

OPENCities – Lesson 2: Why do people migrate?

Worksheet Task 1

Read this quotation and discuss the questions:

“... it is impossible to separate the globalisation of trade and capital from the global movement of people.” (The Economist, 2002)

1. Do you agree with it? Why/Why not?
2. What are the effects of the globalisation of trade and capital in our society?
3. What are the effects of the globalisation of people?
4. Are there many people in your city who were born in another country?
5. How do people feel about foreign workers coming to your city?

Of the 6.3 billion people who populate the world, approximately 175-190 million live outside their country of birth.

Worksheet Task 2

Task: Group A

Imagine you were moving to a new country. What would be the most important factors to take into consideration? Put these in order of importance.

- Cinemas/theatres/concert halls
- Good flats/houses
- Good transport systems
- Good schools/hospitals/universities
- Presence of family/friends
- Safe streets
- Parks/green areas
- Free press and media
- Democratic system/equality
- Language
- Culture
- Other???

Task: Group B

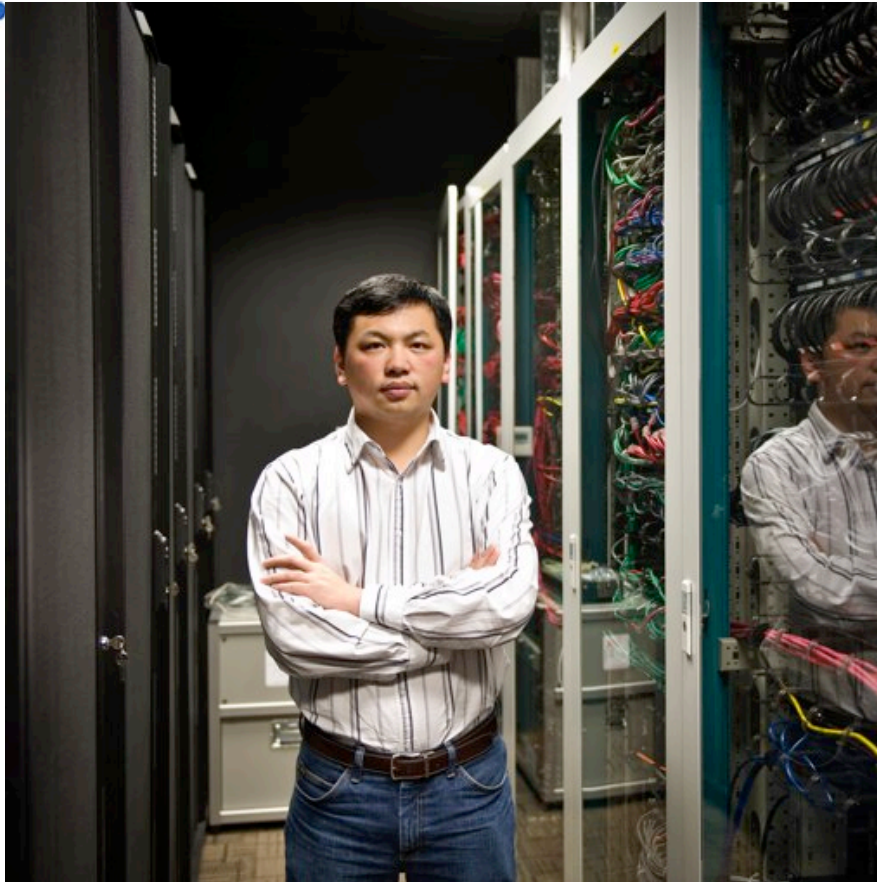
Which of these things would most make you want to *leave* your home city or country?

- Unemployment
- Poor housing and services
- Poverty
- Famine
- War/unsafe social situation
- No job prospects for your skills/qualifications
- Government persecution
- Discrimination
- Climate
- Geographical location
- Other??

Worksheet Task 3

Look at these pictures of people who have moved to another city.





This is Zhihong Image by Veronica Vierin www.ctmp.ie



This is Gip Image by Victoria Knysh www.vickyny.com



This is Mamadou Image by Amy Chang www.amychangphoto.com



This is Chabela Image by Markel Redondo www.markeiredondo.com

Talk about these pictures: What do you think?

- **What jobs do they do?**
- **Why did they move from their country of origin?**
- **What made them come to where they are now?**
- **Do you think they have better economic prospects where they live now? Why/why not?**
- **Are they happy where they are now?**
- **Do you think they will go back to their countries of origin?**

Worksheet Task 4

Listen to the people speaking and complete the sentences using the countries and cities below.

| | | | | | |
|---------|--------|--------|-------|---------|----------|
| Senegal | Dublin | Dubai | India | Bolivia | Serbia |
| Bilbao | Sofia | Madrid | China | Austria | Bulgaria |

1. Miroslav is from _____ . He lives in _____ .
2. Zhihong is from _____ . He lives in _____ .
3. Gip is from _____ . He lives in _____ .
4. Mamadou is from _____ . He lives in _____ .
5. Chabela is from _____ . She lives in _____ .

Which person

1. _____ is happy about the children being employed?
2. _____ works on a radio station?
3. _____ married someone from where they live?
4. _____ wants to settle down with a wife and daughter?

Worksheet Task 5

In your opinion, which of these people

- has the best job?
- earns the most money?
- is very happy to live where they live?
- live in the city for professional reasons?
- live in the city for family reasons?
- would like to go back to their country of origin?

Worksheet Task 6

Look at your person and try to imagine that you are that person.

Tell your group about

- what you miss about your old country.
- what you like about your new city/country.
- the negative things about living where you live.
- how you keep in touch with family and friends back home.
- the new friends and people you have met.
- your hopes for your children.
- your plans for the future.

Worksheet Task 7



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Are these statements true or false?

1. The main movement of population is from developing countries to developed countries.
2. There are 4 million foreign born residents in Germany.
3. Most OECD countries have a foreign population of between 5% and 15%.
4. Many countries in the north would be unable to function without a large population of foreign workers.

Now read the text and find out if you were right.

Who migrates – Where to and where from?

1. The main movement of population in today's world is from developing countries in the south to developed countries in the north. People who choose to migrate usually move to richer countries than where they were born. People move to places where they think the quality of life will be better for them.

2. This movement of population is inevitable and necessary. In the north, there is a shortage of young, skilled workers and the population is ageing. There is a need for younger people in these countries. In the south, on the other hand, people often live in under-privileged conditions with few opportunities. Many young people in these countries aspire to a better life and are attracted by the richer countries in the north. So, potentially, there is a mutual beneficial situation: the north needs young, skilled workers and the south has an abundance of young, skilled workers with few or no job opportunities.

3. Because of this population movement, the migrant population in most OECD countries is now between 5% and 15% of the total population. In some countries this percentage is even higher. In Australia, 25% of the population was born outside the country. In Canada 19% of the population is foreign-born. Today in Europe there are 33 million residents born outside Europe. In the USA, 35 million residents were born elsewhere. Russia, France, Germany and Ukraine have 5 million each.

4. In a globalised world, this movement of population is inevitable. These days, many developed countries would not be able to operate without a large population of foreign workers.

Worksheet Task 8

Read the text again and match the two parts of the statistics.

| A | B |
|--------------------|--|
| Between 5% and 15% | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The percentage of foreign born residents in Australia. • The number of foreign-born residents in Europe. • The migrant population in most OECD countries. • The number of foreign-born residents in the USA. • The number of foreign-born residents in Russia, France, Germany and Ukraine. • The percentage of foreign-born residents in Canada. |
| 25% | |
| 19% | |
| 33 million | |
| 35 million | |
| 5 million | |

Worksheet Task 9


Read the text and then write the push & pull factors in the right columns.


Why do people migrate?

There are lots of reasons for people to move from one place to another. There are factors that make some people's countries unattractive, and there are factors that make other places attractive. These factors have been called **push** and **pull factors**.

Push factors are the reasons why people want to leave a place – things that push them away from their place of birth.

Pull factors are the reasons why people want to go to one place rather than another – things that pull them towards a place.





Are these **push** or **pull** factors?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult living conditions • Affordable house/flats • Government persecution • Unemployment • Good economic prospects • Good weather • War or social unrest • Safe streets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good schools and hospitals • Poverty • No job opportunities • Corruption • Presence of family and friends • Cinemas, museums, theatres, concert halls, etc. • Bad educational infrastructure |
|--|--|

Worksheet Task 10

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| globalisation | delicatessen |
| trade | capital |
| foreign worker | a non-profit organisation |
| Population | OECD country |
| developing country | developed country |
| skilled worker | push factor |
| pull factor | transport system |
| unemployment | discrimination |
| poverty | famine |
| economic prospects | job opportunities |

Role cards

Your name is Eduardo. You are from Ecuador. You live in Madrid and you work as a waiter in a central restaurant. Why did you migrate?

Your name is Fatima. You are from Morocco. You left Africa five years ago and now you work in Toulouse. You have your own business – a shop in the centre of the city. Why did you migrate?

Your name is Magda. You are from the Czech Republic. Now you live in Birmingham in the UK. You work as a nurse. Why did you migrate?

Your name is Claude. You left Nigeria ten years ago and now you live in Italy. You work on a construction site in Naples. Why did you migrate?

Your name is Huan Tse. You are from China. You live in Munich where you study Engineering at university. Your parents run a restaurant in the same city. Why did you migrate?

Your name is Jean-Paul. You are from the Lebanon. You left a few years ago because of the political situation in your area. Now you live in Sweden – in Goteberg – where you work at the car factory. Why did you migrate?

Your name is Nana. You moved from Athens to Milan twenty years ago. You are married to an Italian and you work as a part-time receptionist in a hotel in the city centre. Why did you migrate?

Your name is Mohamed. You are from the United Arab Emirates. You are studying in Glasgow at the moment. When you finish your studies, you'll get a good job back home. Why did you migrate?

Worksheet Task 11

| Find someone... | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| | Name | Country of birth | City of residence | Reason for migrating |
| who has their own shop | | | | |
| who works as a nurse | | | | |
| who is a nurse | | | | |
| who works on a building site | | | | |
| whose parents run a restaurant | | | | |
| who works in a factory | | | | |
| who works part-time | | | | |
| who will get a good job back home | | | | |