

Geography marking guide and response

External assessment 2025

Combination response (42 marks)

Assessment objectives

This assessment instrument is used to determine student achievement in the following objectives:

1. explain geographical processes by describing the features, elements and interactions of demographic processes that shape the identity of places and result in patterns of population change
2. comprehend geographic patterns by recognising spatial patterns of demographic change for places at global, regional and local scales of study, identifying relationships and the implications for people and places
3. analyse geographic data and information by selecting and interpreting demographic data to infer how patterns, trends and relationships represent a geographical challenge in relation to global population change
4. apply geographical understanding by extrapolating from their analysis to generalise about the impacts of demographic change for places of origin and places of destination globally
6. communicate geographical understanding of global, regional and local demographic change and the challenge for sustainable management by selecting and using cartographic, graphic, written and mathematical skills in short and extended responses.

Note: Objective 5 is not assessed in this instrument.

Purpose

This document consists of a marking guide and a sample response.

The marking guide:

- provides a tool for calibrating external assessment markers to ensure reliability of results
- indicates the correlation, for each question, between mark allocation and qualities at each level of the mark range
- informs schools and students about how marks are matched to qualities in student responses.

The sample response:

- demonstrates the qualities of a high-level response
- has been annotated using the marking guide.

Mark allocation

Where a response does not meet any of the descriptors for a question or a criterion, a mark of '0' will be recorded.

Allow FT mark/s — refers to 'follow through', where an error in the prior section of working is used later in the response, a mark (or marks) for the rest of the response can still be awarded so long as it still demonstrates the correct conceptual understanding or skill in the rest of the response.

Marking guide

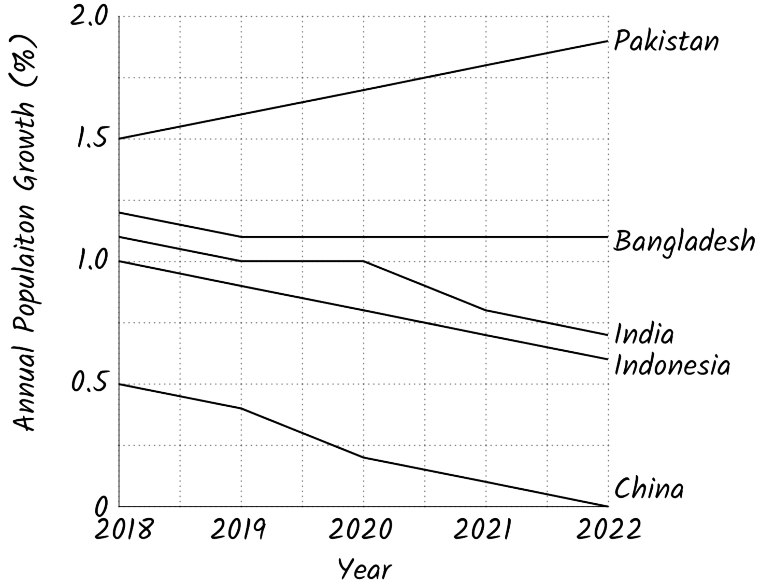
Short response

Q	Sample response	The response:
1	<p>The relationship evident is that as median age increases number of births per woman decreases. For European countries, the older median age of women and low births per woman is because women who are employed can choose to delay having children (e.g. Italy with the highest median age and one of the lowest birth rates per woman, 1.2). In African countries the younger median age of women and higher births per woman may be due to lower levels of education (e.g. Niger with the highest birth rate (6.9) and lowest median age, approximately 15).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• correctly describes the relationship [1 mark]• provides a plausible reason for European countries [1 mark]• provides an example for a European country [1 mark]• provides a plausible reason for African countries [1 mark]• provides an example for an African country [1 mark]

Q	Sample response	The response:
2	<p>The first spatial relationship evident in the graph is migration between bordering countries Russian Federation and Ukraine, and Kazakhstan. A second relationship is in West Asia with the most corridors between countries. Countries in this region are both countries of origin (e.g. Afghanistan) and countries of destination (e.g. Saudi Arabia). The corridor between Syria and Türkiye is due to the war in Syria and people fleeing to Türkiye as refugees.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describes an evident spatial relationship [1 mark] • uses a relevant example [1 mark] • describes a second evident spatial relationship [1 mark] • uses a second relevant example [1 mark] • identifies a relevant factor for one corridor [1 mark]

Q	Sample response	The response:
3	<p>Between 1990 and 2023 populations began to age in most regions of the world. The most obvious exception was in African countries, which remained largely a young population. The ageing of populations is seen in India with a shift to working age and most of Europe transitioned to old aged, while Japan went from working age to old. Into the future (2050) populations will continue to age for most of the world for example China and Russia. The exception being most of Africa which will see population growth but not population ageing. An implication for an old population is a high old-age dependency ratio.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describes overall distribution [1 mark] • describes specific patterns of population distribution [1 mark] • uses relevant evidence from the map [1 mark] • provides a plausible implication for an old population [1 mark]

Q	Sample response	The response:
4	<p>The first relationship evident is where migration numbers are high, but percentage migrant population is low. This is evident for Asia, North America and Europe which has the highest number of migrants (more than 40 million) but only 11.6% migrant population by 2020. This is due to an existing large total population. The second relationship is in Oceania with a low number of migrants (4.65 million) but the percentage migrant population is higher (21.08%) due to a low total population. Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean both have a small number of migrants and percentage migrant population is low (1.98% for all of Africa). A challenge for the countries in Oceania is providing migrants with adequate accommodation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyses the graphs to correctly explain: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – one evident relationship [1 mark] – uses a relevant example [1 mark] – a second evident relationship [1 mark] – uses a relevant example [1 mark] – a third evident relationship [1 mark] – uses a relevant example [1 mark] • identifies a plausible challenge for one region [1 mark]

Q	Sample response	The response:																																				
5a)	<p data-bbox="353 261 1041 328"><i>Population growth for Asia's most populous countries, 2018–2022</i></p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="338 341 1093 927"> <caption>Annual Population Growth (%) for Asia's most populous countries, 2018–2022</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Country</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> <th>2020</th> <th>2021</th> <th>2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pakistan</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>1.7</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bangladesh</td> <td>1.2</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>1.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>India</td> <td>1.1</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>0.9</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>0.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indonesia</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>0.9</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>0.7</td> <td>0.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>China</td> <td>0.5</td> <td>0.4</td> <td>0.2</td> <td>0.1</td> <td>0.1</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Country	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	Pakistan	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9	Bangladesh	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	India	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	Indonesia	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	China	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	<ul data-bbox="1480 268 2042 403" style="list-style-type: none"> • represents the data in a suitable graph [1 mark] • accurately plots the data [1 mark] • creates appropriate scales [1 mark] • includes title, key and axis labels [1 mark]
Country	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022																																	
Pakistan	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.9																																	
Bangladesh	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1																																	
India	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7																																	
Indonesia	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6																																	
China	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1																																	

Q	Sample response	The response:
5b)	<p>Asia's most populous countries have different population growth rates. Bangladesh experienced the least decline in population growth at only 0.1% change between 2018-2022. India and Indonesia experienced a decline in population with both at 0.4% decline over the period. China experienced the greatest decline from 0.5% to 0% in 2022. A reason for this trend is declining fertility rates. Pakistan is the only country to show a steady increase in population growth of 0.1% each year from 2018 to 2022, likely due to increasing fertility rates. Pakistan will need to provide for a young population, for example schools.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provides an accurate analysis [1 mark] • uses evidence to support analysis [1 mark] • provides a plausible reason for the trend in China [1 mark] • provides a plausible reason for the trend in Pakistan [1 mark] • makes a relevant generalisation for Pakistan [1 mark]

Extended response: Question 6

Criterion: Analysing

The response:	M
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyses the stimulus by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – identifying complex relationships – making inferences to explain a geographical challenge in relation to population change – using comprehensive data to support inferences 	5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • analyses the stimulus by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – identifying simple relationships – making inferences to explain a geographical challenge in relation to population change – using data to support inferences 	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explains a relevant geographical challenge by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – identifying simple relationships – identifying a relevant geographical challenge in relation to population change – describing data to support the explanation 	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explains an evident geographical challenge in relation to population change • describes relevant data 	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • makes a relevant statement about the impact of population change in Yumbe District <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describes aspects of the stimulus 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • does not satisfy any of the descriptors above. 	0

Criterion: Applying

The response:	M
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• makes complex generalisations about the impacts of the identified challenge on places of destination• uses analysis to support generalisations	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• makes detailed generalisations about the impacts of the identified challenge on places of destination• uses analysis to support generalisations	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• makes a simple generalisation about the impacts of the identified challenge on places of destination	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• describes relevant impact/s	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Criterion: Communicating

The response:	M
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• organises paragraphs to convey ideas purposefully and fluently in relation to the question• uses correct geographical terminology	3
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• organises paragraph/s to convey ideas in relation to the question• uses correct geographical terminology	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• conveys ideas in relation to the question	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• does not satisfy any of the descriptors above.	0

Data and information provided in this paper may have been developed or adjusted for exam purposes and should not be taken as factual



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