

Oxford Revise | Geography | Answers

Chapter 19 Why are some countries wealthier than others?

All exemplar answers given are worth full marks.

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(a)

(i) China

(ii) As GNIs increase so do HDIs. As GNIs increase birth rates decline.

(iii) High birth rates are associated with poorer countries because large families ensure a decent family income and support for ageing relatives. Low birth rates are associated with richer countries because economic development sees more women continuing their education and having a career, so often do not start families till they are older.

(b) In ACs, the welfare and medical facilities are well established and so people generally are healthy and have a long life expectancy. They will eventually die of old age, and so the country will appear to have a high death rate. ACs' death rate is also increased because of obesity, smoking, and illegal drug use. This explains why the death rate can be higher in a developed country compared with one with a lower level of development. Birth rate, due to education and the use of contraception, are much lower in an AC. In a developing country, a large family is a status symbol and there is poorer access to contraception. Birth rate therefore is a good measure of development.

(c) Quality of life is the degree to which a person is healthy, comfortable, and able to enjoy life.

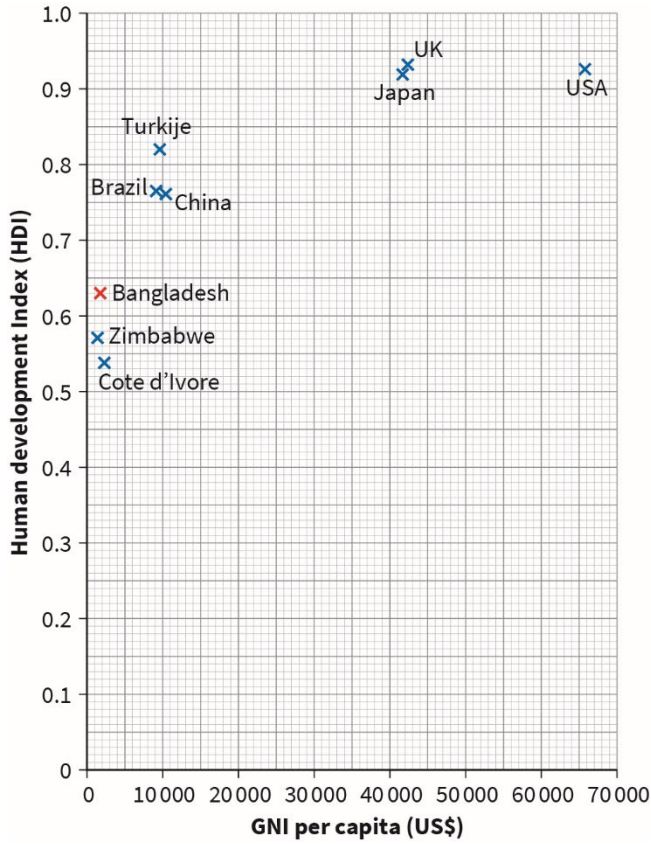
(d) HDI is widely used because it takes into consideration both social and economic factors. As well as measuring a person's income, it also considers the social factors of health and education.

(e) The number of babies under one year of age that die per year, per 1 000 live births.

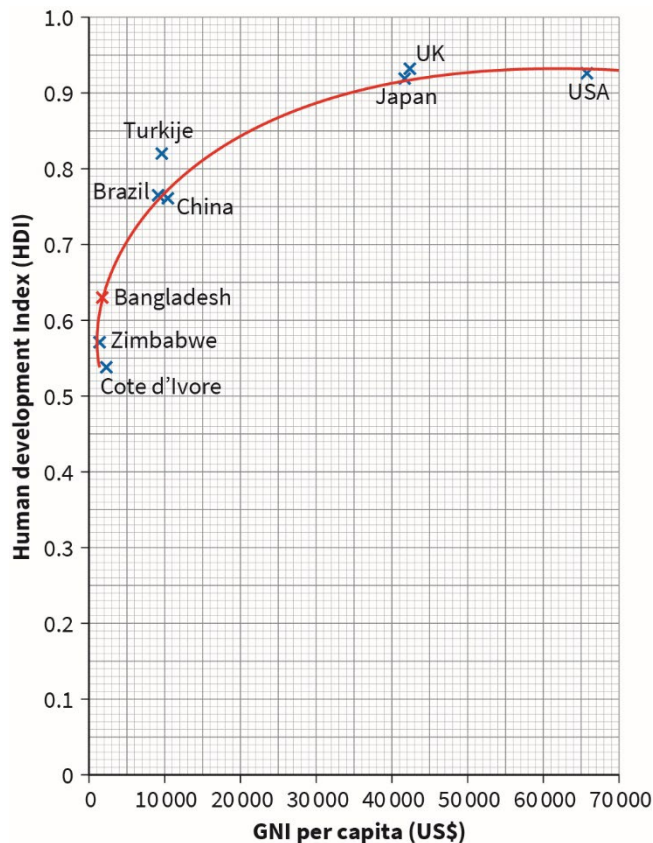
2

(a)

(i) The scattergraph should be completed as below:



(ii) The scattergraph should be completed as below:



(iii) There is a positive relationship. As GNI increases so does the HDI.

- (b) The main cause of death in an AC is old age. In an LIDC there is a high infant mortality rate, so many children die before they are a year old. The poor living conditions and the lack of welfare and medical facilities means that people in a developing country have a lower life expectancy because they die at a younger age.
- (c) Where a country suffers extreme climatic and weather conditions, development is difficult because of the damage caused by tropical storms, droughts and floods, resulting in large repair and reconstruction costs. The money could have been used to develop the economy. If a country's economy is dominated by agriculture, then these weather conditions can ruin crops, resulting in a loss of income or, at the worst, famine. The lack of a safe clean water supply has negative effects on the population's health. Trade is difficult if a country is landlocked and has no access to the sea. Mountainous terrain also makes development difficult because of the costs of developing an efficient communication network.
- (d) An extreme climate may lead to limited and unreliable rainfall and extreme heat or cold, creating difficult conditions to work in.; Extreme weather conditions include heavy rainfall leading to flooding, droughts, and vulnerability to tropical storms.
- (e) Physical factors causing uneven development include extreme climatic and weather conditions, which creates a difficult environment to live and work in. The lack of clean water can lead to an unhealthy population. Landlocked countries are cut off from sea trade because of the lack of access to a port. Many European ACs have a long history of development based on the exploitation of the resources of their colonies. Since the mid-twentieth century, most of these LIDCs have gained independence, but have struggled to progress significantly since owing to ethnic rivalries, power struggles, civil wars, and corruption continuing to hold back development. This means that they continue to face huge challenges

including poor infrastructure, lack of administrative experience, and political instability. In some countries, despite gaining their independence, they remain economically tied to their former colonial master. The AC continues to rely on their former colony for primary products and this makes it difficult for the former colony to industrialise and develop economically. This is neo-colonialism.

Questions referring to previous content

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- (a)** An unplanned area of poor-quality housing, which lacks proper services such as water supply, sanitation, and electricity.
- (b)** The city authority provides the land, building materials and water, sanitation, and power services for residents who then build their own homes.