

The New Colossus

Emma Lazarus

How does the poem redefine what makes a nation powerful?

TOTAL TIME	TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION
30 minutes	Sonnet - complete poem

TEACHER SETUP

Open the work in the Enhanced Reader and cue the span using the START and END anchors below.

START	Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
END	I lift my lamp beside the golden door!
PASSAGE ID	sec-colossus-01

THE MOVE

Analyze an argument built through contrast and personification

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Lazarus begins by rejecting a famous image of power based on conquest. The personified statue then speaks as a “Mother of Exiles,” replacing domination with welcome and transforming the monument into an argument about national identity.

MARK

Underline words connected to conquest or physical power. Circle words connected to welcome, exile, and refuge. Draw a line between the opening contrast and the statue’s speech. Star the phrase that most clearly states the new definition of strength.

NOTICE

- What kind of power does the poem reject in the opening?
- What title does the new statue receive instead?
- How does the direct speech turn a monument into a national promise?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does the poem redefine what makes a nation powerful? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response. Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.

STRONG ANSWER

The poem redefines national power by contrasting conquest with the ability to offer refuge. Instead of a warrior dominating territory, the new colossus becomes a maternal figure whose authority is expressed through welcome, protection, and an open door.

EVIDENCE

Use one image from the opening contrast and one phrase from the statue’s invitation.

WATCH FOR

Do not quote “Give me your tired, your poor” without explaining how it answers the conquering image at the beginning.

SOLO

Read independently.

SUPPORTED

Narration + highlighting.

LISTENING

Listen; same evidence task.

STUDENT PAGE · GRADE 7 · LESSON 273

The New Colossus

Emma Lazarus

How does the poem redefine what makes a nation powerful?

WORK	The New Colossus
TUMBLETA PASSAGE LOCATION	Sonnet - complete poem

PASSAGE ID	sec-colossus-01
------------	-----------------

Your teacher will open or cue the work in the Enhanced Reader. Use the location and verbatim anchors below to confirm the assigned span.

START

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,

END

I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

READ / LISTEN TO THE ASSIGNED PASSAGE SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration and highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the assigned passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. **MARK** Underline words connected to conquest or physical power. Circle words connected to welcome, exile, and refuge. Draw a line between the opening contrast and the statue's speech. Star the phrase that most clearly states the new definition of strength.
2. **NOTICE** What kind of power does the poem reject in the opening? What title does the new statue receive instead? How does the direct speech turn a monument into a national promise?
3. **THINK** Answer provisionally: How does the poem redefine what makes a nation powerful?
4. **WRITE** Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.
5. **CLOSE** Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and say why.