

1.1 Population and spatial scale: supported rehearsal

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 6 marks

Objective

Supported preparation: Interpret population distribution and demographic change; Compare development evidence at different spatial scales. This is original rehearsal, not completion of the assessed task.

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Density=population/area; growth compares population over time. Natural change combines births and deaths; migration adds inflows and outflows. A regional average hides spatial variation. Development measures need comparable dates, boundaries, units and attention to distribution.

Original source / task evidence

Task: region A has 120,000 people over 300 km², with most residents in one town. Compute density and explain why it cannot describe every locality.

Separate what is stated from the interpretation.
Population and spatial scale

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Density=120,000 people/300 km²=400 people/km². This is an areal average, not a uniform settlement pattern. Map smaller units and compare access, income or services within them.

2 Practice

2.1 For the worked case, identify the evidence and a conclusion it can support. Explain one material limit. [3]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A region adds uninhabited land to its boundary and its density falls. Does this demonstrate out-migration? Give a reasoned answer, evidence or method, and a relevant qualification. [3]

Solutions

2.1 Density=120,000 people/300 km²=400 people/km². This is an areal average, not a uniform settlement pattern. Map smaller units and compare access, income or services within them. Authored points for identifying relevant evidence, explaining a supported inference and a material limit.

3.1 Density can fall because area increases while population is unchanged. Compare fixed-boundary populations and migration records before inferring movement. The denominator change, not necessarily demographic change, explains the reported average. Authored points for a relevant judgement, reason tied to the case and justified qualification or method. Accept a supported alternative.