

Gangs of New York: Video Questions

1. Why was there a fight between the newly-arriving immigrants led by Vallon, and the natives, led by William Cutting?
2. As shown in the film, describe living conditions for many immigrants in 19th century New York.
3. Who was "Boss" Tweed and what position did he hold?
4. William Cutting, "Bill the Butcher", says, "Everybody owes and everybody pays. That's how you stand up to the rising tide." What was the rising tide?
5. Why were Irish immigrants being recruited to the Union army in the Civil War?
6. Who does Amsterdam Vallon describe as a "turtledove" and why?
7. Tammany Hall and "Boss" Tweed suggest what action to stop the gang fighting in New York City?

