

Question 3: Two Stimuli**7 points**

(A) Select ONE country listed in the table and identify its stage in the demographic transition model. **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- A1. Any country in the table (Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Japan, Portugal, or Romania) and stage 4 or stage 5.

(B) Define the concept of a pronatalist policy. **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- B1. Pronatalist policies are those that encourage or promote population growth.
- B2. Government programs that provide incentives (e.g., longer parental leave, childcare, tax credits) for increasing fertility rates and/or population growth.
- B3. Pronatalist policies are designed to increase the birth rate and/or the fertility rate of an area.

(C) Explain ONE factor that affects birth rates as countries move from stage 3 to stage 4 in the demographic transition model. **1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- C1. Increased access to health care, contraceptives, and/or other family planning information tends to reduce the number of children born.
- C2. Increased access to education and/or employment of women is generally associated with lower fertility.
- C3. More people live in urban areas where space is limited or the cost of living makes raising children more expensive, reducing the birth rate.
- C4. People may have fewer children over time as agricultural production requires less labor (e.g., mechanization, agricultural chemicals).
- C5. Decreases in infant and/or child mortality rates may reduce the need to have more children.
- C6. Government policies and/or programs may reduce fertility (e.g., antinatalist policies).

(D) Describe ONE likely economic effect when countries have negative population growth. 1 point

Accept one of the following:

- D1. A country with an aging population or a high elder dependency ratio may spend more money on programs for the elderly or retired.
- D2. A low youth dependency ratio may create an opportunity for public funds to be shifted from education and/or childcare needs to social services for the elderly.
- D3. Countries may not have a large enough workforce or enough working-aged people to support the economy and/or pay taxes.
- D4. Employers may need migrants to supplement declining labor pools and/or a smaller workforce.
- D5. Primary sector activities that are labor-intensive may be limited as the economy shifts to activities that require fewer workers.
- D6. Economies may shift from labor-intensive primary and/or secondary sector activities to tertiary or higher-sector activities that can be performed by an aging workforce or outsourced to workers in other countries.
- D7. Large companies may create economies of scale and/or increase usage of technology to create more efficient production processes that use fewer workers.
- D8. Economic stagnation and/or decline may occur when there are fewer people to purchase goods, real estate, and/or services.

(E) Based on the data shown in the table, describe a policy that a government might develop in response to demographic change. 1 point

Accept one of the following:

- E1. Governments might implement pronatalist or population growth policies and/or increase immigration.
- E2. Pro-immigration policies might include expanding access to public benefits or services and/or provide assistance with assimilation.
- E3. Pronatalist policies might include increased parental leave, increased tax incentives, government-subsidized childcare, and/or family-friendly employment law.
- E4. Governments might redesign finance or tax structures (e.g., changes to social security and/or pension systems) that affect the elderly population.
- E5. Governments might expand health care options for the elderly population (e.g., retirement or nursing homes, health clinics, specialty hospitals), and/or governments might train professionals specializing in geriatric health care.
- E6. Governments might support programs to meet the social needs of senior citizens (e.g., adult day care, senior centers, senior housing).
- E7. Governments might support policies that improve infrastructure to make landscapes, signage, transportation, and/or buildings more friendly to the elderly.
- E8. Governments might try to slow or halt rural population loss by improving rural-to-urban transportation systems, encouraging remote work, and/or promoting rural economic growth (e.g., tourism, industry).

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- (F) Explain ONE reason why the life expectancy in urban areas may be higher than the life expectancy in the entire country. 1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- F1. Urban areas may have better access to food, health care, sanitation, and/or social services.
- F2. There may be greater access to education, nutritional information, and/or health information in urban areas.
- F3. Urban working conditions may include shorter daily working hours, fewer weekly hours, less physically demanding work, and/or better safety (e.g., fewer work accidents).
- F4. Urban living may lead to healthier lifestyles due to greater access to recreation facilities, sports activities, walkable cities, and/or bikeable cities.

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- (G) Using the data in the table, explain how, over time, low birth rates may impact the country's percent of population over age 65. 1 point**

Accept one of the following:

- G1. Low birth rates may lead to an increase in the percent of population over age 65 because the overall population ages and/or there are fewer children.
- G2. If birth rates drop below death rates or if the rate of natural increase is negative, the overall population will age and/or the percent of population over age 65 will increase.

Total for question 3: 7 points