**The fall of Rome: A Historical Connection:**

Your task: The class will be split into 5 groups. Each group will be assigned 2 reasons for Rome’s fall from the handout. Using your two reasons, your group will put together a side by side comparison of how Rome fell to what is going on in our society. Here’s what you will need to do:

1. Classify your two reasons. For example: is it a social reason, political reason, military reason, religious reason, etc?
2. Your main question: Based on what happened to Rome, are the modern United States (and to a lesser extent, Canada) falling or not?
3. You must explain in your own words why Rome fell, and then argue whether or not the same thing is happening to us. Your whole group must argue whether or not the US is falling.
4. Make your arguments exciting: Get organized, get coordinated. Have a theme. Are there any visual tools your group could use to enhance your presentation?
5. Each group will present their comparisons to the entire class.

**Example**

|  |
| --- |
| Immigration brought down the Roman Empire, but it is not bringing down the US |
|  |  |
| One reason for the fall of Rome was due to the migration of German people into the Empire. Tribes like the Visigoths wanted to enter the Empire to escape from violence in their own homeland and for opportunities in the empire like land and serving in the army. However, when the Roman officials starved the Visigoths the Visigoths turned their swords on the Romans and sacked the city of Rome, killing thousands of Romans.  | Today, the United States has an issue with illegal immigration. It is estimated that almost 12 million people, mostly from Mexico and other parts of Latin and Central America are immigrating into the United States. Most of these immigrants are coming to the United States for job opportunities.  |
| Both Rome and the US have issues with immigration, but they do not create the same problem. Immigrants like the Goths turned violent and attacked the Romans because the Romans were corrupt. Immigrants in the US are not currently armed and violent. If we find a way to deal with them humanely, there is no reason that they would attack the United States like the Goths did the Romans.  |