

Routes and Reasons

Use geographic evidence to trace and predict migration patterns.

S.WG.b "applying geographic skills to determine and predict patterns and movement of people, places, and events;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each word or phrase that tells where people started, where they went, or how they traveled. Circle each condition that pushed people away or pulled them toward a destination.

Following the Great Migration

- ① From about 1916 to 1970, the Great Migration reshaped the United States. About six million Black Americans left the rural South for cities in the North, Midwest, and West. Many migrants began in states such as Mississippi, Alabama, and Georgia. They traveled mainly northward by railroad to places such as Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh, and New York City. This movement formed a clear pattern: people moved from agricultural areas toward industrial cities along transportation routes with jobs.
- ② Several forces pushed migrants away from the South. Segregation, racial violence, low pay, and damage to cotton crops made life and work less secure for many families. At the same time, northern and midwestern factories needed workers, especially when World War I reduced immigration from Europe. Railroad lines connected southern towns to industrial centers, making long-distance travel more possible. Job openings and rail access acted as pull factors, drawing people toward particular destinations in large cities.
- ③ Geographers study migration by comparing origins, destinations, directions, routes, and reasons for travel. In this case, repeated northward travel from rural counties to connected industrial cities reveals a movement pattern, not random choices. The pattern also helps predict change. When a destination offers fewer jobs, fewer newcomers are likely to choose it. When another connected city offers steady work and safer conditions, it is more likely to attract migrants. Geographic evidence links events, such as factory hiring, to where people move.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 What was the overall movement pattern of the Great Migration? Include where people left, where they went, and the main direction of travel.

2 How did railroads shape both the route migrants used and the destinations they could reach?

3 How did World War I increase the pull of northern and midwestern cities for migrants?

4 A northern city remains connected by rail, but its factories cut many jobs. Predict how this change would affect migration to that city. Use one reason from the passage.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

Create a fictional migration situation in four sentences. Name an origin, destination, direction, and route, explain one push factor and one pull factor, then predict what would happen if jobs at the destination decreased.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline each word or phrase that tells where people started, where they went, or how they traveled. Circle each condition that pushed people away or pulled them toward a destination. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	What was the overall movement pattern of the Great Migration? Include where people left, where they went, and the main direction of travel.	People moved from rural areas of the South to industrial cities in the North, Midwest, and West, mainly traveling northward.
2	How did railroads shape both the route migrants used and the destinations they could reach?	Railroads connected southern towns to industrial cities, making long-distance travel possible and giving migrants access to cities with factory jobs.
3	How did World War I increase the pull of northern and midwestern cities for migrants?	World War I reduced immigration from Europe, so factories needed more workers and offered job opportunities to migrants.
4	A northern city remains connected by rail, but its factories cut many jobs. Predict how this change would affect migration to that city. Use one reason from the passage.	Fewer newcomers would likely move to the city because it would have fewer available jobs.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Families leave Pine County, a rural area south of Lakeview. They travel north by rail to Lakeview because drought reduces farm income and its food-processing plants are hiring. Lakeview is the likely destination because the rail route and jobs make travel and work possible. If the plants cut jobs, fewer families will move there, and they may choose another connected city.

Accept equivalent descriptions of the south-to-north movement pattern and accurate cause-and-effect reasoning about rail access, jobs, and migration. For Part 3, accept any logical fictional example that includes all required geographic details and a supported prediction.