

Candidate 1 evidence

Question: To what extent was poverty the main reason that Irish people immigrated to Scotland during 1830 to 1939?

Plan

5 To what extent was poverty the main reason that Irish people immigrated to Scotland during 1830-1939?

- Poverty
- potato famine
- job opportunities/close/cheap

Quote 1:

10 In the years that followed the great famine of 1845, the Irish immigrant to Scotland was a poor, starving peasant escaping hunger.

Quote 2:

15 Poverty was the main reason Irish people were forced to come to Scotland. 'Migration and Empire, 1830-1939' written by Simon and Claire Wood.

1. Most Irish people did not have enough money to pay rent, so were kicked off their land by landlords and decided to immigrate to Scotland.
2. The potato famine caused Irish to come to Scotland because after the potato crop was destroyed by blight, the Irish starved as they depended on this crop. It also meant that the Irish could not pay their rent and were evicted from their homes by land owners.
3. Irish industry was not growing strongly and so did not provide work. This is why the Irish came to Scotland for jobs.

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Assignment

During 1830-1939 the Irish immigrated to different countries due to poor living conditions. They immigrated to countries such as the United States and Canada, but the most popular country to immigrate to was Scotland. The Irish immigrated to Scotland for countless reasons such as the potato famine and job opportunities but the main reason for Irish emigration was poverty.

In the 19th century many people in Ireland were living in poverty. This was because at this time a lot of the Irish didn't have enough money to pay for rent. Landlords at this time were very strict and would have families evicted immediately via the police or thugs. The Irish decided to emigrate to Scotland as there was cheaper housing but the landlords there were just as powerful. As a lot of people in Ireland were out of jobs at this point, this caused them not to be able to keep up with paying the rent. Poverty was the main reason Irish people were forced to come to Scotland. 'Migration and Empire, 1830-1939' written by Simon and Claire Wood.

A second reason for Irish immigration to Scotland was the potato famine. The potato famine was when the potato crop in Ireland was destroyed by blight. This caused the Irish to starve as this was their main food source. This also caused many of the Irish to lose their jobs as potato crop farming was one of the most popular jobs to have. Since this caused many people to lose their jobs, it also meant that a lot of people weren't earning any money so therefore were not able to pay their rent and was starving at the same time. The Irish depended on this crop and because of the potato blight this all led to landlords evicting many families out of their homes. "In the years that followed the great famine of 1845, the Irish immigrant that came to Scotland was a poor, starving peasant escaping hunger."

The third reason for Irish immigration to Scotland was job opportunities. In the 19th century and the early 20th century, the industry in Ireland was not growing strongly and so did not provide work. This forced many Irish to come to Scotland for better job opportunities. A lot of Ireland wanted to immigrate to the United States during this time but the travel cost was too expensive and the journey was too long. That is why Scotland was a more popular option as the travel was very cheap and cause the country was so close to Ireland. The jobs that were available in Scotland were mostly shipbuilding and railway building etc. As Irish people were already immigrating to Scotland because they were escaping hunger and poverty, it just made sense for them to definitely immigrate to Scotland because there were also a lot of job opportunities there also.

Overall, even though there were many good reasons for the Irish immigrating to Scotland such as job opportunities and the potato famine caused a lot of people to be out of work, it was also close and it was also cheap. Scotland had more jobs. The potato famine causing starvation and home eviction threw out the people meaning that they were losing their jobs. Poverty caused loss of jobs, home eviction and starvation altogether as they did not have the money to keep up with these things.