IGCSE ECONOMICS • EXERCISE SHEET

5.3 Population

Name: ____________ Class: ________ Date: __________ **Total: 17 marks**

KEY WORDS population 人口 • migration 移民 • birth rate 出生率 • immigration 迁入 • death rate 死亡率

Objective

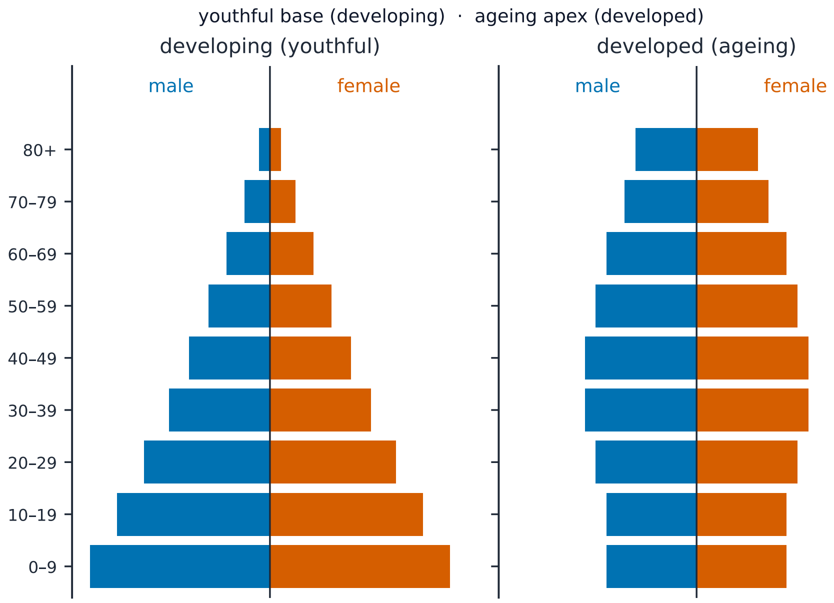
Build the skills to answer exam questions on **population 人口** — **birth and death rates 出生率与死亡率**, **migration 移民**, **population structure 人口结构**, and an **ageing population 人口老龄化**.

You must be able to:

- explain what changes a country's population size
- read a population pyramid
- analyse the effects of an ageing population

1 Worked examples

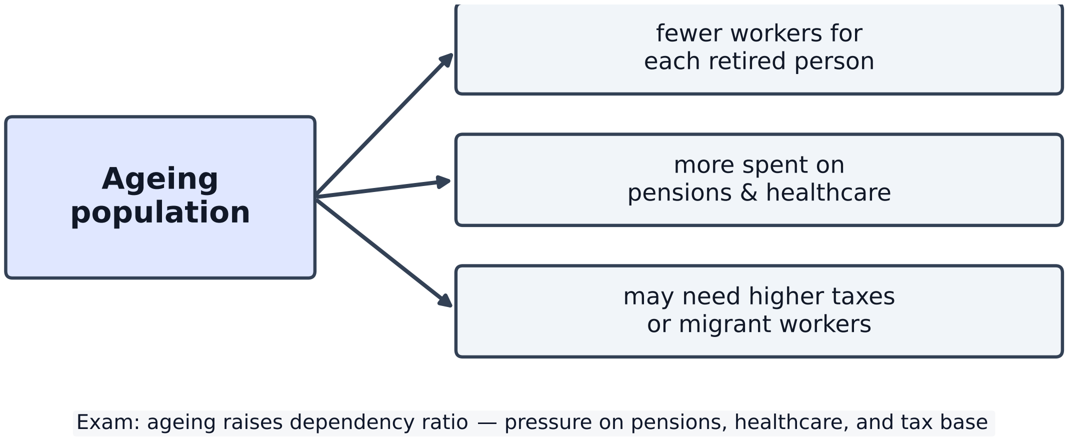
■ Population change and structure



Population grows when births + immigration > deaths + emigration

- **Birth rate 出生率 / death rate 死亡率:** births/deaths per 1000 people per year.

- **Migration 移民:** **immigration 迁入** (in) and **emigration 迁出** (out); **net migration 净移民** = in − out.
- **Ageing population 人口老龄化:** people live longer and have fewer children → more retired people per worker, higher pension and healthcare costs.



An ageing population: the worker-to-retiree ratio falls, raising pension and healthcare costs

Answer shapes: K + App + An + Ev (a justified judgement, for discuss questions).

2 Practice

2.1 Define the term *birth rate*. [2]

2.2 State when a country's population grows. [2]

2.3 Define the term *net migration*. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 A country's population will rise if: [1]

- **A** the death rate is higher than the birth rate
- **B** births plus immigration exceed deaths plus emigration
- **C** emigration is higher than immigration
- **D** the birth rate falls

3.2 Explain two reasons why a country might have an ageing population. [4]

3.3 Analyse the effects of an ageing population on a country's economy. [6]

Solutions

IGCSE Economics answers are marked by **level of response**: award **K** knowledge, **App** application, **An** analysis and **Ev** a justified judgement.

2.1 the number of births each year for every 1000 people in the population (2 for a clear definition; 1 for a partial idea).

2.2 when births plus immigration are greater than deaths plus emigration (2 for a clear statement; 1 for a partial idea).

2.3 immigration minus emigration — the net number of people moving into a country (2 for a clear definition; 1 for a partial idea).

3.1 B. Population rises when births + immigration exceed deaths + emigration.

3.2 *[4]* For **each** of two reasons: K 1 + An 1 — *longer life expectancy*: better healthcare means people live longer → more old people; *a falling birth rate*: families have fewer children → the share of young people falls, so the population ages.

3.3 *[6]* K/App/An — an ageing population has more retired people and fewer workers → each worker must support more people → the government spends more on pensions and healthcare → it may need higher taxes or more immigrant workers to fill the gap → so an ageing population raises costs and can slow growth unless productivity rises.