Cambridge International AS & A Level

GEOGRAPHY **9696/23**

Paper 2 Core Human Geography **May/June 2025**

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)
Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS
- Answer **four** questions in total:
    Section A: answer **all** questions.
    Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
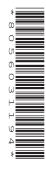- Sketch maps and diagrams should be drawn whenever they serve to illustrate an answer.

INFORMATION
- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].
- The insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.

LICs = low income countries.
MICs = middle income countries.
HICs = high income countries.

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

Section A

Answer **all** questions in this section. All questions are worth 10 marks.

Population

1   Table 1.1 shows population data for South America, 1960–2020.

   (a) Using Table 1.1:

   (i)   state a decade which had the highest population growth rate   [1]

   (ii) calculate the change in life expectancy between 1960 and 2020. Show your working. [2]

   (b) Using the data in Table 1.1, suggest why the population growth rate in South America is likely to be slower in the future.   [2]

   (c) Explain why an increase in life expectancy can cause problems for a government.   [5]

Population/Migration/Settlement dynamics

2   Fig. 2.1 shows rural population change in Spain, an HIC in Europe, 2007–2021.

   (a) Using Fig. 2.1:

   (i)   state the year in which population change was the greatest   [1]

   (ii) calculate the mean (average) rate of population change. Show your working.   [3]

   (b) Suggest **two** reasons why there has been out-migration from rural areas in HICs.   [2]

   (c) Suggest why rural population may increase in the future in HICs.   [4]

Settlement dynamics

3   Fig. 3.1 shows major cities in western Africa.

   (a) Describe the distribution of the major cities shown in Fig. 3.1.   [4]

   (b) Suggest **two** reasons for the distribution shown in Fig. 3.1.   [2]

   (c) Explain why having only one major city in a country can be a disadvantage.   [4]

Section B

Answer **one** question from this section. All questions are worth 30 marks.

Population

4 **(a)** **(i)** Outline the concept of 'optimum population'. [3]

      (ii) Explain why it is difficult to measure the optimum population of an area. [4]

  (b) With the aid of examples, explain the challenges of increasing the level of food security in an area. [8]

  (c) With the aid of examples, assess the view that population growth will always exceed the supply of local resources. [15]

Migration/Settlement dynamics

5 **(a)** Describe the causes of intra-urban migration (within the same urban area). [7]

  (b) With the aid of examples, explain why **urban to urban** migration has increased in recent years. [8]

  (c) With the aid of examples, to what extent is it difficult for governments to manage **urban to rural** migration? [15]

Population/Migration/Settlement dynamics

6 **(a)** **(i)** Compare the process of 'counterurbanisation' with the process of 're-urbanisation'. [4]

      (ii) Suggest **three** problems for an urban area experiencing re-urbanisation. [3]

  (b) With the aid of examples, explain why urban renewal occurs. [8]

  (c) With the aid of examples, assess the extent to which it is possible for governments to manage urban areas. [15]

BLANK PAGE