

Name: _____

Period: ____

A VOICE FROM THE PAST

“We men from Kwangtung... were born in a time of prosperity and were good people. We lived in towns and were taught right from wrong. But because of continuous flooding in our area, we could not get a grain of rice to eat even if we worked hard in the fields, and we could not engage in business because we lacked the funds (\$). As a result we all joined the bandits.

Not long ago we came to Kwangsi to try to make a living. We met others who had come from our hometowns. We felt sorry for each other because of our sad situation, and together we began to imitate outlaws in order to relieve our hungry stomachs.... No one forced us to join the outlaws. We were driven to join them because we were desperate. Given the chance, we would have returned gladly to our normal way of life.”

Draw a picture depicting the events of this selection.