



Examples of exam-style questions for Paper 1 Section B

The questions in Section B of Paper 1 all carry a maximum of 15 marks. Reference should be made to pages 55 and 56 of the IB Geography Guide for the markbands applicable to both Higher Level and Standard Level for this section of Paper 1. The markbands show clear progression from the lowest Level A to the highest Level F.

Populations in transition

- Examine the reasons for global variations in fertility and mortality.
- ‘The differences in life expectancy between the developed and developed world are narrowing.’ Discuss the validity of this statement.
- Evaluate the impacts of youthful and ageing populations.
- ‘The causes of internal migrations are varied and complex.’ Discuss this statement.
- ‘Although gender inequalities remain significant, the gender gap has been reduced for most indicators.’ Discuss.

Disparities in wealth and development

- Evaluate the Human Development Index as a measure of global disparities in development.
- Discuss the factors responsible for disparities and inequalities within countries.
- Explain the changing global patterns and trends in *one* of the following:
a life expectancy b education c income.
- Evaluate the progress made in meeting one of the Millennium Development Goals.
- Discuss the main ways in which global disparities in development can be reduced.
- ‘Trade rather than aid is the key to the development of the world’s poorer countries.’ Discuss this statement.

Patterns in environmental quality and sustainability

- Describe and explain the energy balance between solar and longwave radiation.
- ‘The causes of global climate change are human rather than physical.’ Discuss this statement.
- Examine the causes and consequences of soil degradation.
- ‘The factors affecting patterns and trends in physical water scarcity are environmental rather than human.’ Discuss this statement.
- Discuss the various causes of biodiversity loss in tropical rainforests.
- ‘Achieving environmental sustainability is absolutely vital for the future of the human population.’ Discuss.



Patterns in resource consumption

- Evaluate the ecological footprint as a measure of the relationship between population size and resource consumption.
- Discuss the opposing views of the neo-Malthusians and anti-Malthusians in terms of population and resource relationships.
- ‘Significant changes are occurring in the patterns of global oil production and consumption.’ Discuss.
- Examine the changing importance of one renewable energy source.
- Evaluate a strategy aimed at reducing the consumption of one resource.