**TOPIC:** What is the significance of the Yuma Territorial Prison?

**Guided Questions:**

**Site:**

1. Where is the Yuma Territorial Prison located within Yuma? Why is it in this position?
2. How does the design of the prison facility reflect the time and place in which it was built?
3. How has the prison facility been altered over the years since its first construction? And why?
4. What are the functions of the different parts of the prison? Why were these different functions needed?
5. In what different capacities has the facility served the Yuma community over the years? And why?
6. Was the YTP an effective prison? Were there escapes? What problems did the prison guards face dealing with prisoners?
7. What was the importance of the Colorado River in relation to the YTP?
8. How has the facility and function of the YT Prison changed over the years?
9. How did the YT Prison impact the growth of the city of Yuma?
10. How has the YT Prison impacted Yuma since its’ closure?

**Significance:**

1. To what extent was the development of modern Yuma the result of the building of the territorial prison? (aspects could include: the layout of the town or the economy)
2. How typical is the Yuma territorial prison of late 1800 prisons? Compare aspects of the territorial prison with others. If there are differences, what might explain why Yuma’s prison has particular features/characteristics?
3. To what extent did the regulations of the Yuma prison reflect the values of Arizona during the late 1800s?
4. How did the building of the prison in Yuma affect population? (e.g. size, racial demographics, Arizona’s statehood, etc.)
5. To what extent was the arrival of the territorial prison the result of the location/environment of Yuma?
6. What negative effects did the prison have on Yuma and the surrounding area in the late 1800’s and early 1900’s?
7. What roles, other than a prison, have the Yuma Territorial Prison taken on over the years? What impact has this had on the local community?
8. How do the crimes and the treatment of the prisoners from the YTP compare to today?
9. Why is the YTP no longer in use as a prison? How does that reflect the issues of Social Reform?
10. How did the Yuma Territorial Prison affect the various groups of people living in the region? (Mexican, Native American, White, Religious).
11. Describe prison life at the YTP and its effect on the prisoners physical, mental, social, spiritual health? How does this relate with prisoners trying to escape the YTP?
12. Explain the activities, duties or hobbies that prisoners would engage in at the YTP?

**Limitation of Sources:**

1. Did you find it easy to gather information and resources on this topic?
2. Was there a variety of resources available for you in your research?
3. Did the resources that you found have a variety of information?
4. What resources other than the packet would you have liked to use? What information could you have learned from each of those other sources?