

Worksheet 1.4a: Why do people migrate?

Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

A. I absolutely love my country and I'll miss it every single day when I move to Birmingham. However, I'll get paid five times more in England as a doctor than I get here for the same job. We're going to move for five years. It's to save up enough money to start a family.

B. In my village, a man has just been stoned to death for being gay. I'm terrified! I went to university in Edinburgh where I was openly out and lived with my boyfriend. I'll do anything I can to get back there and be safe.

C. My brother was tortured last night just because he has a bible in his house! I won't put my children through growing up in my country. It's so violent and the police are corrupt. I'm desperate to escape to the UK before the local gangs realise that my children are Christians too.

D. I'm looking forward to moving to London for a year to do a counselling course. It's meant to be one of the best courses in Europe, so I'm really excited. Once I'm qualified, I'm going to come home and support teenagers with mental health issues in my own country.

E. My cousin lives in Swansea. She's just helped me find a job as an architect there. I reckon I'll work in Wales for about 10 years, because female architects are way more respected in Britain than where I live. When I come home, I'll have saved up enough money to build a house for myself in my own country.

F. I cannot put into words how frightened and angry I am. I was overheard telling a friend that I don't agree with our Prime Minister's views on education. I was reported and the next night armed men came to my house to take me away. Luckily, I was away on business so they couldn't find me. They hurt my daughter though. I'll never forgive them for that! We'll spend our life savings tomorrow trying to get to Britain.

1. Which people above want to live in the UK mainly due to fear? _____
2. Which people want to live in the UK mainly in order to earn money/do well in their job? _____
3. Which people would be described as economic migrants? _____
4. Why are citizens in the UK allowed to say they disagree with the Prime Minister?

5. Apart from what's described above, why else might people decide to move to the UK?

