

TEXT:

Demography is the study of the change in size, distribution and character of the human population; and the two most basic factors in demography are the birth-rate and the death-rate. The former expresses the number of children born per 1000 people per year. The latter indicates the number of people who die per 1000 per year. If we consider the Earth as a whole, we see that population growth or decline is caused by the difference between the number of births and deaths over a given period. There are normally more births than deaths, and this is known as a natural increase in population.

For thousands of years, Man lived in a very primitive way. Before the recent developments in agriculture, medicine and industry, life was difficult. It was hard to make a living from the soil without modern farming methods, and a few years of bad crops could mean famine and therefore death - as it still does today in some parts of the world. Illnesses as mild and as common as influenza could kill a Stone-age man weakened by hunger; appendicitis (almost without risk today) was always fatal before the days of modern surgery. Even childbirth was a hazardous process. Under these conditions the human race needed to reproduce at a high rate just to keep in existence. But the size of the population did not change very rapidly, for without modern medicine, many babies and young children died. So for a long time, the population grew very slowly. And this is still the case today in some parts of the world where the people live without the aids of modern technology.

It was only about two centuries ago that the growth pattern changed. New discoveries in medical science had a dramatic effect on the death-rate. Fewer children died in infancy, and adults lived longer.

QUESTIONS (20 points)

I- READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (5 points)

A. Multiple choice questions (1 point)

Copy the complete sentence containing the correct answer.

1. The best title of this text is ...

- a. Demography
- b. Population growth
- c. Population decline
- d. Population character

2. The size of the population did not change very rapidly because ...
- a. It was hard to make a living from the soil.
 - b. Many babies and young children died.
 - c. Influenza could kill a Stone-age man.
 - d. Childbirth was a hazardous process.

B. True / False questions (2 points)

Copy the true sentences and correct the false ones.

- 1. Demography is only the study of the change in size of the human population.
- 2. The death-rate expresses the number of children born per 1000 people per year.
- 3. There are more deaths than births normally.
- 4. There is a natural increase in population.

C. Answer the following questions (2 points)

- 1. What is the birth-rate?
- 2. Why did many babies and young children die?

II- LANGUAGE (10 points)

A. Copy down each word from the list on the left with one from the right so as to make pairs of synonyms. (2 points)

A	B
Basic	degree
Whole	require
Rate	entire
Need	fundamental

B. Complete the sentences by using *even though* or *because*. (2 points)

- 1.there are less deaths now, world population is increasing.
- 2.they were hungry, they did not eat.
- 3.Mariam was sad, she smiled.
- 4.agriculture, medicine and industry weren't developed, life was difficult before.

C. In two sentences compare population growth before modern technology with population growth after modern technology. (2 points)

D. Translate into English. (2 points)

Après la Révolution Industrielle, le taux de naissance a baissé en Europe Occidentale. Les moyens modernes de contrôle de naissance ont rendu possible aux parents de décider du nombre d'enfants qu'ils veulent.

E. Translate in French. (2 points)

It was only about two centuries ago that the growth pattern changed. New discoveries in medical science had a dramatic effect on the death-rate.

III- COMPOSITION (5 points)

Choose only one topic.

A. The acceleration in population growth has begun to cause severe social and economic problems in many developing countries.

So, what should be done to minimize these problems?

B. Dramane Sylla, S.T.G, Lycée Technique, Bamako, received a post-card from his friend Oumar Ben Khalid, S.E.S, L.F.I.A.A.B, Banamba, announcing a girl's birth in their family. He reacted to the news.

Write Dramane's post-card appropriately.