



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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## University Examinations 2024/2025

FIRST YEAR FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF  
EDUCATION ARTS

### EGE 3201: POPULATION GEOGRAPHY

DATE: JANUARY 2025

TIME: 2 HOURS

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** Answer question *one* and any other *two* questions

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#### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- Explain the concept of carrying capacity in relation to population growth. (6 marks)
- Define the term 'natural increase' and how it affects population growth. (5 marks)
- Briefly describe any THREE key characteristics of a population pyramid. (6 marks)
- Describe any THREE assumptions that formed basis for Malthusian Theory of Population Growth. (3 marks)
- Distinguish between population density and population distribution. (6 marks)
- Distinguish between crude birth rate and crude death rate. (4 marks)

#### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

- Describe any TWO causes of urban-rural migration. (4 marks)
- Examine the consequences of rapid population increase in urban areas. (16 marks)

#### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

The table below presents data extracted from a census conducted in country X in 2020. Use it to answer the questions that follow.

| Events   | Quantity   |
|--|------------|
| Total Births                                     | 545,000    |
| Live Births                                      | 543,500    |
| Deaths <1 year of age                            | 4,520      |
| Deaths of <1 month old                           | 2,240      |
| Deaths of 1 – 4 years old                        | 8,330      |
| Deaths caused by pregnancy related complications | 1,260      |
| Total Population                                 | 22,000,000 |

- a. Calculate the following population indicators for country X:
  - i. Maternal Mortality Rate (4 marks)
  - ii. Neonatal Mortality Rate (4 marks)
  - iii. Infant Mortality Rate (4 marks)
  - iv. Child Mortality (3 marks)
  - v. Under Five Mortality Rate (3 marks)
- b. Assess the significance of Infant Mortality Rate to country X. (2 marks)

#### QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)

- a. Examine any THREE ways in which political factors affect population distribution of a country. (6 marks)
- b. Using population pyramids, illustrate the differences between a youthful population and an ageing population. (6 marks)
- c. Analyze the significance of population pyramids in policy formulation. (8 marks)

#### QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)

- a. Describe the Demographic Transition Model by Warren Thompson 1929. (12 marks)
- b. Examine TWO factors that influence the progression of developing countries through the different stages of the Demographic Transition Model. (8 marks)