

Frame of Reference 30-minute Lesson Plans

This lesson uses historical photographs, a story, and a facts list to elicit a view of Texas during the 1930s as seen by some of the poorest laborers.

1. Photographic Introduction (5 minutes)

Use a data projector to show the PowerPoint slide show of historical photographs: The San Antonio Pecan Strike of 1938. It can be found with the Emma Tenayuca issue of *Crossroads* at www.TexanCultures.UTSA.edu.

Say:

“The images are actual photographs taken for the *San Antonio Light* newspaper, which was giving a day-to-day account of the strike. As you follow the story of the strike, notice such things as clothing styles, cars, buildings, machinery, and other details that show how the world looked to the pecan workers in the 1930s.”

Read the text (2 minutes) but also pause to point out and ask about details in the photographs which indicate the Great Depression and the 1930s.

2. Frame of Reference Activity (10 minutes): Pass out the classroom set of Frame of Reference Resources and give each student a worksheet. (Ask students not to mark on the Resources page if other classes will be using it.)

Say:

“Look at the list of Facts about the Decade 1930-1939... and then read the short story about the San Antonio pecan shellers’ strike. Use the information in both to answer the questions on your worksheet.”

Consider answering the first question together to demonstrate bubbling in answers if needed.

3. Grade and Review (10 minutes): When students have had time to complete their answers, exchange papers and grade. Allow 20 points each for reading the charts and the story; allow 10 points for each correct answer. Record grades in your own way.

4. Closure (5 minutes): If you like, close with the PowerPoint slide show about Emma Tenayuca, leader of the pecan shellers’ strike and a civil rights activist in other labor issues between 1932 and 1939 in San Antonio. It can also be found with the Emma Tenayuca issue of *Crossroads* at www.TexanCultures.UTSA.edu.