

Part B: Summary Report

Write a short report on migration to New Zealand that summarises your findings from part A. In your summary report, you should:

- Identify the different perspectives that individuals /groups may have on migration
- Explain how the different perspectives have changed /not changed over time
- Describe and explain changing patterns of immigration to New Zealand over time
- Identify and explain the issues of reliability in ONE OR MORE of the sources

Your report may be presented as an essay OR a series of paragraphs.

From reading the preceding sources, it is fair to conclude that different perspectives regarding migration to New Zealand have existed in the past and still exist today. We can also see that over time there has been change and discontinuity in these perspectives, particularly those regarding Chinese immigration, as seen in sources 1 and 2. It is also interesting to note the stance of the government on this immigration and evidence of when this has been encouraged by 'assisted immigration' schemes in the past. By comparing the sources provided, we can gain an appreciation of their reliability, however, more data from each individual time period would be valuable for make further comparisons to ensure both reliability and accuracy. It is important to note, also, when a perspective is being communicated rather than factual data. A source in isolation is not a reliable method of researching. More evidence is required to back up the conclusions and summaries I will make in the body of this report.

Issues of reliability

Reliability of the source

From reading source one, we can see that early perspectives on Chinese immigration were positive. In the 1860s groups such as the 'Dunedin Chamber of Commerce' clearly encouraged Chinese workers to come to New Zealand. They were invaluable 'replacements' for 'European miners'. The Commerce's perspective and opinion of the Chinese was that they were 'hard-working', 'law-abiding' individuals that were good for New Zealand industry and economy.

Comprehensive

Discontinuity in this source can be seen when, in 1881, a 'unanimous' vote called for a 'ban on further Chinese migrants'. The group represented here are 'Europeans', some of which believed in a 'Chinese conspiracy to overrun New Zealand'. They were seen to be 'ignorant, slavish and treacherous', a huge contrast to the earlier celebration of the Chinese arrival in New Zealand for their positive attributes.

Changing patterns of immigration

We can see the result of this change in perspective as tax was introduced, '£10 for each Chinese person' and the new ratio of Chinese to cargo that could legally enter New Zealand. The English reading test requirement in addition would have further discouraged the Chinese from migration to New Zealand.

In source two, we can see that, even 30 years later, there are still conflicting opinions regarding 'New Zealand's Asian population'. While the perspective of one politician shows a negative stance as he spoke of the 'open door policy' resulting in inundation of people that would not 'integrate into our society' had little factual backing other than 'statistics'

Perceptive response - detailed relevant evidence

Valid piece of information
 showing a '3.4% per year increase' in the Asian population. His opinion of Asians was that they would create 'mini-societies' leading to 'division' and 'resentment', however this is clearly not backed with factual evidence.

Different perspectives on migration

A conflicting perspective shows that other politicians resented such statements regarding Asians in New Zealand. These politicians used evidence to show that Asians are, in fact, 'disproportionately successful' in New Zealand society. This shows that conflicting opinions still exist in New Zealand today. To ensure the reliability of this representation, a public poll would be useful. This would enable us to gauge the views of the public and how many would support each side of the debate.

explains

Explained pieces of information

We can see discontinuity in opinion as Asian immigrants go from being encouraged in '1860' to discouraged in '1881' to conflicting opinions in '2010'. The perspectives of New Zealanders have not been consistent.

Detailed relevant evidence

Changed perspective

From viewing source 3 we can see that, leading up to World War I, there have been periods of both low immigration and peaks of high immigration. The overall trend, however, particularly from 1875-1914 has been an increase in immigration total, and a relatively steady number of people entering New Zealand. The patterns in immigration in New Zealand show inconsistency at times spiking due to 'Assisted immigration' and at other times dropping.

Comparison of perspectives - between two sets of sources

The reliability of sources 3 and 4 can be best gaged by the reference in source 3, and the information provided in source 4. I would conclude that source 3 is reliable and unbiased because of its origin from the 'Ministry of Culture and Heritage', yet I stand to my understanding that all sources should be supported by a range of others to be believed reliable. From source 1, we can see that the graph is in agreement to perspectives shown over time, and this helps assure us of its validity. By using other sources in concordance we can better ensure accuracy and avoid bias that can permeate historical sources. I conclude that source 4 also is reliable, as it has its contact recorded as 'New Zealand Government Offices' and advertises 'Assisted immigration' which we have seen evidence of in other sources. This source shows the intended target individuals of the New Zealand Government immigration policy as they attempted to attract young, 'under 30', 'single' individuals, who were trained and skilled workers with the potential to prove New Zealand industry and economy.

Valid and perceptive comment

Explained reliability in detail

Comparison of perspectives - within sources