

2.7 Population Policies

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 10 marks

Objective

Build the skills to answer exam questions on **population policies** 人口政策.

You must be able to:

- distinguish **pro-natalist** 鼓励生育 from **anti-natalist** 限制生育 policies
- give an example of each type
- explain why a government adopts each type
- state one consequence of a strict anti-natalist policy

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Pro-natalist vs anti-natalist

A **pro-natalist** policy encourages births (cash bonuses, parental leave) —used where fertility is very low. An **anti-natalist** policy discourages births —used where growth strains resources.

■ Why governments intervene

Low-fertility, aging countries fear a shrinking workforce, so they go **pro-natalist**. Fast-growing countries fear resource strain, so they go **anti-natalist** (family planning, limits).

■ Consequences

A strict anti-natalist policy can lower fertility but cause a skewed **sex ratio**, an aging population, and a future labour shortage.

2 Practice

2.1 Define a pro-natalist policy and give one example.

[2]

2.2 Explain why a low-fertility country might adopt a pro-natalist policy. [2]

2.3 A rapidly growing country introduces family-planning limits.

(a) What type of policy is this? [1]

(b) State one unintended consequence such a policy can cause. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 Offering cash bonuses for each new baby is a [1]

- **A** anti-natalist policy
- **B** pro-natalist policy
- **C** migration policy
- **D** measure of development

3.2 A country worried about resource strain from rapid growth is most likely to adopt an [1]

- **A** pro-natalist policy
- **B** anti-natalist policy
- **C** open-border policy
- **D** aging policy

3.3 Decades after a strict one-child style policy, a country now offers incentives to have more children.

(a) Explain why the policy switched from anti- to pro-natalist. [2]

4 Go further

- work through the **2.7 Population Policies** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Population and Migration** section of the AP Human Geography handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 a policy encouraging more births; e.g. baby bonuses, paid parental leave, childcare subsidies.

2.2 its workforce is shrinking and population aging; more births would sustain the labour force and support the elderly.

2.3 (a) anti-natalist. (b) skewed sex ratio, aging population, or future labour shortage.

3.1 B. rewarding births encourages them —pro-natalist.

3.2 B. to slow growth it discourages births —anti-natalist.

3.3 (a) the earlier policy over-lowered fertility, causing an aging population and shrinking workforce, so the government now encourages births to rebalance.