

Taiken Education Series

Viewing Guide: Mary Kitagawa

A. Life Before the War / Everything Changed

1. Complete the following chart:

Mary's family	Where they lived	What it was like
Before the war		
After leaving Saltspring Island		
Greenwood		
Mary's father (after being taken away by RCMP)		
Alberta		
Internment camps		

2. Why did the school teacher say that Mary and Alice's family started the war?

B. Starting Again from Scratch

1. What was the choice given to Mary's family? Why does she say it was more like an ultimatum? What is the difference between a *choice* and an *ultimatum*?

Ultimatum definition: a threat in which a person or group of people are warned that if they do not do a particular thing, something unpleasant will happen to them. It is usually the last and most extreme in a series of actions taken to bring about a particular result (Cambridge Dictionary online)

2. What does "repatriate" mean? Why would the government use the word repatriation? Why does it bother Mary?

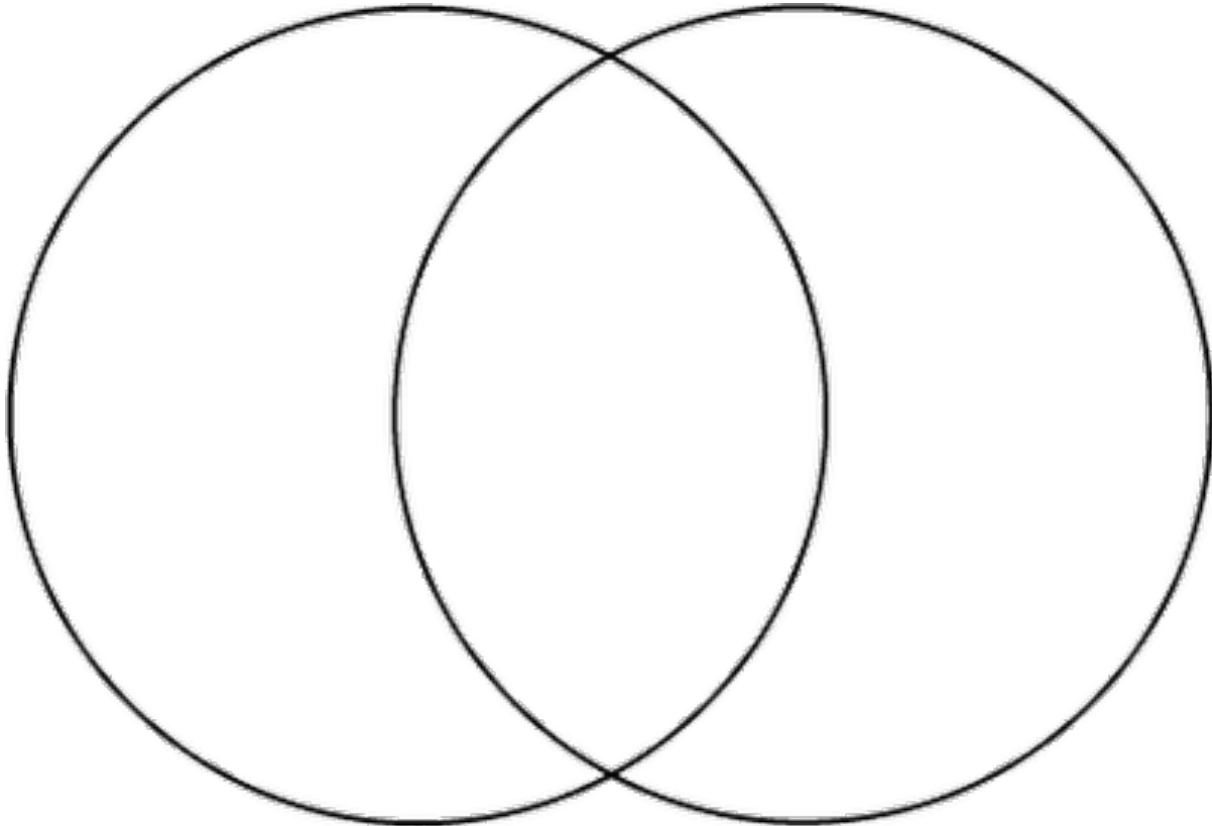
3. What does Mary say proves that the government wasn't worried about security in relation to Japanese Canadians, and why?

4a. What was Saltspring Island like after the war? How were Mary's family treated, and what did they do?

4b. Fill out this Venn diagram to compare and contrast life on Salt Spring Island for Mary and her family before and after the war. What else has changed for the family?

Before the war

After the war



C. Words of Wisdom

What values did Mary learn from her parents? Why do you think these values are important for her and her family, given their experiences during the second world war?