

Activity 1

Migration and My Story Part I: Instructions and Interview Information Form

Part 1:

Instructions

1. You will receive a card that describes a person affected by migration, and play the role of that person in this activity. The card gives some important information about the person, but you can improvise more details about the person's life during the activity. Do that when other students interview you, to find out how you have been affected by migration and whether you would favor or oppose laws that would make migration easier.
2. In addition to playing the role of the person described on your card, during the activity you will interview 5 other members of the class. Once again, the goal of the interview is to determine how each person has been affected by migration, and whether the person would favor or oppose laws to make migration easier. There are five rows on the interview form. Use one row for each person you interview.
3. At the start of each interview, record the card number and the home country of the person being interviewed in the first column of the Interview Information Form. Do not interview anyone who has the same card number that you hold.
4. After each interview, summarize the most important statements made by the person about the effects migration has had on their life in the middle column of the Interview Information Form. These statements might deal with why the person migrated or, if the person is not a migrant, how the person has been affected by the migration of other people.
5. Based on your interviews, decide whether or not each person would favor laws to make migration easier. Record your decision in the last column.

Part 1 (continued):
Migration and My Story: Interview Information Form

Card # and Country	List the person's reasons for migrating OR note how the person was affected by migration	Would the person you interviewed support or oppose more immigration?

Part 2: Role Cards

Card #1

You are a computer engineer from India who has migrated to the United States to find a higher paying job.

Card #2

You are an engineer in the United States who has been hired by a firm to help with the production of a new product. The product was invented and patented for the firm by an Indian scientist the company has recently hired.

Card #3

You are a physician trained in Nigeria. You decide to move to the United States to practice medicine. You anticipate making considerably more income than you would in Nigeria.

Card #4

You are an unskilled migrant worker from Mexico who works in the United States. You work mostly in agriculture, but do other part-time jobs in the winter.

Part 2 (continued):

Card #5

You are a babysitter from the Dominican Republic, living in the United States and taking care of two children for a family in which both parents work in highly paid jobs.

Card #6

You are a child who is picked up after school by a babysitter from the Dominican Republic. The babysitter watches you until your parents come home from work.

Card # 7

You are a 30-year-old roofer in Illinois. You just had to take a pay cut because your employer can now hire migrant workers at a lower wage.

Card #8

You have lived in Kenya all your life, and are now ill with tuberculosis. It is difficult to find a doctor to treat your disease. You have heard that many doctors left Kenya to work in other countries.

Part 2 (continued):

Card #9

You are a worker in Mexico who receives funds from relatives working in the United States. Because you receive this money you are able to keep your children in school.

Card #10

You own Computechno, a hi-tech company in the United States. Your company has been able to improve its performance and expand by hiring highly qualified computer engineers from India. In earlier years, your company found it difficult to find qualified workers for these jobs.

Card #11

You are the CEO of a firm in China that has just signed its first international contract, supplying services to a firm in the United States. The U.S. firm learned about your company when it hired one of your former employees, who had moved to the United States.

Card #12

You are a teenager in Kenya, and plan to stay in school to get an advanced degree. When you graduate you may decide to work in Kenya or in another country.

Part 2 (continued):

Card #13

You are a worker in China, just hired by a new company paying higher wages than most firms in the country. The new company was founded by a Chinese businesswoman who developed her entrepreneurial skills and business contacts working in the United States for the last 10 years.

Card #14

You live and work in Yerevan, Armenia. Your son is a worker in the United States. He sends you money regularly (as well as donates money to many local Armenian charities).

Card #15

You are an electrical engineer from Pakistan who moved to the United States. You have not been able to find a job as an electrical engineer, but work as a salesman at a local retail store. While it does not pay nearly what you had expected when you had moved to the United States, it pays more than you made in Pakistan working as an electrical engineer.

Card #16

You are an American farm worker but do not own or farm your own land. Jobs are getting harder to find because migrant workers are willing to work for lower wages than you were paid in recent years.

Part 2 (continued):

Card # 17

You are a high school student who applied for a summer job at a local restaurant. You were told those jobs had been filled by migrant workers willing to work all year. You sign up for a summer enrichment course at school instead of working.

Card #18

As a consumer, you buy fruits and vegetables grown in the United States. You notice that the price of fruits and vegetables had decreased lately. You read that prices of these products are lower because of the low wages paid to immigrant workers.

Card #19

You are the mayor of Spruceton, a city with a growing population. The city spends more for services such as fire and police protection, education, and maintaining city parks, because of the rising population. The latest census report indicates that much of the recent population growth is made up of people who emigrated from other countries.

Card #20

You are a worker from Brazil with a high school education. You found a job in south Florida installing tile floors, which pays more than you were able to earn in Brazil.

Part 2 (continued):

Card #21

You are the owner of a restaurant in the city of Spruceton. You have noticed an increase in your sales and profits as the city has grown. That is due, in part, to more immigrants.

Card #22

You are the owner of a business that sells computer equipment. Sales of your equipment to a local business called Computechno have increased since Computechno expanded its operations by hiring more computer engineers. Many of the engineers hired emigrated from India.

Card #23

You own a large farm in California, and rely heavily on immigrant workers to harvest your crops. You pay these workers minimum wage. If immigrant workers were not available it would be difficult to hire workers at the minimum wage.

Card #24

You are a 56-year-old U.S. citizen who has worked installing tile floors in south Florida for the past 20 years. It is harder for you to find work because immigrant workers are willing to do the same work at lower wages.

Card #25

You are a 35-year-old master carpenter in Colorado. You lead a team of workers for a local construction company. Recently, the company has added immigrant workers to your team. The addition of workers has increased your productivity.

Card #26

You are an accountant in New York who has been hired by a successful, new business started by a recent immigrant from South Africa.

Card #27

You are a scientist in the United States who specializes in the development of vaccines. You have noticed more jobs in your field have been filled by foreign-born, but U.S.-educated, scientists. Your present job is safe, but you feel that you may not be able to change jobs as easily in the future.