**Learning outcome:** I can identify the features of the demographic transition model, describe the characteristics of countries in each stage, and evaluate the model.

| **Learning cycles**  1. Label the features of the demographic transition model.  2. Describe the characteristics of each stage.  3. Evaluate the strengths and limitations of the model. | **Suggested prior knowledge**  • Understanding of basic population concepts such as birth rate, death rate, and natural increase  • Familiarity with global population trends and historical changes  • Knowledge of economic development indicators and their impact on demography  • Basic map-reading skills | |
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| **Key learning points**  1. The demographic transition model consists of five stages.  2. Each stage represents different birth and death rates.  3. The model explains population changes over time.  4. While the model shows generally accepted changes to a country's demographic features over time, it has shortcomings such as not accounting for migration.  **Misconception**s **& common errors**  1. Not all countries follow the model exactly. Historical and cultural factors can lead to variations.  2. Some countries may not progress through all stages due to varying social, economic, and political conditions.  3. undefined | **Keywords** |  |
| **Demographic transition model** | A model that represents the transition of a country's population over time through different stages of birth and death rates. |
| **Birth rate** | The number of live births per 1,000 people in a year. |
| **Death rate** | The number of deaths per 1,000 people in a year. |
| **Economic development** | The process by which a country improves the economic, political, and social well-being of its people. |
| **Natural increase** | The growth rate of a population as the difference between birth rate and death rate. |

**Prior knowledge starter quiz**

| 1. What is the birth rate?  A. The increase in population per 1,000 people in a year.  B. The number of deaths per 1,000 people in a year.  C. The number of live births per 1,000 people in a year. ✓ | 2. What does natural increase refer to in population studies?  A. The difference between birth rate and death rate. ✓  B. The number of births in a given year.  C. The total population growth including migration. | 3. What is the expected trend in birth rates for Advanced Countries (ACs)?  A. Fluctuating birth rates  B. High birth rates  C. Low birth rates ✓ |
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| 4. What is the expected trend in death rates for Low-Income Developing Countries (LIDCs)?  A. High death rates ✓  B. Low death rates  C. Stable death rates | 5. How do birth rates in LIDCs typically compare to ACs?  A. Higher birth rates in LIDCs ✓  B. Lower birth rates in LIDCs  C. Similar birth rates in LIDCs | 6. What can often result from low birth and death rates in ACs?  A. High infant mortality  B. Population ageing ✓  C. Rapid population growth |

**Learning cycles**

| **Explanation** | **Checks for understanding** | **Practice** | **Feedback** |
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| Label the features of the demographic transition model | | | |
| \* Introduce the demographic transition model as a tool to understand population changes.  \* Focus on labeling the axes of the graph, which typically include time and population metrics.  \* Explain the stages of the model and how they align with the graph.  \* Show how birth and death rates are represented on the graph.  \* Identify how natural increase is depicted within the graph's context. | 1. What do the axes on the demographic transition model represent?  A. Cultural shifts and technological advancements  B. Economic growth and climate change  C. Time and population metrics ✓  2. How is natural increase depicted on the graph?  A. As a separate line  B. As a shaded area  C. As the space between birth and death rate lines ✓ | Label the provided diagram of the demographic transition model. Mark the axes, stages, birth and death rates, and identify the natural increase. | Model answer: Axes - Time and Population; Stage labels; Birth and Death rate lines; Natural increase shown between these lines. |

| Describe the characteristics of each stage | | | |
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| \* Describe each stage of the demographic transition model in detail.  \* Highlight key characteristics such as birth and death rates.  \* Provide examples of countries currently in each stage.  \* Discuss how economic and social factors influence these stages.  \* Use real-world examples to illustrate the stages. | 1. Which stage is characterised by high birth rates and declining death rates?  A. Stage 1  B. Stage 2 ✓  C. Stage 4  2. What factors influence a country's stage in the demographic transition model?  A. Climate conditions  B. Economic and social factors ✓  C. Geographical location | Describe the characteristics of each stage of the demographic transition model and match them with examples of countries currently in those stages. | Model answer: Stage 1 - High birth and death rates; Stage 2 - High birth rate, declining death rate; Stage 3 - Declining birth and death rates; Stage 4 - Low birth and death rates; Stage 5 - Low birth and death rates, potential decline. |

| Evaluate the strengths and limitations of the model | | | |
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| \* Discuss the strengths of the demographic transition model, such as its ability to generalise population changes.  \* Highlight the limitations, including exceptions and variations among countries.  \* Explain how historical and cultural factors can affect the model's applicability.  \* Encourage critical thinking about the model's relevance in modern demography.  \* Use real-world examples to support evaluation. | 1. What is a strength of the demographic transition model?  A. It applies universally without exceptions.  B. It generalises population changes. ✓  C. It predicts economic growth.  2. Why might the model not be applicable to all countries?  A. Because of geographical location  B. Due to historical and cultural factors ✓  C. Due to technological advancements | Evaluate the strengths and limitations of the demographic transition model by writing a short essay. Include specific examples of countries where the model fits well and others where it does not. | Model answer: The demographic transition model effectively generalises population changes but fails to account for cultural and historical diversity. For example, it fits Western countries well but not all developing regions. |

**Assessment exit quiz**

| 1. What is the demographic transition model?  A. A model of geographical changes over time.  B. A model predicting economic growth.  C. A model representing population changes over time through different stages. ✓ | 2. Which stage has low birth and death rates with potential population decline?  A. Stage 2  B. Stage 3  C. Stage 5 ✓ | 3. How does the model explain population changes?  A. By analysing economic data.  B. By predicting technological advancements.  C. Through stages characterised by birth and death rates. ✓ |
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| 4. What is a limitation of the demographic transition model?  A. It does not account for cultural variations. ✓  B. It is too specific to Western countries.  C. It predicts future population sizes. | 5. Which stage is marked by high birth rates and declining death rates?  A. Stage 1  B. Stage 2 ✓  C. Stage 4 | 6. What keyword describes the process by which a country improves the well-being of its people?  A. Birth rate  B. Economic development ✓  C. Population decline |