2 Malthus, policy and migration – Part 2

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Vocabulary

Write each word three times.

English	**Write it 3 times** (English)		
pro-natalist policy			
anti-natalist policy			
Push factors			
pull factors			
Intervening obstacles			
intervening opportunities			
Voluntary migration			
forced migration			
refugee			
internally displaced person			
asylum seeker			
Step migration			
Chain migration			
Transhumance			

Recall

Part 1 gave you the densities, the rates and the demographic transition model.

This sheet covers the other half of Unit 2: why populations grow or shrink beyond births and deaths, and why people move.

New ideas

1 Malthus and his critics

Thomas Malthus argued that population grows geometrically (1, 2, 4, 8) while food supply grows arithmetically (1, 2, 3, 4), so population must eventually outrun food and be checked by famine, disease or war.

He has been wrong so far, for two reasons his critics name: agricultural technology raised yields far faster than he allowed, and fertility fell as countries developed rather than rising with prosperity. **Ester Boserup** argued the opposite causal direction – population pressure DRIVES agricultural innovation.

Neo-Malthusians revive the argument for resources other than food: fresh water, arable soil, and the climate's capacity to absorb emissions.

2 Population policies

A **pro-natalist policy** encourages births – paid parental leave, child allowances, subsidised childcare. Countries in stage 4 or 5 adopt them.

An **anti-natalist policy** discourages births – family-planning provision, education campaigns, and in the strongest case legal limits. China's one-child policy is the standard example, and its standard consequences are an ageing population, a shrinking workforce, and a skewed sex ratio.

3 Push and pull

Push factors drive people out of a place; **pull factors** draw them to another. Both may be economic, political, environmental, cultural or social – and most migration decisions combine several.

Intervening obstacles (a border, a mountain range, the cost of the journey) block or divert a move; **intervening opportunities** stop it early, when something acceptable turns up closer than the intended destination.

4 Types of migration

Voluntary migration is chosen; **forced migration** is not. Within forced migration, a **refugee** has crossed an international border fleeing persecution or conflict; an **internally displaced person** has fled but remains inside their own country. An **asylum seeker** has applied for refugee status and is awaiting a decision.

Internal migration moves within a country, **international migration** between countries. **Step migration** moves in stages – village to town to city.

Chain migration follows relatives or countrymen who went before. **Transhumance** is the seasonal movement of herders with their animals.

5 Ravenstein's laws

Ravenstein observed that most migrants move short distances, that longer moves tend to be to major cities, that each migration flow produces a counterflow, and that most migrants are young adults. These hold up well and are worth naming in an answer.

Practice

Try these in order. The methods are all above.

2.6 State Malthus's claim about population and food supply. [2]

2.7 Explain one reason Malthus's prediction has not come true. [2]

2.8 Distinguish between a refugee and an internally displaced person. [2]

2.9 Give one example each of an intervening obstacle and an intervening opportunity. [2]

2.10 Explain one demographic consequence of a strict anti-natalist policy. [2]