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CAMBRIDGE
International Education

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.

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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]

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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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