

Coming to America

The country where you were born is called your *homeland*. People who leave their homeland and come to another country—such as America—are called *immigrants*. America has been called a “Nation of Immigrants.” Why? •

Everyone who lives in America now (except for Native Americans) once came from somewhere else. This may have happened a very long time ago in your family. Maybe the ones to come to America were your great-great-great-great-great grandparents. Or maybe you and your family arrived here recently.

Immigrants leave their homeland for • different reasons. Some came to America looking for religious freedom. Some came to escape war or hunger. Others came for adventure. But mostly, people came looking for a better life for themselves and their children.

The next time you have a coin, turn it over and look for the motto of the United States on the back. The words are in Latin, and they say *E pluribus unum*. They mean “Out of many, one.”

People came to America from all over the world, but together, we are one nation!

Strategy Here is a key word—*why*—that gives you a clue. The next part of this selection will probably answer that question.

Skill Here is the main idea of this paragraph—people came to America for many reasons. Now read on to find the supporting details.