Steve Yeh 1/91/13

Ms. Schiller Emma Lazarus Paragraph

“Emma’s poem stirred the hearts and minds of people around the nation.” In other words, this means that Emma Lazarus’ poem, “The New Colossus”, roused the feelings of people all over the United States. Her poem activated the sense of compassion and the need to help the poor immigrants in need. One way she moved readers of her poem was her line, “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free…” Lazarus wanted the Statue of Liberty to symbolize freedom and hope to the immigrants coming into New York Harbor. She also wanted the American people to also offer freedom and hope to the immigrants; in other words, help them. Another way Lazarus switched on the feelings of empathy for the immigrants, besides her poem, was that she set an example by helping immigrants learn English. Her heart hurt when she saw of the poor immigrants who came to America for hope of a better life, so she visited the immigrants and taught them English. Lazarus even made close friends with some of them. In the end, Emma Lazarus did not live to see the Statue of Liberty built but her poem had propelled a new insight on the Statue of Liberty’s importance as well as giving out to the poor immigrants.