



## EXAM PAPERS PRACTICE

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Level: CIE IGCSE Geography

Subject: Geography

Topic: IGCSE Geography

Type: Mark Scheme

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Geography CIE IGCSE

To be used for all exam preparation for 2025+

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# GEOGRAPHY

# IGCSE

## Key skills

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## Mark Scheme Paper 1

### Answer 1

Indicative content	General Guidance
<p>Population growth increases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Falling / low death rates / less die</li><li>• Longer life expectancy</li><li>• Falling infant mortality / more babies survive</li><li>• Better medicines/hospitals</li><li>• Improved diets/access to more nutritious foods</li><li>• Better access to clean water</li><li>• Better access to sanitation</li><li>• Better education</li><li>• Better job opportunities / higher pay attracts more migrants</li></ul> <p>Population growth slows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Falling birth rates / less babies born</li><li>• Children no longer needed for labour</li><li>• Better access to contraception</li><li>• More education about family planning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The command word 'explain' means to give reasons why increased economic growth might affect rates of population growth</li><li>• Your answer should give at least two reasons that economic growth can lead to changes in population growth rates and these answers should be explained</li></ul>

Model Answer	Commentary
<p>Increased economic growth can lead to lower population growth because people start to have fewer children [1] as infant mortality decreases [1] and children are no longer needed to work on the family farm [1]. It can also lead to higher population growth as people live longer [1] due to better medical care [1].</p>	<p><b>Marks 5/5</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This is one possible way to answer this question – your answer does not have to be exactly the same</li><li>• This answer includes two reasons for population change and then developed answers to explain how these are linked to economic growth</li></ul>



## Answer 2

(i)

Ideas such as:

Due to changes in BR and DR/growth occurs when BR is higher than DR/decrease occurs when DR is higher than BR [1]

- After the impact of changes in birth and death rates are identified it needs to be supported with evidence from the graph

Stage 1 small changes in DR while BR remains the same/both DR and BR stay the same/high BR and DR [1]

Stage 2 BR stays same but DR falls/BR higher than DR [1]

Stage 3 BR falls but DR stays the same [1]

Stage 4 DR stays the same but small changes in BR/both DR and BR stay the same/low BR and DR [1]



- Answer needs to state when growth and decrease of population occurs. This will gain 1 mark the additional marks will be gained by stating what happens to the birth and death rates in the different stages
- To achieve full marks the answer needs to make links between the birth rate (BR) and death rate (DR)
- No marks will be awarded for reasons for the changes

(ii)

Ideas such as;

Lack of /don't use/cannot afford contraception [1]

Lack of education about contraception/about problems of large families [1]

Children needed for work/to earn money/for farming; needed to look after elderly/no pensions [1]

Children needed to do household chores or examples – fetching wood/water, cleaning house, looking after younger children [1]

Traditional views about large families/polygamy/families want a male child [1]

Religious/cultural views on contraception/abortion/family size [1]

High infant mortality/they have more babies so some will survive [1]

Early marriages/teenage pregnancy [1]

Lack of emancipation for women/women don't have careers/lack of education for women [1]

No access to abortion [1]

- It is important in this answer to ensure that the reasons you give are for LEDCs and not MEDCs
- This can be answered as four separate points
- Make sure that ideas are not repeated, for example family planning is regarded as the same as contraception in the mark scheme so if you write about both you will only get 1 mark



### Answer 3

- (i) Any four from ideas such as:
- Government restricted family size/restricted number of children by the use of two-child limit [1]
  - People fined/had land taken off them/lost income if they did not follow the policy [1]
  - Contraception/abortions made available or made cheaper [1]
  - Campaigns for people to use contraception/abortions [1]
  - People concentrating on careers [1]
  - Education of women [1]
  - Education about family planning [1]
  - Later marriages [1]
  - Improvement of infant healthcare/lower Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) [1]
  - Pensions [1]
  - Mechanisation of farms/less agricultural work/more emphasis on secondary and tertiary sector [1]
- Although there is some information in the sources you will be reliant on your knowledge of the impact of population policies to achieve full marks for this question
  - Ensure that only strategies which will decrease birth rates are included - **anti-natalist policies**



(ii) Any five from ideas such as:

They have fallen below replacement level/population decline/death rates higher than birth rates [1]

Shortage of workers/shortage of working class/no one to care for the elderly/ shortage of people to exploit the resources [1]

Low level of production/businesses fail [1]

Difficult to defend country [1]

Ageing population/increase in elderly people/lots of old dependents [1]

Lack of innovation [1]

Closure of schools/nurseries [1]

Need to raise more taxes/fewer tax payers/burden on economically active [1]

Need to pay more pensions/provide more care homes/provide healthcare for the elderly [1]

Economic decline/reduces the economy/less economically active [1]

Need to encourage migration [1]

- It is important in this answer to ensure that it is only issues facing MEDCs
- As birth rates fall in countries such as Italy and Japan the number of children and then working age population decreases, whereas the number of retired people increases
- This is happening in MEDCs where life expectancy is higher exacerbating the issue

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#### Answer 4

Ideas such as:

Low use/lack of/lack of access to contraception/cannot afford contraception/family planning [1]

Lack of knowledge of/information about contraception/impacts of large families [1]

Religious issues which encourage large families/object to use of contraceptives [1]

Traditionally people want male heirs [1]

Children are often used to work in fields/send out to work from a young age/work in family business/at home/economic assets [1]

Children look after elderly relatives/no pensions available [1]

High infant mortality rate/many people have more babies in case other children do not survive [1]

Women not educated/don't have careers [1]

Emancipation/womens rights [1]

Polygamy [1]

- It is important in this answer to ensure that the reasons you give are for LEDCs and not MEDCs
- This can be answered with five separate points
- Make sure that ideas are not repeated, for example family planning is regarded as the same as contraception in the mark scheme so if you write about both you will only get 1 mark



### Answer 5

Ideas such as:

Less births/reduction in birth rate [1]

Use/access to/can afford contraception [1]

People more educated about using contraception/family planning [1]

People have career/more women will be educated [1]

Children are expensive [1]

Government policy to reduce birth rate [1]

More deaths/increase in death rate [1]

Obesity/heart disease [1]

Drug cartels/murder [1]

Alcohol related deaths [1]

AIDS/HIV [1]

War/civil war [1]

- The focus of this question is natural growth rate which means that factors which affect the birth rate and death rate need to be included
- The question is asking specifically about natural population growth rate in Mexico this means that factors referring to high death rate such as lack of hospitals/sanitation or unclean water will not be awarded marks

### Answer 6

Ideas such as:

Rapid population growth [1]

High/increasing birth rates [1]

Lack of contraception/knowledge about contraception/cannot afford contraception/religions discourage use of contraception [1]

People want children to help in the home/look after siblings/to fetch water/collect wood [1]

Or to go out and earn money/to work/for labour/work on farms [1]

Or to look after them/take care of them in old age [1]

Tradition/cultural reasons/religious beliefs for large family [1]

Women not working/do not have careers [1]





High infant mortality [1] which leads people to have more children increasing population growth [Dev]

Early marriage [1]

Lack of abortion [1]

Falling death rates/longer life expectancy [1]

Improving health care/more doctors/more medicines [1]

Better water supply/sanitation [1]

Better food supply/diet [1] which reduces the death rate and increases population growth [Dev]

Positive net migration/large amounts/more of immigration [1]

Few mineral deposits/wood/fuel [1]

Mineral deposits/wood/fuel becoming exhausted/running out; Aridity/lack of water/low rainfall [1]

Poor soils/low crop yields [1] which means there is a shortage of food to feed the population [Dev]

Lack of land to farm [1]

- Answers to this question can either be five separate points or a couple of points which are developed [Dev]
- The answers can focus on factors which increase the population, increasing the pressure on resources and/or the lack of resources both of which lead to **overpopulation**

## Answer 7

Ideas such as:

Lack of housing/squatter settlements/homeless [1]

Unemployment/no work/low pay/exploitation [1]

Pressure on/lack of health care/hospitals etc [1]

Pressure on/lack of education/schools [1]

Inadequate (clean) water supply [1] which leads to the spread of disease [Dev]

Power cuts/outages/not enough electricity [1]



Traffic congestion/lots of traffic [1] which leads to increased air pollution [Dev]

Air pollution/water pollution [1]

Lack of food/famine [1]

Poverty [1] which leads to poor diet/housing [Dev]

Poor sanitation/hygiene/lack of toilets [1]

Specified crime [1]

People live close together spreading disease/so hard to control disease [1]

Lack of recreational areas [1]

Specified impact on surrounding natural environment, e.g. deforestation, loss of habitat, etc.

[MAX1]

- This question can be answered either as 5 single points or points which are then developed into a more detailed answer [Dev]

### Answer 8

Ideas such as:

Falling/low death rates/less die [1]

Longer life expectancy/more elderly people [1]

More doctors/more medicines/hospitals/vaccinations [1]

Falling infant mortality/more babies survive/no need to have babies in case some don't survive [1]

Less babies born/have fewer children/birth rate decreases [1]

People can survive diseases/treat diseases [1]

- This question requires specific information about how changes can lead to population growth, it is not enough to say 'better health care' you need to explain how the health care is better, for example, increased vaccinations or more doctors
- The question specifically asks about healthcare so it is important not to answer with things like improved 'water supply' as these are not related to health care



## Answer 9

Ideas such as:

Unemployment [1] so high rates of crime/poverty [Dev]

Lack of/poor quality housing/squatter settlements/overcrowded houses [1]

High housing/land prices [1]

Lack of land to grow crops [1]

Disease spreads quickly [1]

Pressure on education/lack of schools [1]

Pressure on health care/lack of hospitals etc [1]

Shortage of water [1]

Have to drink polluted water [1]

Cholera or other example [1]

Shortage of food [1]

Lack of electricity/fuelwood [1]

Difficulties of providing good sanitation [1]

Traffic congestion [1]

Air pollution [1] Causes breathing difficulties/asthma [Dev]

- In this answer you do not have to give specific information regarding Tanzania your answer can be based on your own knowledge of other places which are overpopulated
- You will have learnt a case of an overpopulated place - you can also use the example in the revision notes
- Overpopulation occurs when there are more people than the available resources can support so answers should refer to any issue that the lack of resources may cause
- The answer can be in 5 separate points or a couple of points which are then developed



## Paper 2

### Answer 1

(i)

Indicative content	General Guidance
<p>Any four from ideas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of access to contraception</li><li>• High child mortality rates</li><li>• Lack of education for women</li><li>• Lack of education about family planning</li><li>• Earlier marriages</li><li>• Dependence on farming means children are needed to work</li><li>• Cultures/religions might encourage more children</li><li>• Government policies might encourage more births / larger families</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The command word 'suggest' requires you to apply your knowledge and understanding to outline relevant possible reasons for birth rates being higher in LEDCs such as Angola</li><li>• In this answer one reason is awarded one mark so four reasons are required</li></ul>

Model Answer	Commentary
<p>LEDCs have higher birth rates because people might not be able to get access contraception [1], or because they haven't been taught about how and why to use contraception [1]. In LEDCs, people tend to get married at a younger age [1] and a lack of education for women may result in higher birth rates [1].</p>	<p><b>Marks 4/4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This is one possible way to answer this question – your answer does not have to be exactly the same</li><li>• The answer includes four separate reasons for higher birth rates</li></ul>



(ii)

Indicative content	General Guidance
<p>Any four ideas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Population is shrinking/decreasing [1]</li><li>• Birth rates are lower than death rates / natural population decrease [1]</li><li>• Low birth rates or reason for low birth rates / few children born [1]</li><li>• High death rates or reason for high death rates / low life expectancy [1]</li><li>• Little / no immigration / high rates of emigration / negative net migration [1]</li><li>• Negative physical factor which discourages people from living there e.g. lack of water supplies, extreme temperatures [1]</li><li>• Negative human factor which discourages people from living there e.g. poor transport/communications</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The command word 'explain' means to give reasons why some countries become under-populated</li><li>• In this answer one reason is awarded one mark so four reasons are required</li></ul>

Model Answer	Commentary
<p>A country might become underpopulated if there are more deaths than births. [1] This would mean that the population is decreasing. [1] There may also be a large number of people migrating away from the country [1] because the climate is inhospitable, e.g. too cold [1].</p>	<p><b>Marks 4/4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This is one possible way to answer this question – your answer does not have to be exactly the same</li><li>• The answer includes four separate reasons for underpopulation</li></ul>



Answer 2

Indicative content	General Guidance
<p>Any four ideas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Poor access to medicine/healthcare/vaccinations</li><li>• Lack of doctors/nurses</li><li>• Food shortages/malnutrition</li><li>• Lack of access to clean water</li><li>• Lack of sanitation / poor hygiene</li><li>• More infectious diseases/malaria/cholera</li><li>• Poor/overcrowded living conditions</li><li>• Poor education about healthcare/disease/diet</li><li>• Lack of pensions for the elderly</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The command word 'suggest' requires you to apply your knowledge and understanding to outline relevant possible reasons for life expectancy being lower in LEDCs</li><li>• The answer should contain four ideas</li></ul>

Model Answer	Commentary
<p>In LEDCs, people are more likely to lack access to clean water [1] and sanitation [1]. This means that waterborne diseases such as cholera are more common [1]. In addition, people are more likely to live in poor and overcrowded housing [1] meaning that infectious diseases spread more easily.</p>	<p><b>Marks 4/4</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This is one possible way to answer this question – your answer does not have to be exactly the same</li><li>• This answer gives four reasons for lower life expectancy</li></ul>