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Reading Guide

Henrietta Lacks and The Great Migration

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Directions: Fill in the chart, including all vocabulary words and definitions, and at least two relevant points in the other boxes.

Vocabulary Terms	<u>Observations</u>			
•	•			
•	•			
•	Optional Sentence Starters:			
•	A practice that made life difficult following the Civil War was because			
•				
•	Henrietta's Cousin Fred migrated to the			
Questions	<u>Connections</u>			
•	•			
•	•			
Optional Sentence Starters:	Optional Sentence Starters:			
What I wonder about	reminded me of			
is:	because of			
	Henrietta's experience of			
	makes me think of because			



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Primary and Secondary Sources Processing Sheet

Push factors are negative things of your home area that make a person want to move to a new area.

Examples of push factors for Henrietta, her husband Day, and Cousin Fred include:

Pull factors are positive aspects of staying in an area or moving to a new place. Examples of pull factors for Henrietta, her husband Day, and Cousin Fred include:

Primary and Secondary Source Review

Source 1: US Census Data- City Populations

- 1. Who is the author or cartographer of this map?
- 2. When was it created?
- 3. Who is the intended audience?
- 4. What message does the author seem to be sending others?
- 5. What is the website source for this map?
- 6. Why do you think this document was created ? What is its purpose?
- 7. Identify which push/pull factors this article mentions.

Source 2: "Transition in Agricultural Economy"

- 1. Who is the author?
- 2. When was it created?



3. Who is the intended audience?

4. What message does the author seem to be sending others?

- 5. From where did this source come?
- 6. Why do you think this document was created? What is its purpose?
- 7. Identify which push/pull/stay factors this article mentions.

Source 3 Title: "One Way Ticket" by Langston Hughes

- 1. Who is the author of this poem?
- 2. When was it created?
- 3. Who is the intended audience?
- 4. What message does the author seem to be sending others?
- 5. From where did this source come?
- 6. Why do you think this document was created? What is its purpose?
- 7. Identify which push/pull/stay factors this article mentions.

Source 4 Title: Letter to the Chicago Defender Newspaper

1. Who is the author of this letter?



- 2. When was it created?
- 3. Who was the intended audience?
- 4. What message does the author seem to be sending others?
- 5. From where did this source come?
- 6. Why do you predict this document was created, or what is its purpose?
- 7. Identify which push/pull/stay factors this article mentions:

Source 5 Title: "Says Lax Conditions Caused Race Riots"

- 1. Who is the author or creator?
- 2. When was it created?
- 3. Who was the intended audience?
- 4. What message does the author seem to be sending others?
- 5. From where did this source come?
- 6. Why do you predict this document was created, or what is its purpose?
- 7. Identify which push/pull/stay factors this article mentions:

Source 6 Title: "First Great Migration Map"

1. Who is the author or cartographer?



- 2. When was it created?
- 3. Who is the intended audience?
- 4. What message does the author seem to be sending others?
- 5. From where did this source come?
- 6. Why do you think this document was created? What is its purpose?
- 7. Identify which push/pull/stay factors this article mentions.



ANSWER KEY: Primary and Secondary Sources Processing Sheet

Push factors are negative things of your home area that make a person want to move to a new area.

Examples of push factors for Henrietta, her husband Day, and Cousin Fred include: smaller profits on tobacco, lack of new opportunities lack of work options, poverty, the need to support a growing family

Pull factors are positive aspects of staying in an area or moving to a new place.

Examples of pull factors for Henrietta, her husband Day, and Cousin Fred include: job availability, freedoms, economic strength

Source 1: US Census Data- City Populations

1. Who is the author or cartographer of this map? United States Census Bureau

2. When was it created? September 13th, 2012

3. Who is the intended audience? American citizens and government officials

4. What message does the author seem to be sending others? The populations of blacks/ African Americans increased in northern cities and decreased in southern areas between 1910 and 1970. The rate of change positively increased in the years 1940-1970.

5. What is the website source for this map? The census.gov website

6. Why do you think this document was created? What is its purpose? The purpose is to compare the First and Second part of the Great Migration to show the larger population changes between 1940-1970. The map contextualizes an effect of poor economic conditions in the South

7. Identify which push/pull factors this article mentions. Jim Crow laws in the South are a push factor. Poor economic conditions are a push factor. A lack of immigration in the North (WWII) left a labor shortage that was a pull factor.

Source 2: "Transition in Agricultural Economy"

1. Who is the author of this article? R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates

2. When was it created? 1996

3. Who is the intended audience? Unknown, likely for residents or others interested in Halifax County, Virginia

4. What message does the author seem to be sending others? Sharecropping was practiced by freed slaves in the South. A new "Bright" variety of tobacco helped growers in Virginia. Kentucky was better suited for tobacco farming the new Bright variety. Clover, Virginia did well with tobacco farming though the harvest increased and decreased over the years.

5. From where did this source come? The history of Halifax County, Virginia website

6. Why do you think this document was created? What is its purpose? This document was created to track trends in history in Halifax County, Virginia, from colonial times until WWII.

7. Identify which push/pull factors this article mentions. Pull to stay in home community: new Bright tobacco, tobacco production rebounded, and sharecropping provided a means of living, push factor: tobacco production declined



Source 3 Title: "One Way Ticket" by Langston Hughes

1. Who is the author of this poem? Langston Hughes

2. When was it created? 1949

3. Who is the intended audience? Readers of his poetry, American citizens

4. What message does the author seem to be sending others? Langston claims in his poem that it is time for him, and presumably other African Americans, to leave the South due to Jim Crow laws, lynchings, and people that are afraid of him and that he is afraid of.

5. From where did this source come? National Humanities Center archive

6. Why do you think this document was created? What is its purpose? This poem is meant to encourage people to leave the South and to realize how terrible conditions were.

7. Identify which push/pull factors this article mentions: push factors: lynchings, jim crow laws, fear

Source 4 Title: Letter to the Chicago Defender Newspaper

1. Who is the author of this letter? Unknown author from Lutcher, Louisiana

- 2. When was it created? May 13th, 1917
- 3. Who is the intended audience? An editor at the Chicago Defender Newspaper

4. What message does the author seem to be sending others? The author is seeking support from the newspaper editor to receive passes to travel north.

5. From where did this source come? The Journal of Negro History (note for students: the term negro is not socially acceptable and has been replaced with African American or Black, but at the time, it was an acceptable term), originally received by The Chicago Defender

6. Why do you think this document was created? What is its purpose? The document was created to ask for resources to support one person's migration, and potentially others to the North.

7. Identify which push/pull factors this article mentions. pull: advertisements about work in the North; push: do not have money to buy passes, difficult to make a living

Source 5 Title: "Says Lax Conditions Caused Race Riots"

1. Who is the author? Carl Sandburg

2. When was it created? July 28th, 1919

3. Who is the intended audience? Readers of The Chicago Daily News

4. What message does the author seem to be sending others? The author states a Dr Hall's opinion that the police should not have been enforcing the segregation line at the pool. He stated that churches sent parishioners home because of unrest. Sandburg included Dr. William's statement that the riots were caused by racial prejudice, and Charles E. Fox's opinion that both sides must intelligently come together and not use violence.

5. From where did this source come? The Chicago Daily News, sourced through History Matters website out of GMU.

6. Why do you think this document was created, or what is its purpose? The article's purpose was to inform readers about the riots, including multiple perspectives. Sandburg interviewed Black leaders for his article in 1919.



7. Identify which push/pull factors this article mentions. Pull to stay in home community: prejudice, violence, and the death of a young boy in the North

Source 6 Title: "First Great Migration Map"

1. Who is the author or cartographer? Michael Siegel

2. When was it created? 2005

3. Who is the intended audience? Readers of The Atlas of African American History and Politics

4. What message does the author seem to be sending others? The cartographer communicates the multiple routes and destinations that made up The Great Migration between 1916-1930.

5. From where did this source come? The Atlas of African American History and Politics

6. Why do you think this document was created? What is its purpose? This document was created to inform people about most used routes and destinations traveled by African Americans during the Great Migration.

7. Identify which push/pull this article mentions. none shown except for a result of the combinations of push/pull factors for an unknown number of African Americans.



Writing Prompt Options

Option 1: Think about the community where you live right now. If you had to choose, would you still live in this community or would you move elsewhere? Write a letter to a family member living in the United States or in another country explaining your perspective. You must include:

- a. References to at least two specific push factors
- b. References to at least two specific pull factors (the reasons to stay in present community or move elsewhere)
- c. One factor must address a financial risk
- d. One factor must address the manufacture of goods and services within different cultures, regions, and communities
- e. Explain your final decision to your family member as to whether or not you will stay or migrate. Make sure to use reasons and evidence to support your decision.

Option 2: Read about modern day migration from the Northern Triangle (Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala). <u>https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/central-americas-turbulent-northern-triangle</u> Pretend you are someone who lives in Honduras, El Salvador, or Guatemala (choose one!), and write a letter to a family member living in the United States explaining your perspective. You must include:

- a. References to at least two specific push factors
- b. References to at least two specific pull factors (the reasons to stay in home country or travel north to U.S.)
- c. One factor must address a financial risk
- d. One factor must address the manufacture of goods and services within different cultures, regions, and communities
- e. Explain your final decision to your family member as to whether or not you will stay or migrate. Make sure to use reasons and evidence to support your decision.

Option 3: Place yourself in Henrietta's shoes when she meets her Cousin Fred who returned from a northern city. Write a letter to a close friend or family member (such as to her sister, Gladys, who also lives in Clover, Virginia, or her husband, Day) explaining Henrietta's perspective on staying in Clover or traveling north. You must include:

- a. References to at least two specific push factors
- b. References to at least two specific pull factors (the reasons to stay in Clover or travel north)
- c. One factor must address a financial risk
- d. One factor must address the manufacture of goods and services within different cultures, regions, and communities
- e. Explain your final decision to your family member as to whether or not you will stay or migrate. Make sure to use reasons and evidence to support your decision.

Option 4: Create an option. You are free to propose a different theme for approval by the teacher as long as you still meet the criteria below in your theme.



- a. References to at least two specific push factors
- b. References to at least two specific pull factors
- c. References to at least one stay factors
- d. One factor must address a financial risk
- e. One factor must address the manufacture of goods and services within different cultures, regions, and communities
- f. Explain your final decision to your family member as to whether or not you will stay or migrate. Make sure to use reasons and evidence to support your decision.



Name: Date:						
Writing Prompt Outline						
What option have you chosen for your letter?						
From whose perspective will you be writing in the letter?						
Explain your purpose for writing the letter to the individual you chose. My introductory sentence will be						
	-					
What are two push factors that you will include in your letter: 1						
2						
What are two pull factors that you will include in your letter: 1						
2						
My final decision to stay or move isbecaus						
My closing sentence to wrap up the letter is						
Choose a letter closing such as Sincerely, Yours truly, Love, etc.),						
Your signature						



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Henrietta Lacks, a Black woman, was a 31-year-old mother of five when she died from cancer in 1951. Her name and memory live on in the form of a medical discovery. Her cancer cells have continued to live in labs around the world. Normally, cancer cells would divide a few times and die off. But Henrietta's just kept on dividing and dividing, just so long as they were fed the right mix of nutrients for them to grow.

Henrietta's cancer cells became the first human "cell line" to be established in a lab and was named HeLa (for the first 2 letters of her first and last name). HeLa cells allow scientist to conduct experiments that lead to medical advances. HeLa cells have been used to develop the polio vaccine and allowed researchers to study AIDS/HIV. Some 70,000 studies have been published involving the use of HeLa cells. At least two Nobel Prizes have been awarded to research using these cells.

When Henrietta attended a cancer clinic at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore in January 1951, the only hospital in the area to treat African Americans at that time, little did she realize that she would achieve a kind of immortality. Her surgeon, Howard Jones, took some cancer cells without her knowledge or consent. These cells were passed to George Otto Gey, a physician and cancer researcher in the same Baltimore hospital who was astonished by the ability of the cells to replicate in a lab setting.

Henrietta's family knew nothing about how the HeLa cells were being used in research. The story of Lacks' life and the resulting uproar over using her cells without her or her family's permission is the subject of "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks", a novel written by Rebecca Skloot. The Lacks family is suing Thermo Fisher Scientific, a large pharmaceutical corporation, who knowingly used the cells and unjustly profited off of the cells.

