
Population

Question 1: Choose the right answer from the four alternatives given below.

(i) Migrations change the number, distribution and composition of the population in

- (a) the area of departure
- (b) the area of arrival
- (c) both the area of departure and arrival
- (d) none of the above

Answer: (b) both the area of departure and arrival

(ii) A large proportion of children in a population is a result of

- (a) high birth rates
- (b) high life expectancies
- (c) high death rates
- (d) more married couples

Answer: (a) high birth rates

(iii) The magnitude of population growth refers to

- (a) the total population of an area
- (b) the number of persons added each year
- (c) the rate at which the population increases
- (d) the number of females per thousand males

Answer: (a) the total population of an area

(iv) According to the Census, a “literate” person is one who

- (a) can read and write his/her name
- (b) can read and write any language
- (c) is 7 years old and can read and write any language with understanding
- (d) knows the 3 ‘R’s (reading, writing, arithmetic)

Answer: (c) is 7 year old and can read and write any language with understanding

Question 2: Answer the following questions briefly.

(i) Why is the rate of population growth in India declining since 1981?

Answer (i): The rate of population growth has been declining as a result of greater use of birth control measures.

(ii) Discuss the major components of population growth.

Answer (ii): The major components of population growth are Birth Rate, Death Rate and Migration. The difference between birth rate and death rate accounts for natural increase in population. Immigration refers to the inflow of people into a region from other regions.

(iii) Define age structure, death rate and birth rate.

Answer (iii): The age structure of a population refers to the number of people in different age groups in that population.

Birth rate is the number of live births per thousand persons in a year.

Death rate is the number of deaths per thousand persons in a year.

(iv) How is migration a determinant factor of population change?

Answer (iv): Migration is the movement of people across regions and territories. It is a determinant factor of population change as it changes the demographics (size and composition) of both the areas of departure and arrival.

Question 3: Distinguish between population growth and population change.

Answer:

Population Growth	Population Change
It refers to the increase in the number of inhabitants of a region during a specific period of time.	It refers to the change in the distribution, composition or size of a population during a specific period of time.
Natural increase of population and immigration are the major components causing population growth.	Natural increase, immigration and emigration are the major components causing population change.

Question 4: What is the relation between occupational structure and development?

Answer: Development is related to occupational structure of the population. Countries are less developed where a higher percentage of population is engaged in primary occupations like agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry and fishing.

As development takes place more people move into secondary occupations like manufacturing. In highly developed societies, there are a high percentage of people involved in tertiary occupations like banking, commerce, transport and administration.

Question 5: What are the advantages of having a healthy population?

Answer: The advantages of having a healthy population are:

- A healthy individual is much more efficient and productive than an unhealthy individual.
- He or she is able to realise his or her potential, and play an important role in social and national development.

- Absenteeism is low where the workers are healthy.

Question 6: What are the significant features of the National Population Policy 2000?

Answer: The National Population Policy 2000 provides a policy framework for:

- Imparting free and compulsory school education up to 14 years of age.
- Reducing infant mortality rate to below 30 per 1000 live births.
- Achieving universal immunisation of children against all vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Promoting delayed marriage and child bearing
- Making family welfare a people-centred programme.
- Providing nutritional services and food supplements to adolescents.
- Protecting adolescents from unwanted pregnancies and sexually-transmitted diseases, and educating them about the risks of unprotected sex.
- Making contraceptive services accessible and affordable.