MIDDLE SCHOOL · AGES 11 TO 14

The Passport and the Credentials

What the Nation issues, and what each document carries, seen in one place.

Read

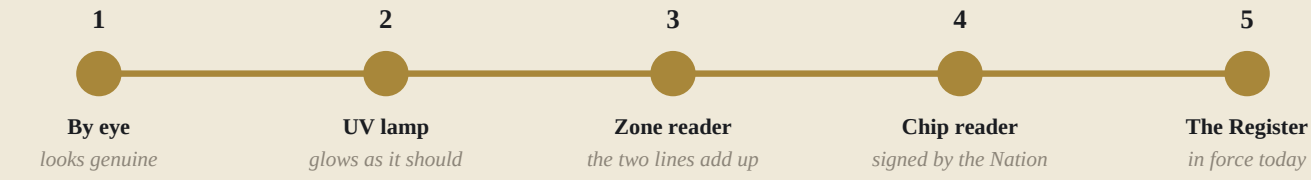
The Mohawk Nation of Grand River issues a passport and three cards to its people. The passport follows the world standard for passports, ICAO Doc 9303: a data page of 125 by 88 millimetres with nine fields in ICAO's order, a photograph, and two machine-readable lines whose last digits check the rest.

Names are entered in parts: first name, middle names, and the LAST NAME in capitals. Under ultraviolet light, the visa pages show the Sky Woman story in five spreads. The cards follow ISO/IEC 7810, the size of a bank card; the National Card is the one most people carry.

A border officer can check the passport five ways, from quickest to surest: by eye, by UV lamp, with a zone reader, with a chip reader, and on the Register itself, which says whether the passport is in force today. The first three are the world's; the last two are the Nation's own.

Look

How to read it: five checks, from the quickest to the surest.



the first three are the world's; the last two are the Nation's

Words to know

Word	What it means here
ICAO	The International Civil Aviation Organization, which sets passport standards.
Data page	The page with the holder's details and photograph.
Machine-readable zone	The two lines at the foot a machine reads.
Check digit	A number that checks the others are right.
Ultraviolet (UV)	Light we cannot see that makes special inks glow.
Credential	A document that proves who you are or what you may do.
In force	Valid today.

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Work with a primary source

> *“The last digit of each machine-readable line is a check over the rest.”*
>
> The Passport and Credentials poster, on the ICAO 9303 data page.

Ask the source	Your answer
What does a check digit do?	
Why would a passport need one?	
What would happen if one letter were changed?	
What can a check digit not tell us?	

Three points of view

What a Nation’s passport is, described three ways. Read each, then explain why they differ.

Who	What the passport is
A border officer	A document to check against the world’s standards.
Canada	A document of the Mohawk Nation of Grand River, not a Canadian passport.
The Mohawk Nation of Grand River	The Nation’s own passport, to world standards, proved by its own Register.

Claim, evidence, reasoning

Choose one claim the poster makes, for example “the first three checks are the world’s; the last two are the Nation’s own”. Then fill in the table.

Claim	Evidence	Reasoning

Answer

1. **Historical significance.** Why might a Nation want its own passport?

2. **Evidence.** Which world standards does the passport follow?

3. **Cause and consequence.** Why might following world standards help the passport be accepted?

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4. **Continuity and change.** How have identity documents changed, from papers to chips?

5. **Historical perspective.** Why might a border officer be cautious with a passport they have not seen before?

6. **Ethical dimension.** Who should decide who belongs to a people?

Think about it. What documents prove who you are? Which one would you trust most, and why?

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Performance task: Design a guide for a border officer

Show what you have learned by explaining it to someone else. Your work should help a reader who has never seen the poster understand it.

Choose one

A letter	Write a one-page letter to your Member of Parliament or to the King explaining the Nation's passport and cards: what each shows, the standards they follow, and the five ways to check them.
An infographic	Design a one-page poster that explains the Nation's passport and cards: what each shows, the standards they follow, and the five ways to check them, with a drawing that puts a person in the picture.
A short talk or podcast	Record or give a two-to-three-minute talk explaining the Nation's passport and cards: what each shows, the standards they follow, and the five ways to check them to someone your age.

What your work must include

- At least three facts with their dates.
- One quotation from the primary source, The Passport and Credentials poster, on the ICAO 9303 data page, in quotation marks.
- At least three of the "Words to know", used correctly.
- One point of view other than the Mohawk Nation of Grand River's, explained fairly (A border officer, Canada).
- Your own claim, with the evidence and reasoning behind it.
- A list of the sources you used.

Steps

- Day 1: reread the poster and this sheet; choose your format; write your claim in one sentence.
- Day 2: gather your facts, your quotation and the other point of view; plan your work.
- Day 3: make a first draft; trade with a partner and give each other one compliment and one suggestion.
- Day 4: improve your draft, check the success criteria, and hand it in.

Success criteria: check before you hand it in

☐	My claim is clear.
☐	My facts and dates are correct.
☐	I quoted the source exactly and said where it is from.
☐	I explained another point of view fairly.
☐	I used at least three new words correctly.
☐	I listed my sources.

Due: About four class days from the start. Marked with the Achievement Chart on the teacher's page.

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For the teacher: standards met

Universal competencies	Identify key facts and claims; Understand perspective and point of view; Make connections, personal to community to larger systems; Analyse and evaluate evidence. The same everywhere, whatever the curriculum.
Curriculum	Ontario Grade 10 Civics (CHV2O), and NAC2O: identity, citizenship and belonging.
Specific expectations	Teachers choose which specific expectations to assess. The sheet supports the overall expectations named above.
Historical thinking	Each question names its concept: significance, evidence, cause and consequence, continuity and change, perspective, ethical dimension.
Reading level	Flesch–Kincaid grade 8.8 (reading ease 71)
Plain language	Written to ISO 24495-1; new words taught in “Words to know”.
Balance	Three views of the passport, side by side.
Time and materials	Two periods of 40 to 50 minutes.
Accommodations	Show a specimen data page; read aloud or in pairs.

Assessment: the Achievement Chart

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Knowledge and Understanding	Names some facts with help	Names the main facts and dates	Explains them accurately	Explains them and how they connect
Thinking	Answers with little use of the source	Uses the source in part	Uses the source to support answers	Weighs the points of view against the source
Communication	Ideas are unclear	Some ideas are clear	Clear, with the new words	Clear, precise, new words used well
Application	Makes few connections	A simple connection to today	Connects the past to today	Explains why it still matters

Answer key

	A good answer includes
1	To identify its people to world standards, and to express its own nationhood.
2	ICAO Doc 9303 (TD3, TD1) and ISO/IEC 7810 ID-1, among others.
3	Officers and machines everywhere know how to read and check them.
4	From paper and seals to machine-readable lines, chips and online checks.
5	They cannot check it against a source they know; fraud is a concern.
6	A reasoned view: for example, the people themselves, by their own law (UNDRIP art. 33).

Sources: Book XVI, Passports and Credentials; ICAO Doc 9303; ISO/IEC 7810. The holder shown, Aiyana Hill, is invented. This sheet explains the Mohawk Nation of Grand River’s position beside others.

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