



ISD Virtual Learning

# Contemporary Issues Lesson

#21

April 20, 2020



## Contemporary Issues

### Lesson 4: April 20th: Causes of Migration

**Objective/Learning Target: Students will be able to understand what causes people to leave a place and make their home somewhere else.**

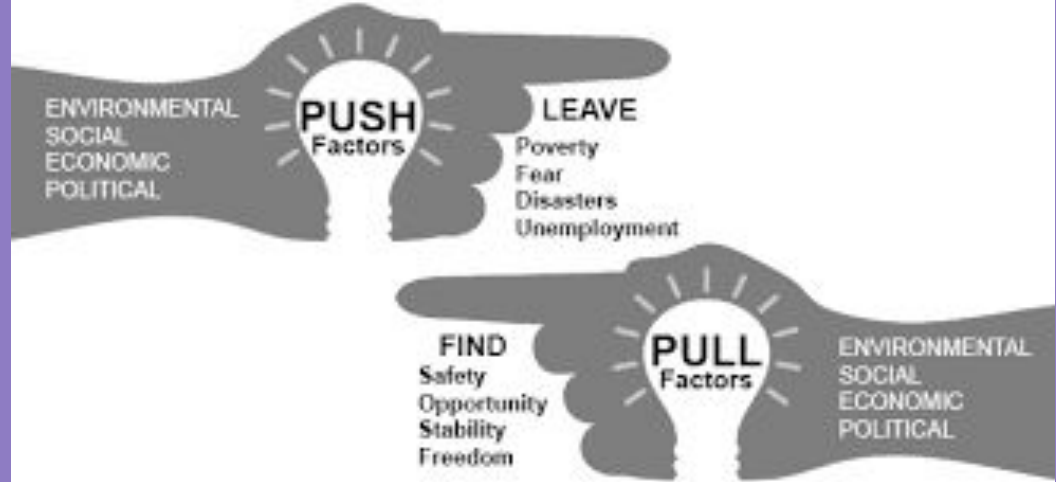
# Warm Up

This week we will talk about migration and the issues surrounding it, but before we can get there, it might be important to review the basics and what causes migration. Many of you might be familiar with the following terms (if you have taken Geography): push and pull factors. If not, or you don't remember, no worries! Here is a quick, simple definition of each:

-Push Factors: Things or events that cause people to want to leave a given place; Examples: poverty, war, disasters, etc.

-Pull Factors: Things or events that cause people to want to move to a given place; Examples: safety, opportunity, freedom

Directions: Think about where you live. Most of you are probably in Independence or somewhere in the Greater Kansas City Area. Make a list of 2 push factors and 2 pull factors for your city. Keep in mind that some of these might be your opinion. Jot down this list on a piece of paper, we'll come back to it later in the lesson. (Hint: the picture below might give you some ideas.)



# Lesson Activity

There are two kinds of migration. There is emigration and there is immigration. Emigration is the process by which emigrants are seeking to leave a country permanently. Immigration is a process by which immigrants are seeking to live in a new country permanently. For the U.S., many people immigrate here because of the economic opportunities and freedoms we have. If you look at the map this is clear. Many immigrants go to large industrialized cities where there are plenty of jobs and amenities.

**20 metropolitan areas with the largest number of immigrants in 2017**



Source: Pew Research Center analysis of 2017 American Community Survey (1% IPUMS).

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# Practice

Directions: Create a traveller's guide for Kansas City or Independence. Your guide can come in the form of a Google Slides presentation, a poster, a brochure, or some other presentation format. **The goal of your presentation is to provide information to immigrants moving to the U.S.** You're not trying to persuade them to come to this area, you are merely trying to give them an **honest view of the city**. Here is what you should include:

- Picture(s) of your city; and/or symbols and famous places in your city
- 5 biggest pull factors and 5 biggest push factors (think environmental, social, political, and economic; you can refer back to your warm-up for help)
- Your overall recommendation; Should they move here? Do the pull factors outweigh the push factors? Or should they pick a different city
- OPTIONAL: Pick another city anywhere in the U.S. that you'd recommend more. What are some major pull factors that your audience should consider?

# Reflection

Keep in mind that people don't always emigrate because they want to. There are many people who leave their homes because they are forced out by strong push factors such as war, disaster, discrimination, or poverty. Also, moving to a new country does not always solve all their problems. They may still be struggling financially, struggling to socialize, or struggling to speak the new country's language. Watch the video below about a middle school in Kansas City. When you finish, think about the listed questions.

1. What do you think makes not speaking the language of a country so hard?
2. Why do you think families like Happy's would choose to move to a place where they don't know the language?
3. Why are some push factors worse than others?
4. Can you relate to the students in this video? If so, how?

