

ANALYTICAL ASSESSMENTS

1. Write a review of “Journey to Topaz.” Don’t give away the whole story, but DO describe some of the big lessons and themes you got from the book.
2. Create a visual timeline of the book – collect 2-3 events per chapter, and then string them together at the end. (This could be a class-wide project, with each student or group producing a couple of items for the timeline.)
3. Write an essay about a hardship you have gone through. Maybe you have never been forced to move somewhere – but when have you felt like Yuki? And why did it get better?

CREATIVE ASSESSMENTS

1. Throughout the book, Yuki is writing letters to her friend Mimi and Mrs. Jamieson. Find the sentences that are included in Journey to Topaz, and turn them into complete letters. What else did Yuki say to her friends outside the camp? What kind of news and messages did Mimi and Mrs. Jamieson have to share in return?
2. What happens after the book ends? Write the next chapter of “Journey to Topaz.” What happens with the Sakane family arrives in Salt Lake City? Make sure you mention each member of the family.
3. In the online slideshow “The Art of Gaman,” there are many works of art that were made by those who were in the camps. View the slideshow and find inspiration for your own work of art. What feelings about life in the camps can you express through your art?
<http://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/online/gaman/index.cfm>