SKILLS SHEET   Name: Date:
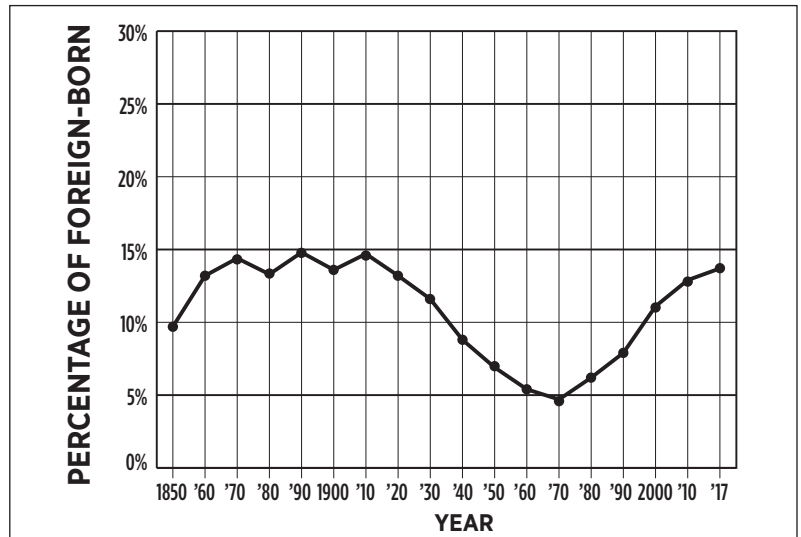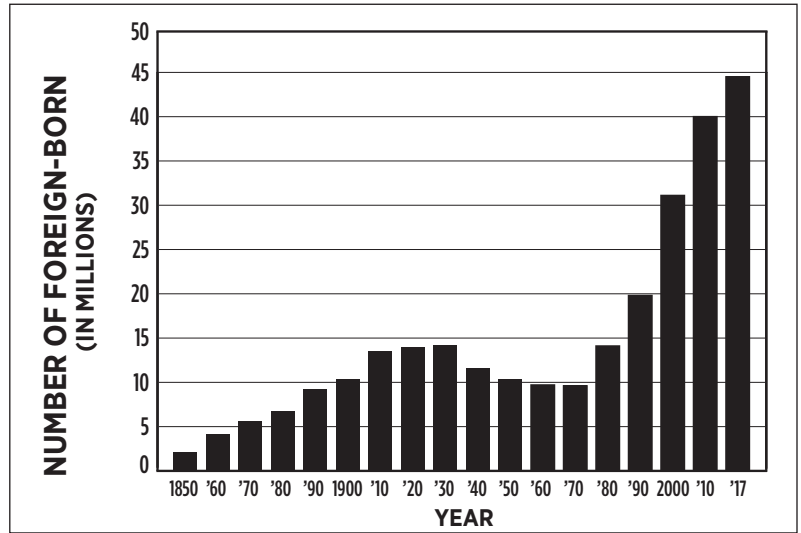
Reading a Graph

America's Foreign-Born Population

Immigrants have been coming to the United States since the nation was founded in 1776. But Americans have been more willing to accept immigrants at certain points in history than in others. *(See "Coming to America.")*

By 1850, about 23 million people were living in the U.S. Of that number, about 2 million had been born in another country, as the bar graph *(top right)* shows.

The line graph *(bottom right)* presents the foreign-born population of the U.S. as a share of the total population. It shows that in 1850, the nation's 2 million foreign-born residents made up about 10 percent of the total population.

Use these two graphs to analyze how the nation's foreign-born population has shifted since 1850.

SOURCES: U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population, 1850 to 2000; The American Community Survey, 2010; Pew Research Center

Questions

1. The number of foreign-born people living in the U.S. was lowest in which year?
Ⓐ 1850   Ⓑ 1930   Ⓒ 1970   Ⓓ 2010

2. The foreign-born population in the U.S. was at its lowest percentage in which year?
Ⓐ 1850   Ⓑ 1930   Ⓒ 1970   Ⓓ 2010

3. What was the foreign-born population in 1970?
Ⓐ about 3 million   Ⓒ about 10 million
Ⓑ about 5 million   Ⓓ about 14 million

4. Since 1970, the number of foreign-born people in the U.S. has ___.
Ⓐ increased
Ⓑ decreased gradually
Ⓒ decreased sharply
Ⓓ stayed about the same

5. About which percentage of the U.S. population was foreign-born in 2017?
Ⓐ 6 percent   Ⓒ 14 percent
Ⓑ 11 percent   Ⓓ 44 percent

✏️ Write About It! Consider the foreign-born population in 2017. How does it compare with the foreign-born population in 1910, in terms of both actual numbers and share of the total population?