Summary and Review

KEY ISSUE 1

Where Are Migrants Distributed?

On a global scale, the largest flows of migrants are from Asia to Europe and from Asia and Latin America to the United States. The United States receives by far the largest number of migrants.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.1.1: Describe the difference between international and internal migration.

- Migration can be international (between countries, either voluntary or forced) or internal (within a country, either interregional or intraregional).

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.1.2: Identify the principal sources of immigrants during the three main eras of U.S. immigration.

- The United States has had three main eras of immigration. The principal source of immigrants has shifted from Europe during the first two eras to Latin America and Asia during the third (current) era.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 3.1: What is the impact of emigration on the place from which migrants depart?

GOOGLE EARTH 3.1: The Lower East Side Tenement Museum, at 103 Orchard St. in New York City, shows what life was like for European immigrants. Which of the three principal eras of immigration to the United States does the Tenement Museum describe?

KEY ISSUE 2

Where Do People Migrate Within a Country?

Historically, interregional migration was especially important in settling the frontiers of large countries such as Russia, Canada, the United States, China, and Brazil. The most important intraregional migration trends are from rural to urban areas within developing countries and from cities to suburbs within developed countries.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.2.1: Describe the history of interregional migration in the United States.

- Migration within the United States has primarily occurred from east to west, though at varying rates. Recently, interregional migration has also occurred from north to south.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.2.2: Describe interregional migration in Russia.

- The world's largest country has a distinctive pattern of interregional migration, a legacy of the era of Communist rule.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.2.3: Describe interregional migration in Canada, China, and Brazil.

- Canada, China, and Brazil also have unequal population distributions. Canadians have been migrating from east to west, Chinese have been migrating from the rural interior to the large coastal cities, and Brazilians from the large coastal cities to the interior.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.2.4: Explain differences among the three forms of intraregional migration.

- Three intraregional migration patterns are from rural to urban areas, from urban to suburban areas, and from urban to rural areas.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 3.2: In recent years, has your community seen net in-migration or net out-migration? What factors explain your community's net migration?

GOOGLE EARTH 3.2: The Donner Pass, through the Sierra Nevada Mountains, was one of the most difficult obstacles for early immigrants to the west. What is now the principal route through the area?

Key Terms

Asylum seeker (p. 92) Someone who has migrated to another country in the hope of being recognized as a refugee.

Brain drain (p. 96) Large-scale emigration by talented people.

Chain migration (p. 97) Migration of people to a specific location because relatives or members of the same nationality previously migrated there.

Circulation (p. 78) Short-term, repetitive, or cyclical movements that recur on a regular basis.

Counterurbanization (p. 91) Net migration from urban to rural areas in more developed countries.

Emigration (p. 78) Migration from a location.

Floodplain (p. 92) The area subject to flooding during a given number of years, according to historical trends.

Forced migration (p. 80) Permanent movement, usually compelled by cultural factors.

Guest worker (p. 95) A term once used for a worker who migrated to the developed countries of Northern and Western Europe, usually

from Southern and Eastern Europe or from North Africa, in search of a higher-paying job.

Immigration (p. 78) Migration to a new location.

Internal migration (p. 80) Permanent movement within a particular country.

Internally displaced person (IDP) (p. 92) Someone who has been forced to migrate for similar political reasons as a refugee but has not migrated across an international border.

International migration (p. 80) Permanent movement from one country to another.

Interregional migration (p. 80) Permanent movement from one region of a country to another.

Intervening obstacle (p. 96) An environmental or cultural feature of the landscape that hinders migration.

Intraregional migration (p. 80) Permanent movement within one region of a country.

Migration (p. 78) A form of relocation diffusion involving a permanent move to a new location.

KEY ISSUE 3

Why Do People Migrate?

Migration is induced by a combination of push and pull factors. People feel compelled (pushed) to emigrate from a location for political, environmental, and economic reasons. Similarly, people are induced (pulled) to immigrate because of the political, environmental, and economic attractiveness of a new location.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.3.1: Provide examples of political, environmental, and economic push and pull factors.

- People migrate because of a combination of push and pull factors. These factors may be political, environmental, and economic. Most people migrate for economic push and pull reasons.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.3.2: Summarize the flows of migrant workers in Europe and Asia.

- People migrate for temporary work, especially from developing countries to developed countries, where they take jobs that are not desired by local residents.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 3.3: What factors motivated your family or your ancestors to migrate?

GOOGLE EARTH 3.3: This is Gulfport, Mississippi, on August 29, 2005, just after Hurricane Katrina hit. Set the time slider for July 11, 2005. What evidence of flood damage can be seen in the August 29 image?

KEY ISSUE 4

Why Do Migrants Face Obstacles?

Migrants have difficulty getting permission to enter other countries, and they face hostility from local citizens once they arrive. Immigration laws restrict the number of immigrants who can legally enter the United States. In Europe and Southwest Asia, temporary workers migrate to perform menial jobs.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.4.1: Identify the types of immigrants who are given preference to enter the United States.

- Immigration is tightly controlled by most countries. The United States gives preference to immigrants with family members already in the country and to those who have special job skills.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.4.2: Describe the population characteristics of unauthorized immigrants to the United States.

- The United States has more than 11 million unauthorized immigrants, who are in the country without proper documents. Most have emigrated from Mexico.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.4.3: Describe characteristics of immigrants to the United States.

- In the past, most immigrants were males, but now an increasing share of immigrants to the United States are women and children.

LEARNING OUTCOME 3.4.4: Compare American and European attitudes toward immigrants.

- Americans and Europeans have divided and ambivalent attitudes toward the large number of immigrants, especially those arriving without proper documentation.

THINKING GEOGRAPHICALLY 3.4: Should the United States admit more or fewer immigrants for family reunification, or for job skills, or by random lottery?

GOOGLE EARTH 3.4: Gerrard Street is the center of Chinatown in London, England. Why do you think the street has been closed to vehicular traffic?

Migration transition (p. 79) A change in the migration pattern in a society that results from industrialization, population growth, and other social and economic changes that also produce the demographic transition.

Mobility (p. 78) All types of movement between location.

Net migration (p. 78) The difference between the level of immigration and the level of emigration.

Pull factor (p. 92) A factor that induces people to move to a new location.

Push factor (p. 92) A factor that induces people to leave old residences.

Quotas (p. 96) In reference to migration, laws that place maximum limits on the number of people who can immigrate to a country each year.

Refugees (p. 92) People who are forced to migrate from their home country and cannot return for fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, membership in a social group, or political opinion.

Unauthorized immigrants (p. 98) People who enter a country without proper documents to do so.

Voluntary migration (p. 80) Permanent movement undertaken by choice.

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