

CAPSTONE REFLECTION

UNIT 2 • POPULATION

NAME _____

DATE _____

STAKEHOLDER ROLE _____

Directions. You spent four weeks studying how people move, why cities grow unevenly, and how government policy shapes both. Then you put it into action. Now show what stuck. Answer all four prompts in your own words. Be specific — name the people, places, and decisions that shaped your thinking.

01 THE PERSONAL

DAYS 1-4 • PUSH & PULL

Tell the story of a real person — yourself, a family member, or someone in your community — who moved. What pushed them? What pulled them? What did they leave behind, and what did they gain?

3-5 sentences. Use the words push factor and pull factor.

02 THE PATTERN

DAYS 5-8 • SPATIAL INEQUALITY

Cities don't grow evenly. Some streets get fixed; others get forgotten. Pick one example of spatial inequality you noticed during this unit — from your own city, your simulation, or a case study. Who won? Who lost? Why?

3-5 sentences. Be concrete: name a specific group or place.

03 THE POLICY

DAYS 9-16 • SYSTEMS & MIGRATION

Pick one government policy you studied or proposed this unit. Explain what it was designed to do — and one thing it does NOT solve. Why is no policy ever a perfect answer?

3-5 sentences. Push yourself to name the trade-off.

04 THE BIG QUESTION

DAYS 17-20 • SYNTHESIS

If you were on a real city council tomorrow, and a developer brought a proposal to your neighborhood — what would you do differently than the council in the simulation? What would you keep the same?

5-7 sentences. This is your closing argument. Be honest, specific, and brave.

HOW IT'S GRADED

RUBRIC • 20 POINTS TOTAL

Each prompt is worth 5 points. You earn full credit when you connect the unit's vocabulary to specific real-world or simulation evidence – not just feelings or opinions.

PROMPT	5 – MASTERY	3 – DEVELOPING	1 – BEGINNING
The personal push & pull	Tells a specific story with named factors. Uses "push" and "pull" correctly.	Tells a story but factors are vague or only one side is shown.	No specific story; vocabulary missing or used incorrectly.
The pattern spatial inequality	Names a specific place or group, identifies winner & loser, explains the cause.	Identifies inequality but example is general or one side missing.	Describes a problem without showing it's spatial or unequal.
The policy systems & migration	Names a real policy, explains intent AND a real limitation. Acknowledges trade-off.	Names policy and intent but trade-off is weak or generic.	Vague reference to "rules" or "the government." No trade-off named.
The big question synthesis	Specific, brave, and grounded. Cites evidence from simulation OR real life. Distinguishes "keep" vs "change."	Takes a position but lacks evidence or doesn't address both halves.	General or evasive. Doesn't reference the simulation or real council work.

★ STRETCH CHALLENGE • OPTIONAL BONUS +2

Tie it together

In one final sentence at the bottom of page 1, write the single most important thing you learned this unit – about cities, about people, or about yourself. No vocabulary required. Just truth.