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| *Focus Question:*  *What were the main reasons people migrated?* | **How did immigrants change developing America?**  Why People Migrated   * Most immigrants endured hardships to come to America. * The majority travelled by sea voyage. * British, Irish, German, Scandinavian, and Chinese immigrants flocked to America from Europe. * Population growth, agricultural changes, crop failures, the Industrial Revolution, and religious and political turmoil all drove immigrants. * The U.S. drew immigrants due to freedom, economic opportunity, and abundant land.   Scandinavians Seek Land   * Land sold in America for $1.25 an acre. * Many laws, especially Swedish and Scandinavian, tried to prevent emigration.   Germans Pursue Economic Opportunity   * Many Germans also moved to the Midwest. * Germans also settled in Texas, and in cities instead of farms. Both prospered. * German artisans opened up in the western frontier. * Germans were the largest immigrant group.   The Irish Flee Hunger   * A disease attacked the main Irish crop, potatoes, causing a famine. * Irish farmers moved to America, took on backbreaking jobs in the cities. * Irish competed with free blacks for jobs.   U.S. Cities Face Overcrowding   * People flocked to cities in hopes of making better money; cities’ populations grew immensely. * Many immigrant groups set up aid societies to help deal with the overcrowding and volunteer based people-control services we’re accustomed to today.   Some Americans Oppose Immigration   * Americans developed prejudice toward some immigrant groups. * Especially over religion. * The Know-Nothing Party formed as a result of this, called themselves “nativists.” * Worked to eliminate future immigration and reduce the culture spread.   Summary  Immigrants affected the early United States by competing with Americans for jobs. As well, they caused prejudice for Americans, and began to open fine artisan shops in the western frontier. |
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