

## Immigration

Immigration is the act of coming to live permanently in a new country. There are many reasons why people immigrate:

- Some people move to another country in search of a better life.
- Richer countries may offer better opportunities for employment.
- Free healthcare and schooling are available in some developed countries.
- Other people move to a foreign country to improve their academic qualifications.

Immigration has both positive and negative consequences.

### Positives of Immigration and Multi-Cultural Societies

Immigration can help the economy of a country.

Many immigrants have skills that are needed in the country that they move to.

Immigrants who find work contribute to the economy of their new country.

Many immigrants send money home to help family members.

Immigration also creates cultural diversity.

People of many different nationalities learn to live together.

This can help people to become more open-minded and tolerant.

### Summary

I have always been a strong supporter of immigration. Most people don't realise how much immigration benefits the economy. Immigrants have skills that we need, and this improves the workforce and helps the economy to grow. Furthermore, immigrants often send money back home, which helps their own country to develop.

Immigration also creates cultural diversity, which makes society far more interesting. For example, restaurants in Britain serve food from all over the world. In addition, cultural diversity helps to reduce racism and intolerance. When we meet people from different cultures, we become more open-minded and tolerant.

## **Negatives of Immigration**

Some people believe that immigrants take jobs that should go to local people.

Some immigrant workers work long hours for less money.

Companies might pay lower salaries to immigrant workers.

Unemployment rates could rise if there are too many immigrants.

Cultural diversity can lead to countries losing identity.

## **Summary**

We need to be aware of the negative impacts of immigration. Firstly, immigrants often take the jobs of local people. This is because employers often pay immigrant workers lower salaries. This means that local people may become unemployed or need to take a pay cut in order to keep their jobs.

Cultural diversity can bring benefits, but when there is too much immigration then it can lead to the breakdown of a culture. A nation can lose its identity and I believe this is a bad thing. People are happy when they feel part of a group and have a sense of national identity.

## **Practice Question**

Immigration has a major impact on the society.

What are the main reasons for immigration?

To what consequences can it lead?