Test Bank for Population and Society An Introduction to Demography 2nd Poston

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Chapter 2: Theories of Demography

1. Poston and Bouvier in the P&S textbook define a population as a/an _____.

a. group or collection of demographics

b. group or collection of societies

c. group or collection of people**

d. society of multicultural people

e. numerical representation of variables

2. Which of the following is one of the several characteristics of the second demographic transition?

a. Decrease in age at first marriage.

b. Emergence of same-sex marriages and partnerships. **

c. Increase in childbearing at all reproductive ages.

d. The size of a population changes due to births, deaths and migrations. **

e. That a population of a developing country cannot be measured accurately.

3. The first demographic transition involved _____.

a. the movement from one country during the industrial revolution to another country

b. the revolution in living arrangements and sexual behavior that transformed Western societies before other societies

c. the transition of societies from high levels of fertility and mortality to low levels of fertility and mortality **

d. the transition of societies from high levels of fertility and mortality to low levels of fertility while maintaining high levels of mortality

e. accelerated levels of immigration and emigration

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4. Stage _____ of the demographic transition is the stage where the levels of fertility and mortality are both low.

a. one

b. two

c. three

d. four **

e. five

5. Which of the following theories deals with fertility?

a. Wealth flows theory **

b. Epidemiological transition theory

c. Push/pull theory

d. All of the above

e. None of the above

6. Human ecological theory is

a. a macro-level explanation of population that focuses on societies and not on individuals.**

b. a theory that argues that sex ratios at birth are negatively related to population growth and decline.

c. a multileveled approach that uses both quantitative and qualitative data to explain population growth and decline.

d. a theory that focuses on the society-wide decline of disease and degenerative causes of death.

e. a theory that looks at the changes in specific societies over time in reproductive behavior.

7. The fourth stage of Epidemiological Transition Theory is a stage that

a. focuses on pandemics.

b. deals with degenerative and manmade diseases.

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c. focuses on pestilence and famine.

d. where behavior and lifestyle influences mortality.**

e. is strictly hypothetical and is based on a critique of the “Malthusian Problem.”

8. Which of the following statements about historical writings pertaining to human populations is correct?

a. Most early writings agreed that the larger the population, the more prosperous the society.

b. Plato believed that a small size of a community would lead to a demise of the community.

c. Malthus argued that if left unchecked populations would grow geometrically. **

d. Contraception is included among Malthus’ preventive checks.

e. none of the above.

9. Demographic transition theory (DTT) is the most prominent explanation for human population growth. Which statement below best summarizes the DTT?

a. DTT focuses on the transition in a society from low fertility and low mortality to high fertility and high mortality.

b. DTT focuses on the transition in a society from low to high fertility and mortality within the context of industrialization

c. DTT focuses on the transition in a society from high fertility and low mortality to low fertility due to modernization

d. DTT focuses on the patterns among societies of fluctuating fertility and mortality.

e. DTT focuses on the transition in a society from high fertility and high mortality to low fertility and low mortality. **

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10. To explain new fertility patterns in European countries, demographers have developed two new theories. In these two new theories, the decline of fertility and the importance of immigration are the main topics. What are the names of these two theories?

a. the first demographic transition and the second demographic transition

b. the third demographic transition and the fourth demographic transition

c. the second demographic transition and the third demographic transition **

d. the new demographic transition and the new fertility transition

e. the transition of fertility behavior and the transition of immigration

11. Among the various fertility theories, the one that explains the fertility transition by focusing on the "emotional nucleation" of the family as the key factor is

a. the wealth flows theory

b. human ecology theory

c. political economic theory

d. epidemiological transition theory

e. demographic transition theory

12. The "push and pull factors" approach to the study of migration helps us better understand individuals' decisions regarding migration. Which of the following is an example of a "push" factor?

a. political turmoil in the area of origin **

b. new job opportunities in the area of destination

c. excellent education system in the area of origin

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d. religious oppression in the area of destination

e. high unemployment in the area of destination.

13. The theory of sociological human ecology is an approach focusing on the following four key components:

a. population, distribution, organization, and resources

b. population, organization, resources, and society

c. population, organization, environment, and technology

d. environment, organization, fertility, and mortality

e. environment, technology, fertility and mortality

Essay Questions:

1. Describe the basic demographic transition theory (DTT) and its four stages.

2. Explain the "Malthusian Problem." Be sure to include how the writings of Malthus were interpreted and critiqued.

3. Define and compare with one another the following theories of fertility: wealth flows theory, human ecological theory, and political economic theory.

4. Describe the various push and pull factors in migration. Give examples of each for hypothetical population actors.

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5. Poston and Bouvier discuss in their P&S text several theories that explain the factors behind international migration. Choose two of these theories and summarize the key points of each theory. Give an example of each. And tell me which of the two you prefer. Why do you prefer this theory over the others?

6. John Caldwell developed the wealth flows theory as a revision to demographic transition theory. Summarize wealth flows theory and list its main points. Also, tell me if you believe this theory is applicable today in developing societies.

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