Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

American Studies English

Native American Literature

American Passages: “Native Voices” Documentary

“Native Voices” is a brief documentary that explores the richness of Native American oral tradition by examining the work of three contemporary authors who incorporate elements of oral tradition in their writing: Leslie Marmon Silko (Laguna Pueblo), Simon Ortiz (Acoma Pueblo), and Luci Tapahonso (Navajo). As you view the documentary, respond to the following discussion questions.

1. What are some of the elements of oral tradition?

2. What specific topics do contemporary authors from different tribal backgrounds address in their work?

3. What hopes does Luci Tapahonso have for her writing?

4. According to the documentary, how does Native American literature speak to the American experience?

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

American Studies English

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