Economic development

IGCSE Economics · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
indicator /ˈɪndɪkeɪtə/	Bus access is one **indicator** of transport services.
living standards /ˈlɪvɪŋ ˈstændədz/	Better jobs raise **living standards**.
gross domestic product /grəʊs dəˈmestɪk ˈprɒdʌkt/	**Gross domestic product** is the value of everything a country makes in a year.
real /rɪəl/	**Real** GDP removes the effect of rising prices. GDP
per head /pɜː hed/	GDP **per head** is GDP divided by the population. GDP GDP
income /ˈɪŋkʌm/	Wages are **income** received over time.
Human Development Index /ˈhjuːmən dɪˈveləpmənt ˈɪndeks/	The **Human Development Index** combines health, education and income.
life expectancy /laɪf ekˈspektənsi/	Better health care raises **life expectancy**: people live longer.
income distribution /ˈɪŋkʌm ˌdɪstrɪˈbjuːʃn/	The **income distribution** shows how income is shared between rich and poor.
poverty /ˈpɒvəti/	To measure **poverty**, look at food, housing and schooling.
absolute poverty /ˈæbsəluːt ˈpɒvəti/	People in **absolute poverty** cannot pay for food and shelter.
relative poverty /ˈrelətɪv ˈpɒvəti/	People in **relative poverty** have much less than most people around them.

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wages /ˈweɪdʒɪz/	Workers may receive **wages** based on hours worked.
economic growth /ˌiːkəˈnɒmɪk grəʊθ/	**Economic growth** means the economy makes more each year.
redistribute /ˌriːˈdɪstrɪbjuːt/	Taxes help **redistribute** income from rich to poor.
minimum wage /ˈmɪnɪməm weɪdʒ/	A **minimum wage** is the lowest pay allowed by law.
benefits /ˈbenɪfits/	The government pays **benefits** to people who are ill or out of work.
population /ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn/	A larger **population** means more demand for food.
birth rate /bɜːθ reɪt/	The **birth rate** is the number of babies born for every thousand people each year.
death rate /deθ reɪt/	Better health care lowers the **death rate**.
migration /maɪˈgreɪʃn/	**Migration** moves workers from one country to another.
immigration /ˌɪmɪˈgreɪʃn/	**Immigration** brings new people into a country.
emigration /ˌemɪˈgreɪʃn/	**Emigration** is people leaving a country.
net migration /net maɪˈgreɪʃn/	**Net migration** is the number of people arriving minus the number leaving.
contraception /ˌkɒntrəˈsepʃn/	Easy access to **contraception** lowers the birth rate.
sanitation /ˌsænɪˈteɪʃn/	Clean water and **sanitation** lower the death rate.

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population structure /ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn ˈstrʌktʃə/	The **population structure** shows how many people are in each age group.
population pyramid /ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn ˈpɪrəmɪd/	A **population pyramid** shows ages and sexes.
dependants	Children and old people are **dependants**: they do not work.
labour force /ˈleɪbə fɔːs/	The **labour force** is everyone who has a job or is looking for one.
ageing population /ˈeɪdʒɪŋ ˌpɒpjʊˈleɪʃn/	Japan has an **ageing population**: many people are over 65.
retirement age	Raising the **retirement age** keeps people working longer.
incentive /ɪnˈsentɪv/	Profit is an **incentive** for firms to make what people want.
economic development /ˌiːkəˈnɒmɪk dɪˈveləpmənt/	**Economic development** improves people's living standards and opportunities.
developed countries /dɪˈveləpt ˈkʌntriz/	**Developed countries** have high incomes and good roads and hospitals.
developing countries /dɪˈveləpɪŋ ˈkʌntriz/	**Developing countries** often have lower average incomes and less infrastructure.
productivity /ˌprɒdəkˈtɪvɪti/	Better machines raise **productivity**: more output per hour.
subsistence farming /sʌbˈsɪstəns ˈfɑːmɪŋ/	**Subsistence farming** mainly feeds the farmer's own family.

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Word	Example
debt /det/	The country owes a large **debt** to foreign banks.
trade /treɪd/	Fair **trade** can help poor countries develop.

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