



Tijuana = PUSH FACTORS basic dirty, looks like a slum, little shops selling rugs and clothes and cigars, not very good weather, quite arid, lots of crime (drug dealing), not very stable housing, (little shacks made of iron or copper), not very many jobs, no cars ride on donkeys, very busy place with its border crossings.

Las Vegas = PULL FACTORS expensive, good weather, big shops and a shopping centre, good weather, tourist attractions.

Creative Writing Tijuana to Las Vegas GCSE Geography by Victoria Hendry
YB10

Hi my name is Juanita Gomez and I am one of the many desperate citizens in Tijuana who want to immigrate to the USA and live the 'American dream' in Las Vegas. I want to move voluntarily because I am fed up of earning very little money and living on the basic necessities. I feel this would be the right time to move and I could earn more money in Las Vegas maybe starting up a different business permanently.

So today is the day I will start to make a move for my 'American dream'. I know I cannot cross the border legally so I will have to make a plan of my sneaky route to get to Las Vegas. I started to think of the back roads and the risks I will have to take but I'm sure it will be worth it in the long run. I don't like my house and I have a family of five and they are getting bored of staying in our 'shack' as I feel the streets in Tijuana aren't safe as the town is riddled full of crime as drug dealing happens mainly in our village and I don't want my children to be involved in that.

I don't own a car and I will have to ride on three donkeys with my husband and two children. This will take a long time and we will be risking our lives and all of our possessions, as we will have to camp out in various places to rest. I know I will not like this bit of the journey and with the ground being very dry and dusty it will make it even harder to travel and sleep on.

A few days later we start to see signs for America and we start to get excited that all our hard work so far has paid off. But what we didn't realise is that as we got closer and closer nearer the sign the border control police were coming towards us. I hope we don't get caught because they won't let you out of the country for a number of years and nobody but especially use for what we have given to Mexico and worked so hard for 20 years. This also wouldn't look good when you finally get rid of the bad reputation, and how will the Americans think and treat us eventually?

Thankfully they didn't catch us and we continued our journey 20 miles and we had nearly reached our destination but we had crossed the border so we are now in AMERICA!!! After a good night's sleep in a motel we had reached Las Vegas by lunchtime and we were amazed by some of the major differences and similarities.

It is in a desert and some parts are dry like in Tijuana but overall it has many job opportunities for both of us, good schools with a stable education for the children and has many tourist attractions like boxing fights and the Big Shot Tower at the top of the Stratosphere Hotel. The best thing is the weather is sunny most of the year and it gets very little rain as it is in a desert.

Within our first week there we sent off for American passports and citizen papers to be Americans and we have been looking for school placements and an empty shop to start a new business of setting up an Agency for the Mexican immigrants that have done what we did and if they are finding it hard to start a business or live in America we can help them. This was one of the happiest times of our lives and we will never regret it.

