

Class 8 Subject: Geography. Chapter2 -Population Dynamics

A. Answer the following questions...

1. Define the term 'population'.

Answer: The term 'population' refers to all the people who live in a particular area, city or country.

Question 2. Define population density.

Answer: Population density refers to the number of people living per unit area (i. e., the number of persons in one sq km area or per square mile).

Question 3. Distinguish between immigration and emigration.

Answer: Immigration is the process of coming to live permanently in another country that is not one's own.

Emigration is the process of leaving one country to go and live permanently in another country.

Question 4. Write any two causes of overpopulation ?

Answer: Causes of overpopulation are : 1. Immigration – When people come from another country. 2. Increased birth rate – due to better medical facilities 3. Decreased death rate – due to better medical facilities. 4. Better medical facilities 5. Lack of family planning.

Question 5. Mention any two factors that cause population growth in a developed country.

Answer: In the developed countries of the world, the population increased earlier due to : 1. Economic growth and prosperity as a result of industrialization. 2. Improved medical techniques and health care facilities. 3. Immigration because of better job opportunities and better living conditions.

Question 6. Mention any two factors that cause population growth in a developing country.

Answer: In developing countries of the world, rapid increase in population was due to : 1. Modern medical techniques which increased the lifespan of the people. 2. Ignorance of the masses. 3. Traditional beliefs, customs and outlook of people.

Question 7. What do the rural and urban population consist of ? Answer: The rural population consists of the people residing in villages. The urban population consists of the people living in towns and cities.

Question 8. What do you understand by the term 'working population'?

Answer: The section of the population between 14 – 60 years of age is considered to be the working population. They are willing and eligible to work and considered an asset for a country as it means high availability of labour for the development of the

Question 9. Write a note on the distribution of population in the world.

Answer: At present, the population of the world stands at 7.35 billion. China has the largest population in the world with over 1.3 billion people, followed by India, with over 1.2 billion

people, the USA with over 321 million people and Indonesia with over 257 million people. Island nations of the Pacific Ocean have populations of just a few thousand. Continent-wise, Asia has the largest population with over 4.4 billion people, followed by Africa with 1.18 billion people. Europe has over 738 million people, North America has over 573 million people, South America has over 418 million people and Oceania (Australia, New Zealand, Pacific Islands of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, Samoa, etc) has over 3'9 million people)

Question 10. Briefly explain any four factors that affect the population of a place.

Answer: There are various factors that affect the population of a place such as birth rate, death rate, immigration, emigration, influx of refugees, agricultural development, urbanization, education, topography and climate of a place, employment opportunities, etc. In developed countries, due to improvements in medical facilities, the death rates have reduced and the lifespan of the people have increased resulting in increase in population.

Question 11. What is the impact of overpopulation ?

Answer: Impact of Overpopulation : 1. Adverse effect on the environment : Higher population consumes more natural resources like fresh water, arable land and mineral resources. This leads to deforestation, scarcity of water, extinction of plants and animals, depletion of fossil fuels, pollution, global warming. 2. Adverse effect on economy : Higher population leads to unemployment, overcrowding, shortage of food, fuel, minerals and other resources. This leads to poor quality of education, low per capita income, inflation, less productivity and slow economic growth of the country. 3. Poor quality of life : There is not enough affordable food, shelter and education. People live in congested areas with poor sanitary conditions leading to spread of diseases, poverty and rise in crime rate.

Question 12. Write the positive as well as negative effects of under population.

Answer: Under population has several positive effects : 1. There are sufficient employment opportunities for everyone. 2. There are fewer instances of overcrowding. 3. There are lower levels of poverty. 4. There are adequate educational, medical and other facilities to meet everyone's needs. 5. There are sufficient natural resources to meet the requirements of the population. 6. There is lesser pressure on the environment, and hence, lower rates of environmental degradation. However, there are also some negative effects of under population : 1. The lack of adequate labour leads to low productivity. 2. In some instances, a higher proportion of the population is either too young or too old to work. 3. There are lesser taxpayers, leading to low income for the government. 4. There are not enough people to develop the natural resources of the country.

Question 13. Write the main differences between rural and urban populations.

Answer: Rural Population 1. It refers to people living in villages. 2. The population density in rural areas is low. 3. The people do primary activities like farming, fishing, mining etc. 4. The educational and medical facilities are not very highly developed. 5. Poor standards of transport and communication there. 6. Village communities are usually closely-knit with strong emphasis on culture and traditions.

Urban Population 1. It refers to people living in towns and cities. 2. The population density in urban areas is generally high. 3. The people do secondary and tertiary activities like trade, transport, services, etc.

4. The educational and medical facilities are highly developed. 5. Better standards of transport and communication. 6. The socio-cultural ties between people in cities are not as strong as in villages.

Question 14. What is sex ratio ? What is the meaning of favourable and unfavourable sex ratios ? Answer: Sex-ratio means the number of females per 1000 males in a given population. In India, sex ratio is calculated in terms of females per 1000 males. The formula to calculate the sex ratio is an important characteristic that helps us to study the population of a given area. For example, when we say that the sex ratio in India is 940, it means that there are 940 girls for every 1000 boys.

Favourable sex ratio: The sex ratio is considered favourable if there is an equal or higher number of females per 1000 males in the population. For example, Latvia in Europe has the highest sex ratio with 1179 females for every 1000 males. Unfavourable sex ratio : An unfavourable sex ratio means that there is a lower number of females per 1000 males in the population. Practices like female foeticide (killing of girls in the womb), female infanticide (killing of girls when they are babies) and domestic violence towards women due to gender discrimination lead to unfavourable sex ratio. For examples, countries like India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, China and Saudi Arabia have low sex ratio.

Question 15. Define the following 1. Birth rate 2. Death rate 3. Life expectancy 4. Family planning 5. Demography 6. Overpopulation Answer: 1. Birth rate — It is the number of live births per year per 1000 of the population.

2. Death rate — the average number of deaths per 1000 people in the total population.

3. Life expectancy — It is the number of years that a person is likely to live. It is calculated as the average life span of a population.

4. Family planning — It is the process of controlling the number of children that a person has and the intervals between their births.

5. Demography — It refers to the study of population of a place especially of humans, based on physical, socio-cultural and economic factors such as age and sex, language, religion, economic status, literacy, marital status, etc.

6. Overpopulation — It is an undesirable condition where the number of people in a given area exceeds the availability of resources to meet the needs of all the people. In an over-populated environment, the number of people might be more than the available essential materials for survival like food, clothes, water, shelter, transport, etc.

7. Under population — It is a condition where the number of people living in a given area is less in relation to the available resources of a country. This happens when there

are not enough people to make full use of resources such as land, water, forests and the available technology.

8. Population pyramid — It is specially designed diagram that shows the age and sex composition of a population. It is also called as age-sex pyramid.

Question 16. Mention the causes of under population ?

Answer: Causes of under population are : 1. Increase in the death rate due to natural disaster like earthquake, Tsunami, flood or man-made disasters such as war. 2. Decrease in birth rate due to genetic reasons. 3. Infertility in the people 4. Emigration – people moving out of a country.

Question 17. What do you mean by composition of population or demographic structure? What is its significance? Name any two characteristics of a population.

Answer: Population composition or demographic structure: Refers to the physical, sociocultural and economic attributes of the population such as age and sex, place of residence, language, religion, marital status, literacy, etc. Significance: The characteristics of population composition are measurable and help in distinguishing one group from another. Two Characteristics of a population are : 1. Rural and Urban Composition: This is on the basis of where a person resides. Rural refers to villages and urban refers to cities and towns. 2. Age and sex Composition : It refers to the percentage of people in different age groups in a given population and sex ratio (number of females per 1000 males in a population).

Question 18. What do you understand by age composition of a population ? Answer: Age composition refers to the percentage of people in different age groups in a given population. It differs from country to country. It can be working population (people between 14-60 years of age) or dependent population (below 14 and above 60 years of age).

Question 19. What is the working population of India ? Answer: 62.5 per cent of the population of India is working population. 29.5 % is in the age group of 0-14 years while 8 % is above 60 years of age.

Question 20. What leads to unfavourable sex ratio at some places ? Name few social practices leading to it ?

Answer: Gender discrimination is the major cause of unfavourable sex ratio which gives women a lower status in society. Few social practices leading to unfavourable sex ratio are : 1. Female Foeticide 2. Female infanticide 3. Domestic

Question 21. What is the most effective way to show the age and sex structure of a population ?

Answer: Population pyramid or Age-sex Pyramid.

\*\*Need to know.

1. Population refers to all the people who live in a particular area.
2. At present, the population of the world stand at 7.35 billion.
3. Second most populated country in the world is India.
4. Continent-wise, Asia has the largest population, followed by Africa
5. Population Density refers to the number of people living in a unit area of space.
6. In Overpopulation condition, the number of people in a particular area is more than the available resources.
7. Under population puts less pressure on the environment.
8. Sex ratio of 940 means there are 940 girls for every 1000 boys.
9. The sex ratio is usually unfavourable in those countries where gender discrimination is widespread.
10. The average sex ratio in the world is 982 females to every 1000 males.
11. Latvia in Europe has the highest sex ratio with 1179 females for every 1000 males.
12. Triangular shaped population pyramid indicates rapid population growth.
13. Not being able to have babies or produce young ones is called infertility.
14. In India 69 % population is rural and 31 % urban.
15. China has the largest population in the world.
16. Death rate is number of deaths per year per 1,000 of the population.
17. Life expectancy is the number of years that a person is likely to live.
18. Urban areas generally have a higher population density.
19. A population pyramid is a diagram that shows the age and sex composition of a population.

H.W.

\*Write the notes in your exercise copy and try to understand it and get the idea.

\*\*Do the exercise from the book.

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