

Chapter 7: Human Population textbook assignment: Due Friday November 30 , to turnitin.com and at the beginning of class. Please read chapter 7 in the textbook and use the website: (<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/idb/pyramids.html>) to help answer the following questions. Please type. This is a very important assignment as we will be using class time for discussion and activities. Think carefully about each question and provide comprehensive answers. This will be a 40 point assignment. Late assignments will lose 20%/day.

1. a. What is meant by crude birth rate and crude death rate? b. How do you calculate the annual rate of population change? (Give an example) c. If the rate of population increase drops from 2.5% to 1%, does this mean that the population has stopped growing exponentially? Explain your answer. d. If a population is growing at 2%/year, how long would it take for the population to double? What 3 countries have the world's largest populations? (Include #'s from the census website)

2. a. Distinguish between replacement-level fertility and total fertility rate. b. Explain why replacement-level fertility must be higher than 2 kids per female. c. Explain why reaching replacement level fertility with all women in a population does not mean an immediate halt in population growth.

3. a. What are some of the factors that affect death rates? b. Why is the infant mortality the best measure of a society's quality of life? c. What are 3 reasons that keep the US infant mortality rate higher than expected for a developed country?

4. a. What is the age structure of a population? b. Explain why the current age structure of the world's population means that the world's population will keep growing for at least another 50 years even if replacement-level rate of 2.1 is somehow reached globally tomorrow. c. Draw the general shape of an age structure diagram for a country undergoing (i) rapid population growth, (ii) medium population growth, and (iii) slow or zero population growth. (Just a sketch showing the general shape)

5. Critical Thinking Question:

Baby boomers now make up about half of the US population. Explain why much of the economic burden required to support the baby boomers, as they grow older, will fall on generation-x. What is the problem with the current social security system? In what respects will the generation-x actually be better off financially than the baby boomers? Explain the conflict regarding the issues of job promotion for generation-x'ers.

6. Explain what is meant by the demographic transition and what are its four phases? What phase is the US in? European nations? What factors might keep many developing countries from making the demographic transition?

