Social Studies 11 - Immigration

**Pier 21**

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**Pier 21** is now a [Canadian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada) museum and National Historic Site in [Nova Scotia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nova_Scotia)'s [Halifax Regional Municipality](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halifax_Regional_Municipality%2C_Nova_Scotia). Pier 21 was used as a passenger terminal for trans-Atlantic [ocean liners](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ocean_liner) from [1928](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1928) until [1971](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1971). During this time it was the primary point of entry for over 1 million immigrants and refugees from Europe. The facility is known as the 'Gateway to [Canada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada).' Read the following poem.

***Listen.***

***Since 1928 we spilled from westbound ships,
Entering the harbour as the morning mists lifted.
In joy, we shifted to one side of the deck,
Daring to tip ourselves
Onto the waiting shore.
Into Pier 21.
Into a dusty warehouse fast-filled with hopeful souls.
Into Canada

Listen to our tired voices.
Hear our shuffling feet and murmured prayers
Of thanks as our voyage continues
On the tracks and highways,
On the way across Canada
To our homes away from the war.
Away from pain and fear.
Foreign adventures have come with us.
Canadian adventures begin.
We have arrived at Pier 21.
We have stories to tell.

Listen.***

In your own words, describe the mood of the poem’s author.