Student Handout
Oakland Museum of California
What's Going On? California and the Vietnam Era
Lesson Plan #3
Coming to Terms: Stories of Southeast Asian Political Refugees

Field Journal Guidelines

The following are suggestions for effective note-taking for your field journals:

- Always have a purpose for taking notes, which will help control the amount and degree of depth in deciding what to take notes on. Answering questions, for example, provides an excellent purpose.

- Review questions to be answered before you begin reading or listening to a lecture or discussion. Questions set your note-taking purpose.

- Taking Cornell-style notes invites maximum coverage of both a note of information and your reason/explanation/context for recording the note. See this Internet site for an explanation of Cornell style notes: http://www.yorku.ca/cdc/lsp/notesonline/note4.htm#The

- Be willing to review your notes with another or several students to check for accuracy and thoroughness. Collaboration is not a form of cheating; rather, it is practice in effective teamwork where multiple perspectives are better than the solitary view. Discuss with each other why this is so.

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