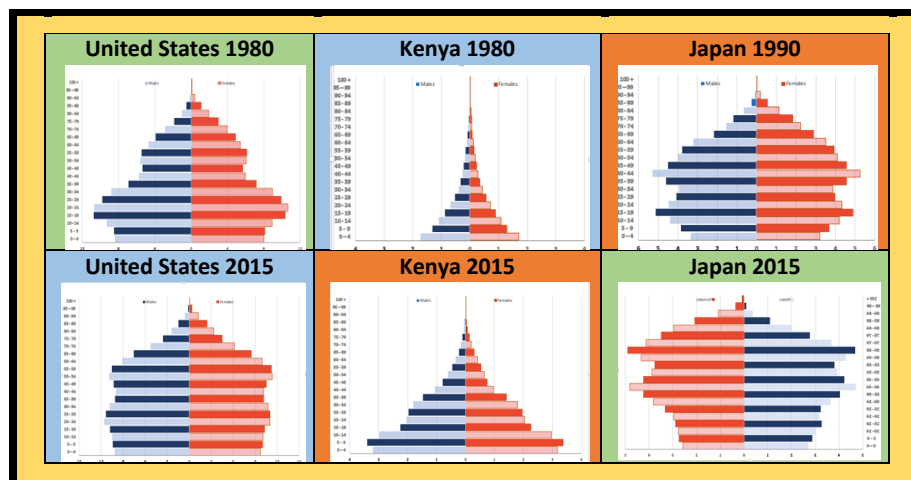


## Unit 2

### Looking Back



### Introduction

Kristin, Raphine and Hana are part of the same age group. While Raphine finds most of the people in his country younger and Hana finds most of the people older, Kristin finds most of the people older or younger. Each of them belongs to an age group that plays a major role in telling the stories of their countries. Although each of them was 36 years old at the start of 2015, the population pyramid graphs of their countries tell different stories over time.

The United States, Kenya, and Japan experienced events that resulted in their unique shapes. Natural disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, or unusual drought or flood conditions resulted in a loss of life that reshaped each population distribution for decades. Other events, such as major wars, also decreased each country's population and reshaped the population distribution reflected in the population pyramid graphs. In the same way, periods of relative peace and positive economic conditions increase a country's population that is also evident in a country's past and current shape.

"Looking Back" is more than just a reflection of how things have changed. It is identifying those events that resulted in increasing or decreasing the population in ways that are evident in each country's past and current shape. This short unit looks back at each of our countries through the pyramid graphs and the histograms that tell us where the generation that includes Kristin, Raphine, and Hana began or made their impact.