



**“Other”: A Brief History of American Xenophobia**  
**Instructions for Classroom Activity 1**  
**Connect--Extend--Challenge Thinking Routine**

Purpose: To encourage students to think more deeply and critically about the Xenophobia video.

This activity is adapted from a thinking routine from [\*Making Thinking Visible: How to Promote Engagement, Understanding, and Independence\*](#) by Ron Ritchhart, Mark Church, and Karin Morrison.

Thinking routines are simple strategies that teachers can use to cultivate thinking and deepen learning for students.

The Connect-Extend-Challenge thinking routine helps students connect new ideas to prior knowledge and to think about how new learning brings up additional questions, wonderings, and puzzles for them.

Activity Instructions:

Part 1 (7 minutes)

- Show the Xenophobia video

Part 2 (5 minutes)

- Ask students to divide a sheet of paper (in “landscape” position) into 3 columns
- In the first column, have students write “Connect”
- Ask students to write their response to the question: How are the ideas and information in the video *connected* to what you already knew? (Write question in chat box)
- Have students share their responses with each other. (If possible, divide students into breakout rooms of 4-5 students each.)

Part 3 (5 minutes)

- In the second column, have students write “Extend”
- Ask students to write their response to the question: What new ideas did you get from the video that *extended* or pushed your thinking in new directions? (Write question in chat box)
- Have students share their responses with each other (in breakout rooms, if possible).

Part 4 (5 minutes)

- In the third column, have students write “Challenge”
- Ask students to write their response to the question: What is still *challenging* or confusing for you to get your mind around? What questions, wonderings, or puzzles do you now have? (Write question in chat box)
- Have students share their responses with each other (in breakout rooms, if possible)