**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period# \_\_\_\_**

**Xian Li**—You are a 22 year-old woman living in a small village in rural China. Things in the countryside have changed dramatically over the last few decades. As a result of the **One Child Policy**, the **Total Fertility Rate (TFR)** of China has dropped dramatically. While women 30 years ago had an average TFR of 6.5 children each, now the TFR is only 1.3! While this might seem beneficial to China’s overpopulation problem, due to cultural reasons, it has resulted in far more boys being born than girls. Because the **sex ratio** is way off women are becoming rare! Unmarried men are becoming problematic as crime rates rise and foreign women are being brought to your community for sex trafficking.

Questions:

1. How do you feel about the One Child Policy?
2. How can China fix the discrepancy in the sex ratio between men and women?

**Gita Patel**—You are a young woman living in Mumbai, India. Your city is incredibly overcrowded and living space is limited. What’s worse is that you want to have a large family with boys and girls however the pressure to limit child-birth in India is intense. The government is constantly advocating birth control and what’s worse is that your family only wants you to have a boy! While government’s efforts have slowed population growth (AKA the **Natural Increase Rate)** you still feel this is unfair!

Questions:

1. Do you feel like Indian women should have a greater voice in the birth control discussions in your country? Why or why not?
2. What are some other ways the government can slow the Natural Increase Rate?

**Samuel Eto’o**—You are a 23 year old man living in a rural village in the Democratic Republic of Congo. While you want to start a family, things are very difficult as you live in a **less developed country (LDC)**. As a result of poor health conditions and lack of access to medical facilities, your country has a very high **infant mortality rate.** Your sister has had 4 children however, 2 of them have died within the first year due to lack of adequate healthcare.

Questions

1. What are some of the biggest issues facing your country today?
2. What, in your opinion, can be done to raise awareness of the high infant mortality rate in your country?

**Thomas Malthus**—You are an English social scientist living in the late 1700s around the time of the Industrial Revolution. You have had a terrible realization! As the population of England and the world is growing at an astonishing rate, you believe that the world will soon run out of food! Due to advances in medicine, the **Crude Birth Rate** (CBR) is rapidly outpacing the **Crude Death Rate (CDR).** We are all doomed!!!

Questions:

1. Why are you so scared about the future populations having enough food?
2. What are some things the world can do to make sure we don’t actually run out of food?

**Earnst Ravenstein**—You are a German social scientist and have dedicated your life to explaining how and why people and goods migrate. One day you were sitting under an apple tree and inspiration hit you! Why not apply Newton’s laws of gravity to people and goods!! As a result you developed the **Gravity Model** showing how people and goods move based on how far away they are and how large the population is. You decided to call this ‘pull’ to migrate ‘**gravity’.**

Questions:

1. What is the gravity model?
2. Why do larger communities have more resources than smaller communities?

**Esther Boserup**—You are a Danish economist and you feel that **Thomas Malthus** is an idiot!!! Why couldn’t he see that his theories on population growth outrunning food supply would be solved by technology!!? Clearly human beings are creative and capable. Thanks to modern technology like tractors and fertilizers we don’t have to worry about running out of food!! As you always say “*The power of ingenuity would always outmatch that of demand”.*  Now that we have solved the food problem, let's deal with social inequality in the world! Educating women can lead to economic development and lower birth rates.

Questions:

1. Why do you hate Thomas Malthus so much?
2. Do you think technology can become too powerful for people to handle?

**Nadir Ibrahim**—You are a middle aged man living in Egypt. Your family has always worked their farm on the riverbank of the Nile for as long as anyone can remember. The mighty Nile River has been the life-blood of Egypt since the dawn of civilization! However as the population of Egypt and the world grows, this has posed a problem as farm land in Egypt is limited to the areas around the Nile, the **Agricultural Density** is becoming too high! So many farmers working in such a small area! We need modern farm equipment and technology to reduce this burden!

Questions:

1. How is the agricultural density affecting you and your family?
2. What can Egypt do to reduce the density issue in your country?

**Jane Randalf**—You work for the United Nations resource center and is your job to study the populations of countries around the world. The vast majority of your work involved studying the **Demographic Transition Model (DTM)** or examining how countries go from high population growth, to moderate population growth to low population growth. Many factors like **Crude Birth Rate, Crude Death Rate and Life Expectancy** can play a role**.** The sad part of your job is that you must face the fact that **Less Developed Countries** (LDCs) are often plagued with many issues impacting their demographic transition.

Questions:

1. What is the demographic transition model?
2. Why do less developed countries face more issues with high birth and death rates?

**Hannis Dubernickle**—You are a Danish man living in Copenhagen, Denmark. As you live in a **More Developed Country (MDC)**, you enjoy a higher standard of living than many people around the world. Education and healthcare are easily accessible to most people living in your country. However, people are having fewer children because of access to birth control and the view that children are expensive, therefore a large family is too much of a burden. Due to the low **Crude Birth Rate**  (CBR), your country is aging! This is putting a strain on Denmark’s economy as the aging population begins to retire. This **dependency ratio** means that fewer working young Danes must support more elderly people as they retire. In an effort to change this government and private business is actually encouraging people to have babies. A Danish airlines even offers discount to couples that have children on vacation! Their slogan is ‘do it for Denmark’!

Questions

1. What is the dependency ratio?
2. How can Denmark increase its population?

**Chandini Mamun**—You are an old woman living in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh and things are getting crowded for you and your family! In Bangladesh, the **Crude Birth Rate (CBR)** has grown dramatically over the last 50 years while the **Crude Death Rate** (**CDR)** has dropped. This has resulted in massive overpopulation and is causing severe problems for you and your family. Today in Bangladesh there are 1,222 people every square kilometer. The United States only has 35 people per square kilometer! This **arithmetic density** means that Bangladesh is one of the most overcrowded places on Earth!

Questions:

1. What steps can be taken to reduce the population in Dhaka?
2. How does overpopulation affect you and your family in Bangladesh?

**Jane Franco**—You are an American scientist studying the spread of diseases also known as **epidemiology.** As a scientist living in a **More Developed Country (MDC)**, you have researched how modern improvements to health like clean drinking water and medicine have virtually eliminated disease **pandemics** in the United States. Diseases like Cholera use to be a huge problem, especially in dirty overcrowded cities. Ironically, the biggest problem with diseases in the USA today is that people are living too long! This means that **degenerative diseases** like cancer or heart attacks (associated with aging), are the biggest cases of disease in the USA. Finally Americans are simply too fat! As one of the most obese countries in the world, adults in the United States are at a much higher risk for cancer and diabetes. Get on that treadmill people!

Questions:

1. What is epidemiology?
2. Why is people living too long becoming a problem in the developed world?

**Faizan Saif**—You are an old woman living in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan and things are getting crowded for you and your family! In Pakistan, the **Crude Birth Rate (CBR)** has grown dramatically over the last 50 years while the **Crude Death Rate** (**CDR)** has dropped. This has resulted in massive overpopulation and is causing severe problems for you and your family. Today in Pakistan there are issues caused by food shortages. The government has tried to intervene, but due to a weak economy cause little tax revenue, there is only so much they can do. Currently 32% of all children in your country are underweight.

Questions:

1. What steps can be taken to reduce the population in Pakistan?
2. How do food shortages affect you and your family in Pakistan?

[**Adrienne**](https://www.behindthename.com/name/adrienne) **Bonet**—You work for the United Nations resource center and is your job to study the populations of countries around the world. The vast majority of your work involved studying the **Demographic Transition Model (DTM)** or examining how countries go from high population growth, to moderate population growth to low population growth. Many factors like **Crude Birth Rate, Crude Death Rate and Life Expectancy** can play a role**.** The sad part of your job is that you must face the fact that **Less Developed Countries** (LDCs) are often plagued with many issues impacting their demographic transition.

Questions:

1. What is the demographic transition model?
2. Why do less developed countries face more issues with high birth and death rates?

**Ifemelu Adichie**—You are a Nigerian **immigrant** living in Boston, Massachusetts. You **emigrated** from Nigeria ten years ago to study health science at Harvard University. After you graduated, you were offered a position on staff to continue your research on medical resource distribution worldwide. While you enjoy your high quality of life in the states, you feel guilty about leaving your home. Friends back home are claiming you are contributing to the **brain drain** of their country and want you to return home and work at a university in Lagos.

1. What pulled you to the U.S.?
2. Why are your friends frustrated at your choice to stay in America?

**Juan Garcia**—You are a Mexican scientist working with Jane Franco. You were doing research in Mexico City, but moved to Los Angeles because of the many **pull factors** of the city such as a better education for your children and a safer environment. Jane often says you are a huge assistance to the lab, citing you as an example of the United States’ immigration policies encouraging a **brain gain**. You continue to send **remittance** home to your parents to help pay for their medical care because they were unable to join you in your **international migration**.

1. What pulled you to the states?

1. While you are contributing to American science, what negative effect can your choice to stay in America have on Mexico?

**Hussein Mohamed**—You are a Somali **refugee** living in London. War and instability were the major **push factors** that led to your pregnant mother moving to a refugee camp in Kenya where you were born. When you were ten, your family was placed in the city of London. Hoping for less expensive rent and more space, you moved to the suburbs—an example of **intraregional migration**. After an **interregional migration** to attend Manchester University, you returned to the city to be a doctor in a local clinic. After seeing so much of the world, you are hoping to join Doctors Without Borders and do a rotation in Kenya at the camp where you were born.

1. What intraregional move did you make?
2. Do you think all refugees who get an education should go back to the developing areas they came from to contribute to their development? Why or why not?