	What is your personal perspective on religion?
Do you think that religion was a huge part of her identity?	Is religion a huge part of your character's identity?	Is religion a huge part of your own identity?

3) Think-Pair-Share and Group Discussion

Think: Students 'think' about what they know or have learned about the topic.

Pair: Each student should be paired with another student or a small group.

Share: Students share their thinking with their partner. Teacher expands the 'share' into a whole-class discussion.



### **VOCABULARY**

- **Identity**: individuality, self, selfhood, personality, character, originality, distinctiveness, differentness, singularity, uniqueness [she was afraid of losing her identity]
- **Sponsor:** a person taking official responsibility for the actions of another [they act as informants, sponsors, and contacts for new immigrants]
- **Re-settlement**: the settlement of people in a different place
- Integration: the intermixing of people or groups previously segregated

START	LESSON ACTIVITIES	TIME
	Pre-Reading	
	For a new book:  - Getting students curious and excited to read the story  - Prior knowledge and background information that students need  - Introducing the objective and key points with an example relating to life  - Introduction of vocabulary words  For continuing a book:	
	<ul> <li>Recap of the part of the story read the previous day</li> <li>Recap of the objective and key points</li> <li>Meet and greet students</li> <li>Recap</li> <li>Ask a few students to recap yesterday's lesson, the presentation and reflection activity and the big takeaways from the lesson.</li> </ul>	2 minutes
	Lesson Agenda	1 minute
	Teacher runs students through the agenda of the lesson: We will continue to understand Ha's journey and talk about some of the bigger questions that Ha's journey raises.  Recap Vocabulary of previous day through pop quiz	2 minutes
	After Reading	30 minutes
	Recap Teacher asks a few basic questions and takes a few responses to recap the events in the poem and refresh students' memories.	2 minutes

## Kruu Lawan **Group Discussion** 10 minutes Teacher: Alright, now that you have all the facts, let's get into our assigned groups and discuss the scenario up on the board. You can take around 10 minutes. Use the points from the table you made yesterday to enrich your discussion. Remember, you are your character right now: Situation: A camp official found out that Ha's mother lied about her religion on the form. What should he/she do, knowing the circumstances that Ha's family is in? Take answers from different groups. Use Socratic questioning to push the student's understanding. 18 minutes **Big Group Discussion** Using responses from different groups, start a big group discussion. Make sure to keep the discussion organic. Some of the guiding questions can be: - Does a form or a piece of paper change one's religious beliefs? Who are we to take decisions for other people? Why would sponsors prefer applications that say "Christians"? Do you agree with Hà's mother that "all beliefs are pretty much the same"? Do you think she did the right thing by saying that the family is Christian? How did her moving away from home inform her decision? How do you or how do you not empathize with Ha's family? Closing Debrief (10 minutes) Students share: the strategy they learned and their independent practice the big idea they learned from the story

#### **Partner Discussion**

Teacher: Alright, now that we've learnt about Ha's mother's and your character's beliefs about religion, let's shift the focus to ourselves. Talk to your partner about how the answers in the table that you filled before differed from your character's beliefs. Remember, this is a safe space so I would encourage you all to share as openly as possible. Take around 5 minutes to do this.

#### **Class Discussion**

Ask a few students to share their responses. Ask them if their perspectives changed during the course of the lesson and how they now feel about religion and other people's choices about religion.

Ask a few students to recap the lesson and major takeaways.

Recap Essential Questions and Understandings.

Explain performance task and set deadline for submission.

5 minutes

5 minutes

## POEM: Another City Tent (Lai, 2012, pp. 107-108)

We are flown to another tent city in humid, hot Florida, where alligators are shown as entertainment.

The people in charge bring in Saigon-famous singers to raise refugee spirits, but faces keep twisting with worries.

For a family to leave, an American must come to camp and sponsor a family.

We wait and wait, but Mother says a possible widow, three boys, and a pouty girl make too huge a family by American standards.

A family of three in the tent to our left gets sponsored to Georgia; the couple to our right goes to South Carolina. Newcomers leave before us. Mother can barely eat, while Brother Quang picks the skin at his elbows.

I don't mind being here. My hair is growing as I've become dark and strong from running and swimming.

Then by chance Mother learns sponsors prefer those whose applications say "Christians".

Just like that Mother amends our faith, saying all beliefs are pretty much the same.