

Cambridge International AS & A Level

GEOGRAPHY**9696/21**

Paper 2 Core Human Geography

May/June 2026**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 the average daily calorie consumption per capita for selected countries and the world in 2021.
- (a) Using Table 1.1:
- (i) calculate the difference in average daily calorie consumption between the USA and Ethiopia. Show your working. [2]
 - (ii) suggest why Japan could be considered an anomaly to the pattern shown. [2]
- (b) Suggest **two** reasons why people in HICs tend to have a high calorie consumption. [3]
- (c) Explain why the average daily calorie consumption for a country may not indicate the food security of that country. [3]

Migration

- 2 Figure 2.1 shows the sources of migrants to the USA from countries in Central and South America in 2021.
- (a) Describe the pattern of sources of migrants to the USA shown in Figure 2.1. [3]
- (b) Suggest **two** reasons why there were low numbers of migrants from Argentina. [3]
- (c) Explain why climate change may lead to an increase in international migration. [4]

Settlement dynamics

- 3 Figure 3.1 shows an area of manufacturing (area A) in a city in an HIC in Europe.
- (a) Using Figure 3.1, suggest **three** reasons for the location of the area of manufacturing shown in area A. [3]
- (b) Using Figure 3.1, suggest **three** problems the manufacturing area may cause for the surrounding area. [3]
- (c) Explain why manufacturing industries may change location within an urban area. [4]

Section B

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

Population

- 4 (a) (i) Define the term 'infant mortality rate'. [3]
- (ii) Explain **two** reasons why infant mortality rates are falling in MICs. [4]
- (b) With the aid of examples, explain why death rates in urban areas are often higher than death rates in rural areas. [8]
- (c) With the aid of examples, assess the extent to which increased wealth of a population is the main cause of falling birth rates. [15]

Migration

- 5 (a) With the aid of examples, compare the characteristics of rural–urban migrants in HICs with the characteristics of urban–rural migrants in HICs. [7]
- (b) With the aid of examples, explain why improvements in technology have led to increased rates of international migration. [8]
- (c) 'The characteristics of urban areas are the main reason for internal migration within countries.'
- With the aid of examples, how far do you agree with this statement? [15]

Migration/Settlement dynamics

- 6 (a) (i) Describe the characteristics of a 'world city'. [3]
- (ii) Explain **two** causes of the growth of world cities. [4]
- (b) With the aid of examples, explain the rapid growth of urban areas in LICs/MICs. [8]
- (c) 'Some cities have grown too large to be managed effectively.'
- With the aid of examples, to what extent do you agree with this statement? [15]

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