

What will we cover today?

How and why do places vary? An in-depth study of the local place in which you live or study and one contrasting place:

Understand the different ways economies can be classified and how they vary from place to place.
Understand inequalities in pay levels across different economic sectors.
Understand how places have changed their functions and demographic characteristics over time.
Understand the various reasons for changes in places' functions and demographic characteristics.
Understand the ways of measuring changes in employment trends, demographics, land use and levels of deprivation.
Understand that regional, national, international and global influences have influenced the characteristics of your chosen places.
Understand the way economic and social changes in your places have influenced people's identity.
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Economic Classification

Economies can be classified in a number of ways based on different criteria, including level of development, economic system, sectoral composition, and openness to international trade. :

- 1. Level of Development:** Economies can be classified as developed, developing, or underdeveloped based on their level of economic development. Developed economies are characterized by high income per capita, advanced technology, high levels of industrialization, and a mature financial sector. Developing economies are characterized by lower income per capita, less advanced technology, less industrialization, and less mature financial sectors. Underdeveloped economies are characterized by extremely low income per capita, limited access to modern technology, low levels of industrialization, and rudimentary financial systems.

Economic Classification

Sectoral Composition: Economies can be classified based on the composition of their economic sectors, such as agriculture, manufacturing, and services. Some economies are predominantly agricultural, with farming accounting for a large share of output and employment. Others are more industrialized, with manufacturing as a dominant sector. In many developed economies, the services sector is the largest, accounting for a majority of output and employment.

Economic Classification

Openness to International Trade: Economies can also be classified based on their degree of openness to international trade. Some economies are highly open, with a large share of their GDP derived from exports and imports. Others are more closed, with limited trade with other countries. Open economies tend to benefit from increased access to foreign markets and technology, while closed economies may be more vulnerable to external shocks and less able to take advantage of global economic opportunities.

How do Economies vary across the globe?

Economies vary greatly across the globe, and this is due to a wide range of factors including geography, natural resources, political institutions, cultural norms, and historical legacies.

- 1. Resource-Rich Economies:** Some economies are heavily dependent on natural resources, such as oil, minerals, or agricultural land. For example, the economy of Saudi Arabia is heavily dependent on oil exports, while the economy of South Africa is heavily reliant on gold and other minerals. These economies can experience boom and bust cycles as the prices of these resources fluctuate on the global market.
- 2. High-Income Economies:** Some economies have a high level of economic development and are characterized by high levels of industrialization and a mature financial sector. For example, the economies of the United States, Japan, and Germany are considered to be high-income economies. These economies tend to have a large services sector, with financial services, technology, and healthcare as important industries.
- 3. Emerging Economies:** Many economies are considered to be emerging markets, which are economies that are in the process of transitioning from a developing to a developed economy. For example, the economies of China, India, and Brazil are considered to be emerging markets. These economies are characterized by rapid economic growth, a large and growing middle class, and increasing industrialization and urbanization.
- 4. Agriculture economies:** Some economies are heavily reliant on agriculture and are characterized by a large rural population. For example, the economies of Cambodia, Laos, and Bangladesh are primarily agrarian. These economies tend to be relatively low-income, with limited access to modern technology and limited diversification of the economy.

Differences in Pay

- **Primary Industry:** Workers in the primary industry tend to earn lower wages due to the nature of the work, which often involves physical labor and may not require advanced education or specialized skills. Additionally, these industries can be more vulnerable to market fluctuations and price volatility, which can impact workers' earnings.
- **Secondary Industry:** Workers in the secondary industry tend to earn higher wages than those in primary industries, as the work is often more specialized and requires more advanced skills and education. Additionally, these industries often have higher levels of unionization, which can lead to higher wages and better working conditions.
- **Tertiary Industry:** Workers in the tertiary industry tend to earn higher wages than those in secondary industries, as the work often requires specialized skills, advanced education, and extensive training. Additionally, many service industries such as finance and healthcare have strong regulatory frameworks that can help protect workers' rights and ensure fair pay.
- **Quaternary Industry:** Workers in the quaternary industry tend to earn the highest wages, as the work often requires advanced education and specialized skills in areas such as technology, research, and consulting. Additionally, these industries often involve the creation and distribution of knowledge-based products and services, which can be highly valued.

How places can change their functions and demographic characteristics over time

1. Economic changes: Changes in the economy can have a significant impact on the function and demographics of a place. For example, the decline of manufacturing jobs in a city may lead to a decrease in population and a shift towards service-based industries.
2. Technological advances: Technological advances can also lead to changes in the function and demographics of a place. For example, the growth of e-commerce may lead to a decrease in the number of physical retail stores in a city, while the growth of remote work may lead to an increase in the number of people who choose to live in more rural areas.
3. Environmental factors: Environmental factors such as climate change, natural disasters, and pollution can also impact the function and demographics of a place. For example, a city that experiences frequent flooding may see a decline in population as people move to safer areas.
4. Social factors: Social factors such as changes in values and lifestyles can also lead to changes in the function and demographics of a place. For example, a city that becomes known for its vibrant arts scene may attract more artists and creative types, leading to a shift in the city's demographics.

Place Character

Place character relates to the specific qualities, attributes or features of a location that make it unique. Place character is affected by endogenous and exogenous factors:

- Endogenous Factors: Those which originate from within the place and are local:
- Land Use - Is the area urban or rural?
- Topography - The relief and lie of the land
- Physical Geography - Are there waterfalls? Is the area urban or an estuary?
- Infrastructure - Services that enhance or are essential to living conditions:
- Roads, railways, canals, airports, broadband and phone networks, water supply, sewers and electrical grids
- Parks, public pools, schools, hospitals, libraries
- Education system, health care provision, local government, law enforcement, emergency services
- Demographic Characteristics - Age, gender, number, ethnicity of the population
- Built Environment - The architecture of the area. Contemporary, ageing, historical
- Location - Elevation, distance to the coast etc.
- Economic Characteristics - In debt, growth market, ageing industries, economic sectors

Exogenous Factors: Those which originate from outside a place and provide linkages and relationships with and to other places. Exogenous factors are commonly referred to as flows of:

- People
- Money and Investment
- Resources
- Ideas

Changes to the Character of a Place

The character of a place can change in many ways over time. Some of the most significant changes that can occur include changes to the physical environment, changes to the social and cultural fabric of the community, and changes to the economic landscape of the area.

- **Physical Changes:** Physical changes to a place can occur due to a variety of factors, such as urbanization, environmental disasters, and changes in infrastructure. For example, a small rural community that experiences rapid population growth may see changes in the built environment as new housing developments, shopping centres, and public services are built to meet the needs of the growing population. Similarly, a city that is heavily impacted by climate change may see significant changes to its coastline, such as beach erosion and sea level rise, which can alter the character of the area, perhaps reducing tourism and redefining the identity of the area.

Changes to the Character of a Place

- **Social and Cultural Changes:** Changes in the social and cultural fabric of a place can also significantly impact its character. For example, as younger generations begin to move into an area, they may bring with them new values, beliefs, and cultural practices that can shift the character of the community, they also might require different recreational facilities and such the architecture of a place may change, as may its sound or visual profile. Similarly, immigration can lead to changes in the cultural makeup of a place, as people from different backgrounds bring new traditions, languages, and customs.
- **Economic Changes:** Economic changes can also have a significant impact on the character of a place. For example, a city that was once known for its manufacturing industry may see a shift towards service-based industries as new economic opportunities arise. This can lead to changes in the types of jobs that are available, as well as changes in the overall character of the area, alternatively, if these opportunities are not presented it may suffer cycle of decline and graffiti and crime may alter the perception of safety and positive character of the area.

The characteristics of a location may change for a variety of endogenous and exogeneous causes:

Physical - Location → Proximity to large cities and economic zones may encourage economic development.

- Reputation → The attractiveness of an area may influence the assistance and funding it receives.
- infrastructure → Roads (motorways), railways, airports allow the migration of people and movement of goods to previously inaccessible locations.
- Competition → TNCs relocating to the best regions (new investment, large labour pool). Alternatively, competition from other locations offering a better work environment will take business and investments away from a location.
- Role of planning by Governments and Stakeholders
 - Government strategies to restructure the economy - e.g. increasing student numbers, filling skills shortages, becoming self-reliant in energy or food production.
 - Conservation area policies limit new developments and encourage conversions.
- Economy - The function of the place may change - administrative, commercial, retail or industrial.

Measuring Change

- Land use changes - reduction in abandoned land, industrial: residential ratio
- Employment trends - changes to employment types, unemployment rate
- Demographic changes - inward or outward migration
- Economic Productivity - money generated or value of products produced per person

Alternatively, you could measure a variety of factors using an index, such as the Index of Multiple Deprivation.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation measures: Income, Employment, Education, Health, Crime, Barrier to Housing and Services, Living Environment. An increase in the IoMD score could be an improvement of one of these factors, or a combination of factors

What kinds of questions could we make out of....

Evaluate the reasons why...

Evaluate the view that...

Assess why stakeholders...

Assess the extent to which...

Assess whether the...

Assess why conflicts may occur ...

Assess the contribution of

'Understand that regional, national, international and global influences have influenced the characteristics of your chosen places.'

'Understand the way economic and social changes in your places have influenced people's identity'.

'Local place in which you live or study and one contrasting place'

Plan

Assess whether the demographic characteristics of your local place and your contrasting place are the result of economic factors (20)

Pick apart this paragraph:

‘The demographic characteristics of Hampstead Heath and Woolwich in London can be analysed by considering the impact of economic factors. In recent years, there has been a growing trend of gentrification in Hampstead Heath, which has led to an increase in the cost of living in the area. This has had a significant impact on the demographic characteristics of the area, as it has become more attractive to affluent individuals who can afford the higher cost of living. As a result, the population of Hampstead Heath has become increasingly diverse, with a higher proportion of young professionals and families with high incomes.’

Is this paragraph better? How could it be further improved?

'In contrast, Woolwich has experienced a different set of economic factors that have influenced its demographic characteristics. Historically, Woolwich was a center for manufacturing and industrial activity, which led to a working-class population. However, in recent years, there has been a decline in manufacturing jobs and the area has struggled economically. This has led to a high level of poverty and social deprivation in the area, which has had a significant impact on the demographic characteristics of the population. The area has a high proportion of young people and a large number of single-parent households.'

What economic factors could we discuss?

1. **Cost of living:** The cost of living in an area can have a significant impact on the demographic characteristics of the population. Areas with a high cost of living are often populated by individuals with higher incomes, while areas with a lower cost of living may attract lower-income populations.
2. **Employment opportunities:** The availability of employment opportunities can also have a significant impact on demographics. Areas with a strong job market may attract younger populations or those seeking higher-paying jobs, while areas with limited job opportunities may have older populations or individuals who are unemployed or underemployed.
3. **Housing affordability:** Housing affordability is another important economic factor that can influence demographics. Areas with high housing costs may attract wealthier individuals or families, while areas with more affordable housing may attract lower-income individuals or families.
4. **Industry and business:** The industry and business landscape of an area can also influence demographics. Areas with a strong manufacturing or industrial presence may attract working-class populations, while areas with a large number of service-based businesses may attract younger, more educated populations.

How could the exam board edit this question?

Assess whether the demographic characteristics of your local place and your contrasting place are the result of economic factors (20)

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