

International Migrants Day

What Is International Migrants Day?

International Migrants Day began in 1990. The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families was created at this time and it is the job of the United Nations to make sure that all migrants and their families are looked after properly.

What Is a Migrant?

A migrant is someone who has chosen to leave their own country. They may get a new job in another country. A migrant may take their family with them to their new country. They will pack all of the items that they need and spend time saying goodbye to friends and family before leaving.



Refugees

There are some people who need to leave their country because it is such an unsafe place to be. This might be because of war or because their homes have been destroyed by natural disasters, such as hurricanes or tsunamis. People who need to leave their homes, not through choice but because of necessity, are called refugees.

Reasons for Migration

Some people may move for a new job, or to study at school, college or university. Some families may move because they have relatives already in a new country and want to be closer to them. In 2015, 244 million people were recorded as migrants by the United Nations. Most of these people moved to either Europe or Asia.

Did You Know?

Half of the people who migrate to a new country move to get a job.



Questions

1. Name the convention that was established in 1990.

2. What role does the United Nations have in migration?

3. Find and copy one word from the text that means the same as 'ruined'.

4. Give one reason why someone may leave their home country.

5. Give an example of a natural disaster.

6. Find and copy one word from the text to describe a person who has to leave their home, not through choice but because of necessity?

7. What was the number of migrants in 2015?

8. What proportion of migrants find new employment after moving to a new country?

Answers

1. Name the convention that was established in 1990.
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
2. What role does the United Nations have in migration?
The United Nations makes sure that all migrants and their families are looked after properly.
3. Find and copy one word from the text that means the same as 'ruined'.
destroyed
4. Give one reason why someone may leave their home country.
Accept any one of the following: to find another job; because of war, natural disaster or persecution; to receive education from a school, college or university; to be closer to relatives or family.
5. Give an example of a natural disaster.
Accept any of the following: hurricanes; tsunamis; any other natural disaster.
6. Find and copy one word from the text to describe a person who has to leave their home, not through choice but because of necessity?
refugee
7. What was the number of migrants in 2015?
244 million
8. What proportion of migrants move to find new employment?
Half of the people who migrate to a new country move to find new employment.

International Migrants Day

What Is International Migrants Day?

International Migrants Day is held on the 18th December. In 1990, the United Nations created the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to educate people about the benefits of migration and to ensure that the rights of all migrants are being met.

What Is a Migrant?

A migrant is someone who has left their own country to seek a better life in another country. Some people leave their country voluntarily, often because the work opportunities in another country may be better. They will spend time choosing the required belongings they need to take with them, whilst saying goodbye to friends and family whom they are leaving behind.

What about Those Who Do Not Choose to Leave?

On the other hand, there are some people who are forced to leave their country because it is such a dangerous place to be. Sadly, many countries are experiencing war. For some families, it is safer to leave their country.

Natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and tsunamis can damage or destroy homes and this leaves people with no choice but to depart. In 2015, 244 million people were recorded as migrants by the United Nations. Most of these people migrated to either Europe or Asia.

Did You Know?

The most common country of origin for migrants entering the UK is India.



Why Choose the UK?

In 2016, around half of the migrants who came to the UK arrived for work reasons. There are some excellent work opportunities in Britain, and this is why some families choose to move here.

With English being a language spoken by many people around the world, some people already have sufficient knowledge of the language to acquire work in the UK, even if English is not their first language.

The UK is perceived as being supportive of human rights and accepting of all religious beliefs, which is also a positive factor for migrants. They may already have family members in the UK who have previously relocated. This reduces some of the stress in finding a home and a network of support around them.

Did You Know?

Just under one fifth of migrants move to Britain for family reasons. There is also a demand for workers with a variety of skills, meaning that there are plenty of opportunities for many people.



Questions

1. Which convention was established in 1990?

2. What role does the United Nations have in migration?

3. Explain two reasons why someone may leave their home country.

4. How do you think a migrant may feel if they are forced to leave their country?

5. Name a natural disaster.

6. What was the number of migrants in 2015?

7. Give one reason why people may choose to migrate to Britain.

8. Tick true or false for the following statements.

	True	False
The country where the highest number of people have moved from is Pakistan.		
Half of migrants move for family reasons.		
Natural disasters may force people to leave their homes.		

9. How might migration have a positive influence on society?

Answers

- What convention was established in 1990?
The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families.
- What role does the United Nations have in migration?
The United Nations makes sure that all migrants and their families are looked after properly.
- Explain two reasons why someone may leave their home country.
Answers may vary, such as: Someone may choose to leave their country to look for new employment because of a lack of job opportunities in their country; They may be forced to leave their country because of war, natural disaster or persecution so move to a safer country.
- How do you think a migrant may feel if they are forced to leave their country?
Pupils' own responses, e.g. sad, angry, lonely, worried, scared.
- Name a natural disaster.
Answers may vary, such as: hurricane, earthquake.
- What was the number of migrants in 2015?
The number of migrants in 2015 was 244 million.
- Give one reason why people may choose to migrate to Britain.
Answers may vary, e.g. Britain has great job opportunities and universities in which people can extend their education.
- Tick true or false for the following statements.

	True	False
The country where the highest number of people have moved from is Pakistan.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Half of migrants move for family reasons.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Natural disasters may force people to leave their homes.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

- How might migration have a positive influence on society?
Answers may vary, such as: Migration can have a positive influence on society because it fills gaps in certain employment sectors and brings people of different cultures together so that society is enriched.

International Migrants Day

What Is International Migrants Day?

International Migrants Day is held on the 18th December. In 1990, the United Nations created the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to highlight the positive benefits of migration to both migrants and migrant countries. The United Nations works hard to ensure that migrants are not being exploited. They created the convention to try to achieve this aim. It is a requirement to ensure that the rights of all migrants and their families are being met.

What Is a Migrant?

A migrant is someone who has left their own country to seek a better life in another country for a variety of reasons. Some people voluntarily leave their country. They decide to move and spend the necessary time choosing the essential belongings to take with them, whilst saying goodbye to friends and family whom they are leaving behind. This move can be exciting and financially and educationally positive, but may also be daunting for the families.

What about Those Who Do Not Choose to Leave?

On the other hand, there are some people who are forced to leave their country because it is such a perilous place to be. Sadly, many countries are experiencing war and conflict and lives are being lost. For some families, it is safer to flee their country for a peaceful life elsewhere. Natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and tsunamis have destroyed homes and leave people with no choice but to relocate. The number of migrants has increased from 175 million in 2000 to 244 million in 2015. Most of these people moved to either Europe or Asia. There are excellent work opportunities in Britain and this is why some families choose to move to the UK.



Why Choose the UK?

In 2016, around half of the migrants who came to the UK came for work reasons. There are some excellent work opportunities in Britain, and this is why some families choose to move here.

With English being a language spoken by many people around the world, some people already have sufficient knowledge of the language to acquire work in the UK, even if English is not their first language. The UK is perceived as being supportive of human rights and accepting of all religious beliefs, which is also a positive factor for migrants. There is demand for workers with a variety of skills, meaning that in high-skilled and low-skilled work meaning that there are plenty of opportunities for many people.

Just under one fifth of migrants move to Britain for family reasons. They may already have family members in the UK who have previously relocated. This reduces some of the stress in finding a home and a network of support around them.

Did You Know?

The most common country of origin for migrants entering the UK is India.



Where Else Do People Migrate From?

Other common countries that people move from include Pakistan, Poland, Australia and China.

The United Nations Symbol

You may see the United Nations symbol on information that you read about International Migrants Day. This symbol shows a map of the world with olive branches around either side. The olive branches symbolise peace between people of all countries.

Questions

1. What role does the United Nations have in migration?

2. Explain two reasons why someone may leave their home country.

3. How do you think a migrant may feel if they are forced to leave their country?

4. Can you think of a natural disaster that may result in people migrating?

5. What has the increase in migrants been between 2000 and 2015?

6. Give two reasons that people may choose Britain as their migrant country.

7. Describe the United Nations symbol and its meaning in your own words.

8. Tick true or false for the following statements.

	True	False
The country where the highest number of people have moved from is Pakistan.		
The olive branch represents peace.		
Most migrants move to Britain for family reasons.		

9. Can you think of a better sub-heading for the last paragraph?

10. How might migration have a positive influence on society?

Answers

1. What role does the United Nations have in migration?
The job of the UN is to promote the positive impact of migrants on other countries and to protect the rights of migrants and their families.
2. Explain two reasons why someone may leave their home country.
Answers may vary, such as: Someone may choose to leave their country to look for new employment because of a lack of job opportunities in their country; They may be forced to leave their country because of war, natural disaster or persecution so move to a safer country.
3. How do you think a migrant may feel if they are forced to leave their country?
Pupils' own responses, e.g. sad, angry, lonely, worried, scared.
4. Can you think of a natural disaster that may result in people migrating?
Answers may vary, such as: hurricanes, tsunamis, earthquakes, floods.
5. What has the increase in migrants been between 2000 and 2015?
The increase in migrants between 2000 and 2015 was 69 million.
6. Give two reasons that people may choose Britain as their migrant country.
Answers may vary, such as: Britain has great job opportunities and universities in which people can extend their education; Britain is a welcoming country with lots of diversity already.
7. Describe the United Nations symbol and its meaning in your own words.
Answers may vary, such as: The United Nations symbol has a world map surrounded by two olive branches. This symbolises peace.
8. Tick true or false for the following statements.

	True	False
The country where the highest number of people have moved from is Pakistan.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The olive branch represents peace.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Most migrants move to Britain for family reasons.		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

9. Can you think of a better sub-heading for the last paragraph?

Accept sub-headings which summarise the last paragraph in a concise and engaging way.

10. How might migration have a positive influence on society?

Answers may vary, such as: Migration can have a positive influence on society because it fills gaps in certain employment sectors and brings people of different cultures together so that society is enriched.