

McDougal Littell

World Cultures *and* GEOGRAPHY



Atlas by



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SECTION
2

Reading for Understanding

▶ Key Ideas

BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

Population patterns differ by place and region and may change over time.

NOW YOU WILL LEARN

People move from one place to another to meet their needs.

▶ Vocabulary

TERMS & NAMES

migration the process of relocating to a new region

immigrant a person who leaves one area to settle in another

push factor a reason that causes people to leave an area

pull factor a reason that attracts people to another area

culture the shared attitudes, knowledge, and behaviors of a group

diversity having many different ways to think or to do something, or a variety of people

discrimination actions that might be hurtful to an individual or a group

BACKGROUND VOCABULARY

refugee a person who flees a place to find safety

persecution cruel treatment on the basis of religion, race, ethnic group, nationality, political views, gender, or class



Visual Vocabulary diversity

▶ Reading Strategy

Re-create the chart shown at right. As you read and respond to the **KEY QUESTIONS**, use the chart to compare and contrast important details about the reasons people move.



See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R9

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

PUSH FACTORS	PULL FACTORS
1.	1.
2.	2.



GRAPHIC ORGANIZERS

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SECTION
2

CULTURE

Why People Move

Connecting to Your World

Have you ever moved from one part of the city or town where you live to another? Maybe you moved to be closer to your school or to where a parent works. It may be that one of your parents took a job in a different city. Perhaps your family had to move to a different climate for health reasons. Whatever the reason, moving to a new, unfamiliar area could change your life in many ways.



Moving Day About 112 million Americans relocate every year.

Causes of Migration

KEY QUESTION Why do people move from place to place?

From earliest times, people have moved to new locations. This process of relocating to a new region is called **migration**. A person who leaves one country to settle in another is called an **immigrant**. Population geographers often talk about push-pull factors when they study migration. The **push factors** are the reasons that cause people to leave an area. **Pull factors** are the reasons that attract people to another area. For example, a group may decide to move to a better location after their crops fail for several years. The crop failure is the “push” factor, and the better location is the “pull” factor. Together, they give the group a reason for migrating. Generally, the causes of migration are environmental, economic, cultural, or political.

Ellis Island, New York Millions of people entered the United States here between 1892 and 1954.



Push Factors In early times, a change in environment was a major cause of migration. For example, climate changes thousands of years ago brought on an ice age. People in northern Europe moved south in order to survive. Sometimes, an environment is unable to support growing numbers of people. So some part of the group needs to move to a place that would better support them.

Political actions may push a person or group to migrate to a new area. **Refugees** might flee a place to find safety from war. For example, beginning in 2003, an ethnic war in the Darfur region of Sudan caused about 2 million people to flee to refugee camps. Governments can force people to relocate even if they do not want to go. Cruel treatment, or **persecution**, of a particular group could also cause people to leave. People have sometimes been persecuted for their religion, race, nationality, political views, or membership in an ethnic group.

Pull Factors The desire for land has pulled people to new regions for thousands of years. During the 1800s, millions immigrated to the United States in search of land to farm or ranch. Economic opportunities are still a major reason for migration. Today, people move to find a job or to get a better job.

Sometimes people move for cultural reasons. For example, they may want to return to an area they consider the homeland of their people. Another pull factor may be that the land or the region has religious significance. Israel is an example of both reasons. Jews from all over the world immigrate to Israel because they consider it their homeland, and because it also contains many Jewish holy sites.

SUMMARIZE What are the push-pull factors of migration?



COMPARING Migration Factors

PUSH FACTORS

Environmental

- lack of resources to support an entire group
- change in climate or vegetation

Political

- escape from war or persecution
- forced removal

PULL FACTORS

Economic

- availability of land
- job opportunities

Cultural

- return to a homeland
- desire to live near a holy site

CRITICAL THINKING

Make Inferences Which factor do you think is most often the cause of migration?

Where People Migrate

KEY QUESTION What are the two kinds of migration?

Geographers identify two different types of migration. Internal migration occurs when people move within a country. Moving across a continent or even to another continent is called external migration.

Internal Migration Internal migration happens when people move from one place to another but stay within the same country. Someone who does this is called a migrant. If you move from Pennsylvania to California, you have moved a very long distance, but you have stayed within the United States, so you are an internal migrant. Two of the most common forms of internal migration are moving from rural areas or small towns to cities, and from cities to suburbs.

The world is becoming more urban. In many countries, more than 70 percent of the population lives in urban areas. Pull factors attract people to cities. If migrants can't find affordable housing in the city, they often build houses on the outskirts. This kind of growth on the outskirts of a city is sometimes called urban sprawl. In developed countries such as the United States, sprawl happens as new suburbs are built around the edges of a city.

External Migration Migration across parts of a continent may take place quickly, but sometimes it takes hundreds or even thousands of years. For example, Bantu-speaking people of Africa slowly spread across the southern half of the continent from 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1100. The push factor was environmental. The numbers of Bantu people were increasing, and they needed more land for farming and herding.

Migration also takes place from one continent to another continent. The countries of the Western Hemisphere as well as Australia and New Zealand, are filled with immigrants from Europe, Africa, and Asia.

COMPARE Explain the difference between internal and external migration.

Kuba Mask The Kuba are a Bantu-speaking people.



Animated GEOGRAPHY

Bantu Migrations

[Click here](#) to learn more about the migrations of Bantu people @ [ClassZone.com](#)

Legend:

- Bantu homeland
- Earliest migrations to A.D. 1
- Later migrations

CONNECT Geography & Culture

Movement Toward which body of water did the eastern branch of the early migrations move?

The Effects of Migration

▼ **KEY QUESTION** How does migration affect people and lands?

People bring the customs and traditions of their culture with them when they relocate. **Culture** is the shared attitudes, knowledge, and behaviors of a group. As a result of migration, the cultures of both the immigrants and the people living in an area may change. Migration also has economic and political effects, both positive and negative.

Cultural Effects When different groups in an area interact, they learn about each other—what they eat, wear, and believe. If people accept these different ideas and behaviors, it adds to the diversity of the group. **Diversity** means having many different ways to think about or to do something, or it may refer to a variety of people. Many people believe that having diversity in a group makes it stronger.

Earlier you learned about the Bantu-speaking people and how they spread across southern Africa. Wherever they settled, the Bantu brought their language and iron-making skills to the people in the region. Even if the Bantu moved on, their language and iron-working techniques remained. So migration changed the existing culture in several ways.

Migration does not always benefit the people who move. This is especially true if a group did not want to move. For example, refugees who flee war may be forced into overcrowded camps with little hope of returning home.

Another possible result of migration is **discrimination**, actions that might be hurtful to an individual or group. For example, the group discriminated against may not be able to get jobs or housing.

Economic Effects The arrival of a new group can help or hurt a region's economy. If more workers are needed or the new workers have special talents, the region's economy may be improved. This was the case with the Bantu who brought iron-making skills with them.

The arrival of large numbers of people sometimes strains a region's resources. This occurs when, for example, war refugees with limited resources crowd into refugee camps. The living conditions may be very poor and the additional numbers make life in the camps miserable. In 2005, many thousands of people fled their homes as warfare swept Sudan in Africa. The refugees found little shelter, water, or firewood in the camps. In fact, violence often broke out over the

CONNECT Geography & Culture

Bantu Languages

The Bantu spread their languages when they migrated across Africa. Today, about 240 million Africans speak one of the hundreds of Bantu languages as their first language. Some 50 million of them in central and east Africa speak Swahili (swah•HEE•lee), also known as Kiswahili (KEY•swah•HEE•lee).

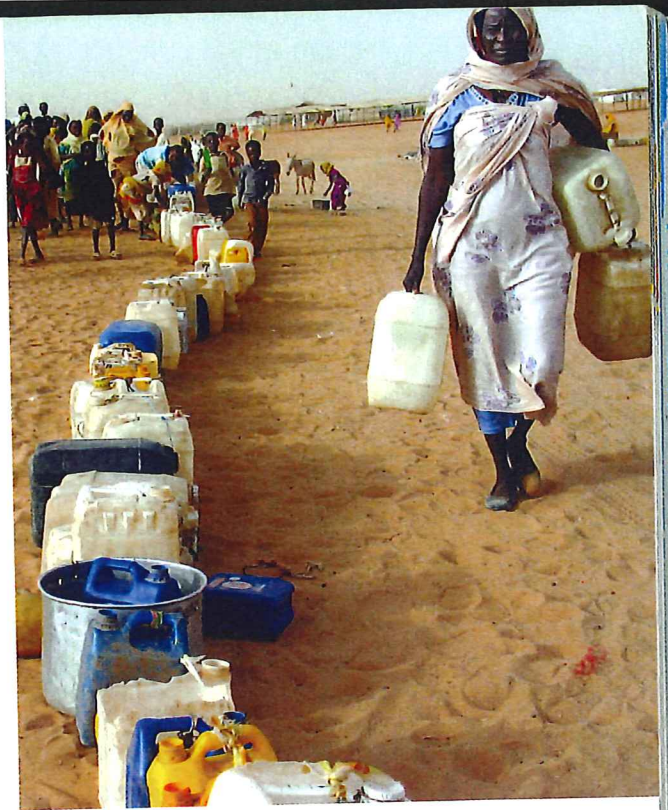


available water. Security and protection for the people in the camps can also become a problem. Governments may not be able to adequately provide for the refugees or may need to ask other nations to help care for the people.

Political Effects The policies of a country or region can be affected by the arrival of immigrants. Sometimes immigrants may be viewed as unwanted or dangerous. The government of a country might then support actions to remove the immigrants or allow them to be treated badly in hopes that they will leave. The immigrants may worry about their personal safety and ability to provide for themselves and their families.

In the best of times, the new immigrants make contributions to the country and are viewed as assets. For example, many immigrant groups brought valuable skills to the United States and were given the opportunity to become citizens.

DRAW CONCLUSIONS Identify positive and negative effects of migration.



Water Cans at a Refugee Camp Water is scarce in this African refugee camp. Each day people line up in hopes of getting a supply of water.

Section 2 Assessment

ONLINE QUIZ
For test practice, go to
Interactive Review
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TERMS & NAMES

1. Explain the importance of

- migration
- push factor
- pull factor
- culture

USE YOUR READING NOTES

2. Compare and Contrast Use your completed chart to answer the following question:

Which factors do you think are more powerful in encouraging migration?

PUSH FACTORS	PULL FACTORS
1.	1.
2.	2.

KEY IDEAS

3. What has been a major push factor in migration since earliest times?
4. Which form of internal migration has affected most countries?
5. What are the three ways that migration affects people and lands?

CRITICAL THINKING

6. **Analyze Causes and Effects** How do push-pull factors work together?
7. **Summarize** How is a culture affected by migration?
8. **CONNECT to Today** What are the pull factors that would attract people to move to your community?
9. **HISTORY** **Create a Push-Pull Poster** Choose two immigrant groups that came to the United States at any time in its history. Create a poster with images to show where they came from, what pushed them from their homeland, and what pulled them to the United States.