2.4 Demographic Change: Birth Rates, Death Rates and the Ageing Population: Test Pack

AQA 7192 · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Which one of the following is a direct cause commonly given for long-term declines in the birth rate in developed countries?

- ☐ A) Increased use of effective contraception
- ☐ B) Higher infant mortality
- ☐ C) Greater prevalence of arranged marriages
- ☐ D) Reduced access to hospitals

(Total for Question 1 is 1 mark)

---

2 Item B: Fictional survey finding for Northford, 2024. Respondents aged 30-59 who had an elderly relative receiving care were asked to identify the main source of that relative's care. Each respondent selected one category: 62% selected unpaid family members; 18% selected paid professional care services; 20% selected a mix of unpaid family and paid professional care, or other arrangements. Percentages are of all these respondents, not of care hours or all elderly people. Using Item B, suggest one reason policymakers might worry about the sustainability of unpaid family care as the main source of elderly support.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

3 Explain two demographic reasons why the crude death rate in a country might temporarily rise, even though life expectancy overall is increasing.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

---

4 State two reasons, other than improved medical care, that sociologists give for the long-term decline in death rates in the UK over the 20th century.

(Total for Question 4 is 2 marks)

---

5 Using Item A, state one way net migration of +2 per 1000 could affect Northford's age structure, without calculation.

(Total for Question 5 is 2 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

Mark scheme · 2.4 Demographic Change: Birth Rates, Death Rates and the Ageing Population: Test Pack

Question 1

A (Increased use of effective contraception) **B1**

Answer: A

Question 2

identifies reliance on unpaid family care: 62% of surveyed respondents aged 30-59 with an elderly relative receiving care selected unpaid family members as the main source of that relative's care **B1**

develops a plausible pressure, e.g. if more elderly relatives need care, unpaid family carers may face greater demands **B1**

explains how this pressure could limit care, e.g. carers balancing paid work and care may have insufficient time to meet greater demands **B1**

links the pressure to sustainability: families may be unable to maintain the care required, so policymakers may need to expand paid professional support; the survey does not establish that this pressure has already increased **B1**

Answer: In the fictional 2024 survey, 62% of respondents aged 30-59 with an elderly relative receiving care selected unpaid family members as the main source of that relative's care. If care needs increase, relatives balancing paid work and unpaid care may have insufficient time to provide it, making that reliance harder to sustain and creating a need for more paid professional support. The 18% selected paid professional services, while 20% selected mixed or other arrangements; neither category can be counted wholly as unpaid family care. These are percentages of respondents, not care hours or all elderly people, and do not show that pressures have already increased.

Question 3

first reason, e.g. population ageing increases number of deaths because more people are in older age groups **B1**

development, e.g. crude death rate counts deaths per population and can rise if age structure shifts toward older cohorts **B1**

second reason, e.g. temporary events like a pandemic or heatwave increase deaths in the short term **B1**

development, e.g. such events raise deaths across age groups, creating a temporary rise in crude death rate despite longer-term improvements **B1**

Answer: The crude death rate can rise temporarily because an ageing population puts more people into older age groups where deaths are more likely, and because short-term shocks like a pandemic or heatwave raise deaths in the short run even while long-term life expectancy improves.

Question 4

first valid reason, e.g. improved nutrition or better sanitation/public health measures **B1**

second distinct valid reason, e.g. improvements in housing **B1**

Answer: Improved nutrition strengthened resistance to disease, and better sanitation reduced exposure to infectious disease. Improvements in housing, such as less overcrowding, are another valid reason.

Question 5

identifies a plausible effect, e.g. if migrants are mainly young working-age people, net migration could reduce the median age or help support the workforce **B1**

brief development, e.g. this could lower the old-age dependency ratio or offset some effects of low birth rate **B1**

Answer: If migrants are mainly young working-age people, the net migration of +2 per 1000 could reduce the median age and help lower the old-age dependency ratio, offsetting some effects of the low birth rate.

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk