

ENGLISH TEST no1

class : TleA2

duration : 3h CE : Anglais

PART ONE : READING COMPREHENSION

World population growth

The UN calculates that there are more than seven billion living humans on earth, yet 200 years ago we numbered less than one billion. Recent estimates suggest that 6.5 percent of all people ever born are alive right now. This is the most conspicuous fact about world population growth for thousands of years, population grew only slowly, but in recent centuries it has jumped dramatically. Between 1900 and 2000 the increase in world population was three times greater than the entire previous history of humanity- an increase from 1.5 to 6.1 billion in just 100 years.

A picture of world population in the very long-run fits the pattern of exponential growth (when a population grows exponentially the rate of growth is proportional to the size of the population). Yet an empirical observation of how growth rates have developed in the course of the last century reveals that this pattern no longer holds. The annual rate of population growth has recently been going down. A long historical period of accelerated growth has thus come to an end; the annual world population growth rate peaked in 1962, at around 2.1%, and has come down to almost half since.

Based on these observations, world history can be divided into three periods marked by distinct trends in population growth. The first period (pre-modernity) was a very long age of very slow population growth. The second period, beginning with the onset of modernity (with rising standards of living and improving health) and lasting until 1962, had an increasing rate of growth. Now that period is over, and the third part of the story has begun; the population growth rate is falling and will likely continue to fall, leading to an end of growth towards the end of the century.

A- Vocabulary Check

Words in column A are from the text. Match them with their synonyms or meanings in column B. The given lines will help you. Write your answer like in the example. **Example : 1-b**

COLOMN A

- 1-numbered (L2)
- 2-conspicuous (L 3)
- 3-dramatically (L5)
- 4-entire (L6)
- 5- fits (L8)
- 6-pattern (L 8)
- 7- going down (L 12)
- 8-peaked (L 14)
- 9-trends (L 17)

COLUMN B

- a-noticeable
- b-counted
- c-continuing
- d-setting
- e-whole
- f- tendencies
- g-an inclination in a particular direction
- h-decreasing
- i-reached the highest degree

10- onset (L 19)

j-strikingly

11- lasting (L 20)

k-characteristic

B- Comprehension check

Read the text carefully and answer the following questions briefly. (2 lines maximum)

1. What is conspicuous about population growth?
2. What was the increase of the world population between 1900 and 2000 ? Write this number in letters.
3. What do you think exponential growth is ?
4. What does the empirical observation state about population growth ?
5. What did the population growth rate reach 2.1 percent ?
6. What are the observations on which the division of the world's history is based ?
7. How did the population increase during pre-modernity ?
8. How was the population increase during the second period ? Why was the population increasing like that ?
9. How is the population increasing now ?
10. What will happen this century ?

PART TWO : LANGUAGE IN USE

The blanks in the text below have deliberately been created. The removed words are in the box. Read the passage and complete it with them. Write your answers like the example. One word in the box is not concerned. Example : 11. Away

Away, of, worry, from, of, into, time, are, with, food, surprised, increase

The huddled masses

"We call England the mother country" a.....1.....New England once remarked, "because most ..2.....us come from Poland and Italy". It's quite as drastic as that, but today the chances ..3.....an American being of wholly English stock are, outside the South, no more one in four. Only the English visitor is still4.....by this palpable fact.

For three quarters of the population that hears itself so often hailed as "the American people"5.....the descendants of immigrants ...6.....Asia and Africa and, most of all from the continent of Europe. They brought over ...7.....them their religions and folkways and their national ..8....., not least their national prejudices, which for a long ..9.....in the new country turned the cities of the Northeast and the Midwest10.....adjoining compounds of chauvinists, distrustful not only of immigrants from other nations everywhere but too often of their neighbors three or four blocks ...11.....

PART THREE : WRITING

TASK : is population increase a blessing or a curse ? (No more than twenty lines)