Why People Move

Read two migration stories and compare reasons for leaving and arriving.

7.C.3.5.A "Examine the role of pull factors (e.g., economic opportunity, education, family) and the role of push factors (e.g., political unrest, religious persecution, war, famine, natural disasters) which motivate both emigration and immigration..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline reasons people left, circle reasons a new country attracted them, and write 1 beside the move with little safe choice and 2 beside the move with a meaningful choice.

Two Journeys, Different Choices

1. In 2014, fighting reached a neighborhood in Syria where Dima lived. Her family heard explosions near their apartment and could no longer keep the children safe at home. They packed what they could carry and crossed into Jordan, where Dima's uncle offered them a room. They did not know when they could return. Dima missed her school and friends, but staying had become dangerous. Dima and her family are fictional, yet many real families left Syria during the war and sought safety in neighboring countries.

2. Omar grew up in Jordan and wanted to become a nurse. In 2022, a college in Canada accepted him into its nursing program. His aunt lived nearby and offered to help him settle in. Omar weighed the cost of travel and the years away from home before he decided to go. He could have stayed in Jordan, where his family had a home and he had other plans for work. Canada offered a path toward his goal, not an escape from immediate danger. Omar is fictional, too.

3. Migration looks different depending on which border you are looking across. Leaving a country is called emigration; entering another country is called immigration. A push factor is a condition that makes someone want or need to leave. A pull factor is something that attracts someone to a new place. A person can feel both forces at once. A move is voluntary when the person has a meaningful choice to stay; an involuntary move happens when danger or other severe conditions leave little safe choice.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Was Dima's move voluntary or involuntary? Identify the push factor and give evidence about her choice.

2. What pulled Dima toward Jordan? Why did that pull factor not make her move voluntary?

3. From which country did Omar emigrate, and to which country did he immigrate? What shows that he had a choice?

4. Name two pull factors that drew Omar to Canada. How were they different from the factor that pushed Dima to leave?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Invent a person moving between two countries for reasons different from Dima's and Omar's. In four or five sentences, name a push factor and a pull factor, identify where the person emigrates from and immigrates to, and explain whether the move is voluntary or involuntary using evidence about the person's choice.

ANSWER KEY

Why People Move

GRADE 7 · 7.C.3.5.A

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline reasons people left, circle reasons a new country attracted them, and write 1 beside the move with little safe choice and 2 beside the move with a meaningful choice. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Was Dima's move voluntary or involuntary? Identify the push factor and give evidence about her choice.	**Involuntary. Fighting near her home made it unsafe to stay, so her family had little safe choice.**
2	What pulled Dima toward Jordan? Why did that pull factor not make her move voluntary?	**Her uncle offered the family a room in Jordan. They still had to leave Syria because fighting made their home unsafe.**
3	From which country did Omar emigrate, and to which country did he immigrate? What shows that he had a choice?	**Omar emigrated from Jordan and immigrated to Canada. He could have stayed in Jordan and considered his options before leaving.**
4	Name two pull factors that drew Omar to Canada. How were they different from the factor that pushed Dima to leave?	**A nursing program and help from his aunt drew Omar to Canada. These offered opportunities and support, while fighting made Dima's home unsafe.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

After a flood destroyed Lina's home in Country A, her family could not safely stay. A shelter program in Country B offered them a place to live. Lina emigrated from Country A and immigrated to Country B. The flood was a push factor, while access to shelter was a pull factor. Because the family had no safe place to live at home, their move was involuntary.

Accept other accurate evidence from the passage. For the open task, check that the push and pull factors are distinct and that the explanation of choice supports the voluntary or involuntary label.