

AP[®] HUMAN GEOGRAPHY 2011 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 2

In 1798 Thomas Robert Malthus published *An Essay on the Principle of Population* in which he argued that population growth will inevitably outpace food production, resulting in widespread famine.

Part A (4 points: 1 point for each reason identified [ID] and 1 explanation point per ID)

Identify and explain TWO reasons why some geographers today believe Malthus' theory can be used to predict future population issues.

ID: Population has been rising quickly. **OR**
Population has generally grown as predicted by Malthus.

Explanation

- Limited use of contraception.
- Political policies, economic decisions, cultural beliefs that support population growth.
- Demographic transition model, referring to Stage 2 and/or early Stage 3.

ID: Food supply has increased, but it has not kept up with population increase. **OR**
Food supply has generally grown as predicted by Malthus.

Explanation

- Failure to adopt agricultural innovation, owing to political policies, economic decisions, cultural beliefs.
- Conversion of farmland for urban use.
- Environmental degradation such as desertification, overgrazing, clear cutting, soil erosion, unavailability of fresh water.
- Conversion of life-supporting crops to cash crops (tobacco, sugar, cotton, tea, coffee).
- Rising fuel costs will slow down growth of food production and distribution.
- Climate change will decrease production.

ID: There are other limiting factors on population in addition to food.

Explanation

- Because of resource overuse and/or environmental degradation, we are in danger of exceeding the carrying capacity (clean air, fossil fuel, water, and other resources).

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Question 2 (continued)

Part B (4 points: 1 point for each reason identified [ID] and 1 explanation point per ID)

Identify and explain TWO reasons why some geographers today believe Malthus' theory cannot be used to predict future population issues.

ID: Population growth has not been rising geometrically/exponentially. **OR**
Population has generally not grown as predicted by Malthus.

Explanation

- Expanded use of contraception.
- Political policies, economic decisions, cultural beliefs that limit population growth.
- Demographic transition model, referring to late Stages 3, 4, and/or 5 (declining birth rate).

ID: Food supply has grown faster than predicted by Malthus. **OR**
Carrying capacity has expanded.

Explanation

- New technologies, such as: mechanization, factory farming, industrial agriculture, agribusiness, use of chemicals, irrigation, GPS.
- Greater efficiencies, such as: larger farms, consolidation of farms, mechanization, multicropping.
- Green Revolution, genetically modified crops, multicropping, improved seeds, high-yielding cultivars.
- Expansion of agricultural lands.
- Human ability to create new techniques.

ID: Our ability to preserve food and/or distribute food to areas of need is much greater than during Malthus' time.

Explanation

- Improvements in any and all methods of transportation (highways, containerization, refrigerated trucks).
- Improvements in food preservation (refrigeration, packing, processed food).

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Question 3

In recent years, the number of refugees has been increasing. However, most refugees come from just a few countries.

- A. Define the term "refugee."
- B. Discuss ONE political, ONE social, and ONE environmental reason why refugees flee their country of origin.
- C. Using the chart shown, select a country of origin; then identify and explain ONE reason why refugees have left the country.
- D. Explain TWO economic impacts that refugees can have on a receiving country.

Part A: 1 point total

1. A person who flees, is displaced, or is forced to leave his or her home country.

Part B: 3 points total

Political:	1. fear for life during conflict or war
	2. political persecution or political imprisonment (e.g., opposition to government; ideology opposes state)
	3. forcibly evicted by government or military
Social:	1. religious persecution
	2. ethnic/racial persecution (e.g., genocide)
	3. rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
Environmental: (at country scale)	1. natural disaster (e.g., extended drought or flood, tsunami)
	2. pollution or human-caused disasters
	3. epidemic/disease (e.g., Ebola)
	4. food insecurity/famine

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Question 3 (continued)

Part C: 2 points total

Country	ID (1 point)	Explanation (1 point)
Afghanistan	1. Conflict/War	Taliban vs. NATO (e.g., U.S.) or Taliban vs. Afghanis (no points for USSR)
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Taliban Wahhabis (e.g., Salafist) persecuting other Sunnis or Shiites/Pashtun dominance over other ethnic groups (e.g., Hazara, Uzbeks, Tajiks); rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty	Food insecurity, lack of water, little infrastructure, education, or medical care
Somalia	1. Conflict/War	Between warlords; warlords or militants (e.g., Al-Shabaab) vs. UN-backed government
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Militant Wahhabis (e.g., Salafist) persecuting other Sunnis, Animists or Christians; conflicts based on tribal differences; rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty, Famine	Food insecurity, lack of water, little infrastructure, education, or medical care
Iraq	1. Conflict/War	U.S. invasion, flight or exclusion of Baathists, fearful U.S. collaborators
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Sunni or ISIS vs. Shia, Muslim vs. non-Muslim (e.g., Christian, Jewish, Chaldean); Arabs vs. Kurds; rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty	Food insecurity, failing infrastructure, education, or medical care
Syria	1. Conflict/War	Internal civil war between Baathist (e.g., Assad) and opposition Free Syrian Army, or ISIS
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Sunni vs. Alawite or other Shia; Muslim vs. non-Muslim (e.g., Christian, Druze); Arabs vs. Kurds or other non-Arabs; rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty, Drought	Food insecurity, lack of water, failing infrastructure, education, or medical care
Sudan	1. Conflict/War	Government forces or militias (e.g., Janjaweed) vs. minorities
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Muslim vs. non-Muslim (e.g., Christian, Animist); Arabic African versus sub-Saharan African; tribal differences; rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty, Famine	Food insecurity, lack of water, little infrastructure, education, or medical care

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Question 3 (continued)

Part D: 2 points total

1.	adds to available low-wage labor pool
2.	competition with locals for limited jobs
3.	additional cost on receiving country to provide services (e.g., housing, food, education, health care)
4.	may result in higher taxes
5.	increased demand for goods and services (e.g., housing, food) that may result in price increases
6.	increased strain on natural resources (e.g., water, energy, forests)
7.	refugee camps financially depend on receiving country
8.	may pose costly security risks for receiving country
9.	refugees may provide skills and knowledge (e.g., some Iraqi doctors now work in Pakistan)