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PAPER 2

Practice test · Term 3–4
Version 1.7 · 21 October 2026

Social Sciences: Geography · Grade 7

Population Growth and Natural Resources

Term 3–4 | 6 questions | CAPS-aligned

TOTAL 79 MARKS

NAME AND SURNAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

Instructions

1. This question paper consists of THREE sections. Answer all the questions.
2. Answer all the questions on the question paper itself, in the spaces provided.
3. Use the SOURCES to answer the questions where the question asks you to.
4. Write neatly and legibly. Work that cannot be read cannot be marked.
5. You may use a pencil and a ruler.
6. This paper covers Term 3 and Term 4 work. Paper 1 covers Term 1 and Term 2 work.

Question	Content of the question	Marks	Obtained
1	Population growth and change	15	
2	Natural resources and water in South Africa	20	
3	Use and abuse of marine resources	15	
4	A community conservation project	8	
5	Conservation areas and eco-tourism	10	
6	Factors affecting birth and death rates	11	
	Total	79	
	Percentage		%

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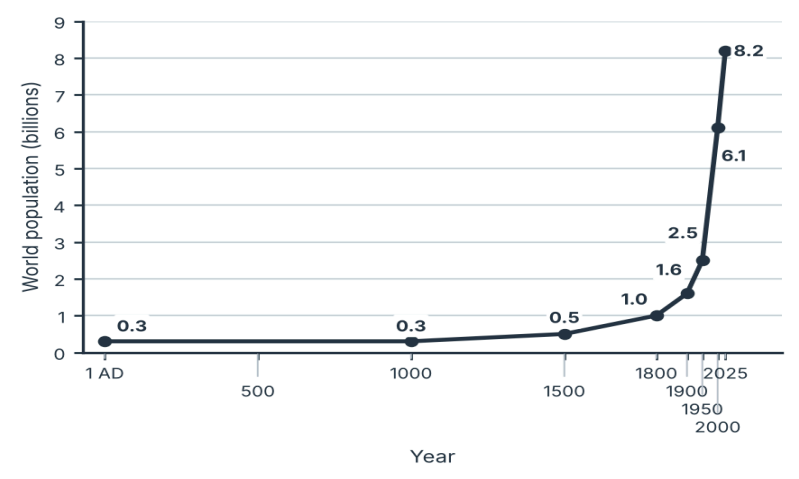
Section A

1 Population growth and change

15 marks

Study Source A and answer the questions that follow.

SOURCE A · WORLD POPULATION GROWTH, 1 AD TO 2025



Estimated world population in billions (rounded).

1.1 Use Source A. About how many people lived on Earth in 1 AD, and in about which year did the world population reach ONE billion? **(2)**

1.2 Describe the pattern of world population growth shown in Source A. **(3)**

1.3 Write the correct term next to each description. **(4)**

Description	Term
The number of babies per 1 000 people per year	
The number of deaths per 1 000 people per year	
The number of babies (per 1 000 born alive) who die before their first birthday	
The average number of years a person is expected to live	

1.4 Name THREE developments in history that speeded up world population growth. **(3)**

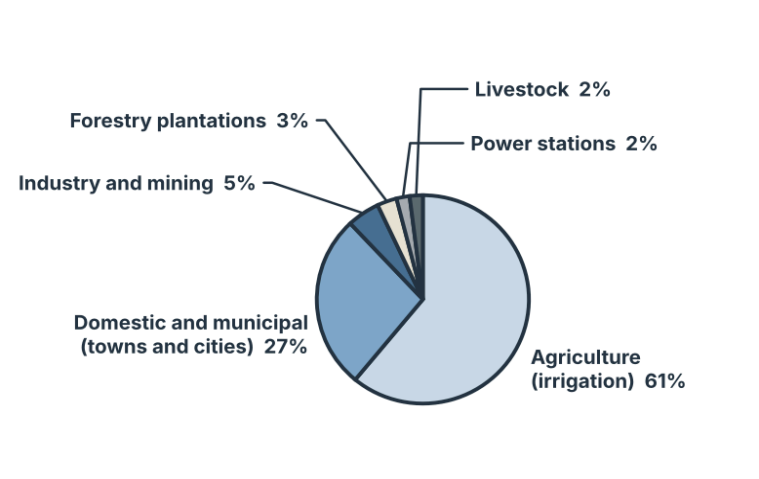
1.5 A country has a birth rate of 35 per 1 000 and a death rate of 10 per 1 000. Calculate the population growth rate as a percentage, and say whether the population is growing or shrinking. (Ignore people moving in or out.) **(3)**

2 Natural resources and water in South Africa

20 marks

Study Source B and answer the questions that follow.

SOURCE B · WHO USES SOUTH AFRICA'S WATER?



Share of the water used in South Africa each year (rounded).

2.1 Use Source B. Which user uses the MOST water, and what percentage does it use? **(2)**

2.2 Domestic users (households) use about a quarter of the water. Give TWO ways in which a household can use water more responsibly. **(2)**

2.3 Give TWO ways in which farmers can use irrigation water more responsibly. **(2)**

2.4 Give TWO ways in which factories and mines can use water more responsibly. **(2)**

2.5 South Africa is a water-scarce country. Give THREE reasons why the water that is available is not enough for what the country needs. **(3)**

2.6 What is a CATCHMENT AREA? Name TWO things people do that harm the health of a river. **(3)**

2.7 The Blesbokspruit wetland near Springs in Gauteng is a protected wetland, but it has been damaged by polluted water pumped out of gold mines, and by farming and building close by. South Africa has lost about half of its wetlands. Give TWO reasons why wetlands must be conserved, and ONE reason why wetlands are disappearing. **(3)**

2.8 Natural resources include air, soil, forests and animal life. Choose ONE of these resources. Name ONE way in which people USE it and TWO ways in which people ABUSE (damage) it. **(3)**

3 Use and abuse of marine resources

15 marks

SOURCE C · THE FISHING TOWN

Fifty years ago the boats at Soutbaai came back full every day. The town's whole economy rested on fish.

As demand grew, bigger boats with bigger nets arrived. For a few years the catches were enormous.

By 2010 the catches had collapsed. The fish that were caught were also smaller — the large breeding fish had been taken before they could spawn.

The government introduced a quota and declared a closed season. Some fishermen supported it; others said they could not survive a season without an income.

A report on a fishing community.

3.1 What happened to the catches at Soutbaai, and when? **(2)**

3.2 Explain why the catches collapsed. Use the word OVER-EXPLOITATION in your answer. **(4)**

3.3 Explain how a QUOTA and a CLOSED SEASON each help the resource to recover. **(3)**

3.4 Some fishermen say they cannot survive a closed season. Is their objection reasonable? Explain. **(3)**

3.5 Name ONE marine protected area (marine reserve) along the South African coast, and explain how a marine reserve helps fish to recover. **(3)**

4 A community conservation project

8 marks

SOURCE D · THE MAKULEKE CONTRACT PARK

In 1969 the Makuleke people were forcibly removed from their land in the far north of what is now the Kruger National Park. In 1998 their land claim succeeded, and the land was returned to them.

The community chose not to move back and farm. Instead they agreed that the land would stay part of the park as a contract park. The Makuleke own the land; the park manages the wildlife with them.

The community earns income from eco-tourism lodges built on the land, and members work as guides, trackers and lodge staff. Money from the lodges pays for a school and a clinic.

Land, conservation and a community.

4.1 What happened to the Makuleke people in 1969, and what changed in 1998? **(2)**

4.2 The community chose not to farm the land. What did they agree to instead? **(2)**

4.3 Name TWO ways the community earns from the land now. **(2)**

4.4 Why is this a good example of conservation that benefits people? **(2)**

5 Conservation areas and eco-tourism

10 marks

5.1 What is ECO-TOURISM? **(2)**

5.2 Name THREE ways eco-tourism can help a local community. **(3)**

5.3 Name ONE conservation area in South Africa (not the Kruger National Park), and the province it is in. Then give ONE purpose of conservation areas. **(3)**

5.4 What does CONSERVATION mean? Give ONE reason why we must conserve natural resources. **(2)**

Section C Population: births, deaths and disease

6 Factors affecting birth and death rates

11 marks

6.1 Name TWO reasons why the death rate is higher in poorer countries than in richer countries. **(2)**

6.2 In the 1300s the Black Death killed about a third of the people in Europe, and in 1713 smallpox killed many people at the Cape, especially the Khoikhoi. Explain how a pandemic affects the death rate and population growth, and why pandemics like these kill fewer people today. **(3)**

6.3 Explain how a family's economic status (how rich or poor it is) can affect the number of children it has. **(2)**

6.4 How do conflict and wars affect death rates and birth rates? **(2)**

6.5 From about 1980 to 2015 the government of China allowed most families to have only ONE child. Why did the government make this rule, and what was ONE result of it? **(2)**

Total **79 marks**



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