

Read

A Read the article. What kinds of places do people move to in China?

B Read the article again. Why did people in China move from rural areas to the cities? Remember, the main idea is the most important thing in the text. Details help you understand the main idea.

People On the Move

Over the past 25 years, large numbers of people in China have moved to new places. Some moved from **rural areas** to **urban areas**. Others moved to other **countries** outside of China. Why are all these Chinese people moving? There are several reasons.

Move from rural areas to the cities

Before the 1980s, few people in China moved from one place to another. It was not allowed. But in the mid-1980s, the rules began to change. Industry in China was growing. More and more products were made in **factories** in the cities, so many people from rural areas moved to the cities. They wanted to work in the factories. They wanted a better life. They thought they could find it in the cities. Today, more than one-half of the people in China live in urban areas.



Move from China to other countries

In the 1960s, some Chinese people began to move out of rural China to Southeast Asia. In the 1980s many Chinese students moved to the U.S. and the U.K. to study at a **university**. When they finished school, they got jobs in places like **hospitals** and big companies. By the year 2000, there were 33 million Chinese people living outside of China. Most of these people moved to find better jobs and a better life for themselves and their families.

Think

What's the main idea of this paragraph?

Think

What's the main idea of this paragraph? What details help you understand?

Understand

Comprehension

A Why do some people move from a rural area to a city, while others move to other countries?

B What is the main idea of the article? Check (✓) the correct answer.

a Chinese people moved to the suburbs because it is quieter there than in the cities.

b Chinese people moved to the cities because cities are more exciting.

c Chinese people moved to new places looking for a better life.

Read each paragraph. Write the main idea and two details in the graphic organizers below.

Paragraph 1 – Main Idea

Chinese people move from
rural areas to the cities.

Detail 1

Detail 2

They want
a better life.

Paragraph 2 – Main Idea

Detail 1

Detail 2

C Words in Context Read and write.

belongings immigrant move abroad experiences

- 1 Chinese people move from China to North America. They _____.
- 2 When people move, they have to pack up all their _____.
- 3 People expect to have new _____ in their new homes.
- 4 A person who moves from China to the U.K. is an _____.