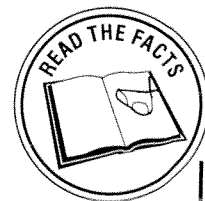




Barriers To Migration
(page 2)



People wishing to migrate must overcome many barriers. Some are visible, such as Physical Barriers (e.g., oceans, etc.) and some are invisible, such as Legal Barriers.

1) Physical Barriers

Water is the oldest Physical Barrier. The barrier can be easily overcome with modern modes of transportation. However, inhabitants of some islands risk their lives to overcome this barrier. For example, the communist island of Cuba lies 150 km from Florida. Many Cuban citizens have tried the dangerous crossing to Florida in old or leaking boats. Most have been picked up by the U.S. Coast Guard, only to be returned to Cuba. Many have tragically drowned in the attempt.

Deserts are another physical barrier. People living in Niger (Africa) wanting to migrate to Morocco must first cross the Sahara Desert. This desert is too hot, dry, and large to cross. Other physical barriers include jungles, swamps, mountains, and lack of transportation routes (e.g., roads). Many people make long and difficult journeys to another country, only to be turned away by armed border guards.

Other physical barriers are man-made. For example, the Berlin Wall - a once heavily guarded wall that separated East and West Berlin. It was built by the communist government of East Germany to prevent its citizens from migrating illegally (escaping) to West Germany. The wall was finally torn down when Germany was reunited as one country.

Another man-made physical barrier separates North and South Korea. It is

known as the **Demilitarized Zone**. It is a line of latitude (the 38th parallel). This zone is a line of barbed-wire fences, land mines and military observation posts, which has existed since the early 1950's. A peace treaty was not signed between North and South Korea at the end of the Korean War. A state of war still exists between the two countries and the Demilitarized Zone keeps the two armies apart.

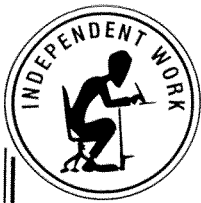
2) Financial Barriers

A lack of funds is a financial barrier. This exists when a desire to migrate is halted by a lack of money. Migration is a lengthy and expensive process. Families must sell all property; pay travel expenses (usually by Air); and purchase or rent in advance a home in the new country. Families wanting to migrate are often so poor that they are unable to pay for a ride to the border of their country.

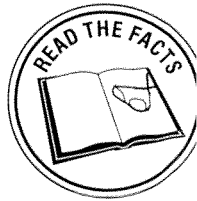
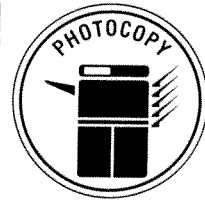
Withholding of funds is another financial barrier. Some countries force migrating citizens to leave their property and money behind. Government border police enforce this rule. This means that immigrants arrive in the new land with nothing and must start a new life.

3) Legal Barriers

Most countries demand immigrants to provide an updated police report. This report will indicate the following; criminal activity, unresolved civil actions (e.g., a law suit stemming from unpaid bank balances, etc.), unpaid government taxes, outstanding traffic tickets, etc. Upon arrival, customs officers may do an additional criminal search before entry is permitted.



Barriers To Migration
(page 3)



4) Emotional Barriers

Deciding to leave home forever is a very serious decision. It means leaving relatives, friends, pets, church and most possessions behind. The new country may be far away and the people speak a different language. Elderly family members may refuse to emigrate. Young families may decide to leave the elderly behind. Often families stay behind to nurse the elderly. These factors must be overcome before a decision to immigrate is made.

5) Education Barriers

Countries may impose a minimum education standard on all immigrants. Most countries demand that the parents of immigrants have at least a post secondary education. Education may also prevent certain citizens from leaving a country. People with specialized university degrees or certain highly educated professions such as doctors may be prevented from leaving.

People with little education may soon discover that they are unable to migrate. Countries admitting immigrants want them to become successful, self-reliant citizens.

6) Health Barriers

Diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria, or leprosy will halt entry into most countries. In parts of the world these diseases are common. Third world countries usually lack the medicine to inoculate their citizens. Working age immigrants who appear frail and in poor health may be considered a health risk and denied access. Countries like Canada with a free Medicare system may view these immigrants as a health liability, and prevent their entry.

7) Political Barriers

Some governments may label people as 'political prisoners'. These citizens may have written an article that opposes the government. These countries usually prevent free speech and will imprison or 'brand' these outspoken people. Once branded as a 'political prisoner' they will not be allowed to leave the country. Border Police prevent their exit. Those who are caught trying to leave by illegal means such as crossing a border at night are arrested and sent to jail.

Dictatorships like Iraq, North Korea and Cuba prevent their citizens from emigrating. Citizens that travel abroad or represent the country in a sporting event are threatened if they do not return. Sometimes a person's family is held hostage until the person returns.

8) Immigration Quotas

The final barrier to migration is immigration quotas. Canada has an immigration quota that changes each year. Countries may set these quotas as a reflection of the economy. For example, during prosperous economic times they may raise the quota as high as 250,000 new immigrants. Poor economic times may see this quota drop to 5,000 new immigrants.



Topic 3: Migration (Gr. 8)
Unit II: Migration Barriers

Barriers To Migration
Study Organizer (page 4)

DAY 1

PHOTOCOPY THIS PAGE

COMPLETE THE CHART

Category 3: Communication of Required Knowledge

- 1 • rarely communicates with clarity and precision
• rarely uses appropriate terminology, vocabulary, and symbols
- 2 • sometimes communicates with clarity and precision
• sometimes uses appropriate terminology, vocabulary, and symbols
- 3 • usually communicates with clarity and precision
• usually uses appropriate terminology, vocabulary, and symbols
- 4 • consistently communicates with clarity and precision
• consistently uses appropriate terminology, vocabulary, and symbols

Migration Barrier	Description, explanation, example, etc.
1) Physical	
2) Financial	
3) Legal	
4) Emotional	
5) Education	
6) Health	
7) Political	
8) Quotas	