

# 6

## POPULATION



### READING

#### Before You Read

a) Work in groups. Answer the following questions.

1. What can you see in the following picture? What message can you “read” from it?



2. What are possible causes and effects of the circumstance? Put the words and expressions in the box in the correct columns.

– high birthrates	– limited access to modern contraception and family planning
– poverty	– education
– unemployment	– water and air pollution
– illiteracy	– unwillingness to practice contraception and abortion
– shortage of food, clean water, and energy	– crimes
– desire to have male children	
– unhealthy living conditions	

Possible Causes	Possible Consequences
– high birthrates	– poverty
–	–
...	...

- b) Consult a dictionary to find the meanings of the phrases in the box. Then complete the sentences with these phrases. There is an extra phrase.

population growth rates	population density
population trend	birth control

- The average number of people per square kilometer in Viet Nam is 234, and that in Japan is 336. This means Japan has higher \_\_\_\_\_ than Viet Nam.
- The world \_\_\_\_\_ is on the increase: more than 5 billion people in 1990, about 6 billion in 2000, and nearly 7 billion (estimated) in 2010.
- From 1965 to 1997, the \_\_\_\_\_ in China, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Mexico, Brazil, and many other countries fell sharply.



## Reading Text

Read the text and do the tasks that follow.

### Population Trend in China

China is the most populous country of the world. Its population is approximately 1.3 billion, which is almost 22% of world population. Density is high in the southeast: 43 percent of the land contains most of its population. A quarter of the population of China is in the middle and lower parts of the Yangtze River, and population density reaches 663 people per square kilometer. Shanghai is China's largest city, whose population density reaches 2,118 people per square kilometer.

China's population growth rate has decreased in the past years, although its population is still increasing. In the 1970s, the government started to implement birth control programs throughout the country: late marriage, late childbearing, a one-child family, and a four-year period between two births in the countryside where each couple may have more than one child. According to the report *Major Figures of Population of China*, the annual growth rate of China's population fell from 25.83% (in 1970) down to 11.21% (in 1994) and to 0.58% (in 2005). This should be considered a great success.

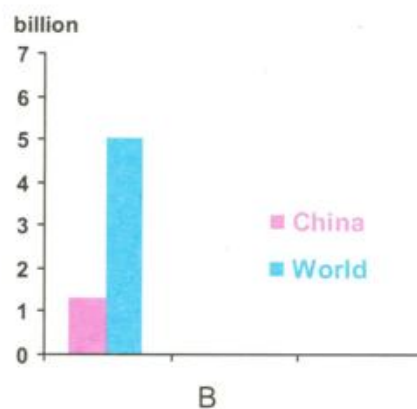
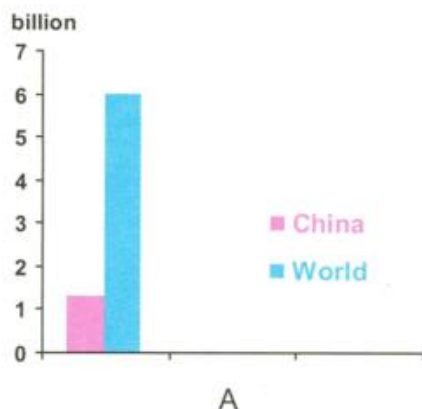
However, it does not mean that China's population growth rate is falling nationwide. Shenzhen is an exception. Separated only by a river from Hong Kong, it used to be a small fishing village with a population of less than 30,000. Shenzhen was founded in 1979 and became the first Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in China in the following year. With rapid growth and modernization during the past two decades, Shenzhen grew to a population of 7 million – a city of immigrants. The “new immigrants” who were attracted by job opportunities in the SEZ came from throughout the country and accounted for 90 percent of Shenzhen's population. The enormous industrial activities and the rapid increase in population not only encouraged housing constructions but also set record speed for this city's growth. In general, it took 10 months to complete the construction of a 15-story concrete building and 18 months to build a 30-story concrete one in Shenzhen. For this reason, it earned the nickname “City of Overnight Growth.”

a) Check (✓) whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

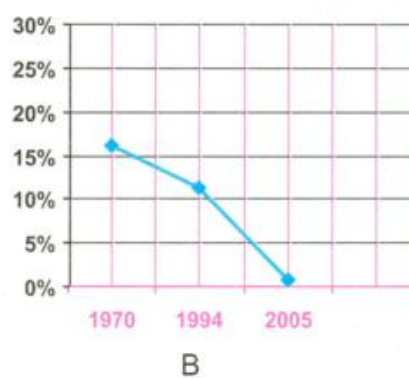
- |   | T                        | F                        |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. China's population is on the decrease because its population growth rate has declined. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. More people live in Shanghai than in the middle and lower parts of the Yangtze River.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. China's population growth rate decreased by 0.58% from 1994 to 2005.                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Shenzhen SEZ was founded in 1979.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. After about 20 years, Shenzhen's population has increased more than 200 times.         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The new immigrants in Shenzhen were responsible for its fast population growth.        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

b) Which charts and graphs illustrate accurate facts about China? Circle A or B.

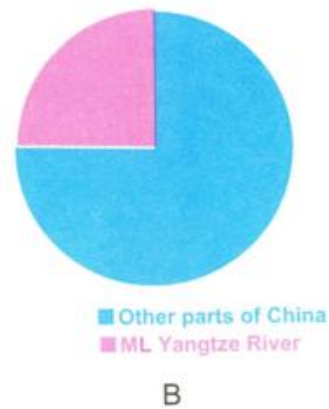
1. China's and world population



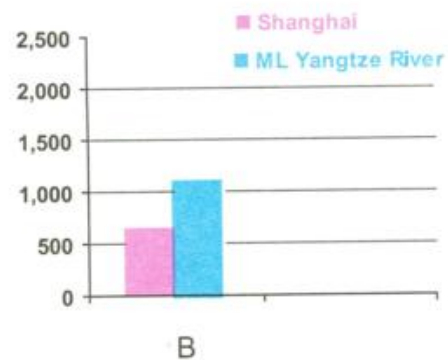
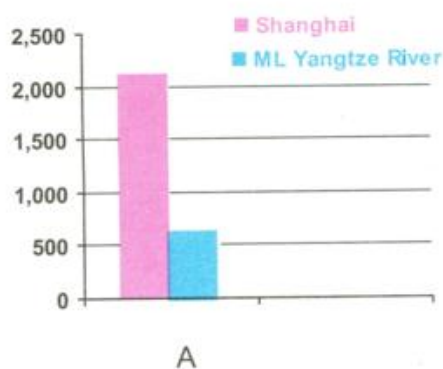
2. China's population growth rate



### 3. Population in the middle and lower parts of the Yangtze River



### 4. Population density (people per square kilometer)



c) Scan the text and find the words or expressions which have the same meanings as those provided.

1. approximately \_\_\_\_\_
2. decline \_\_\_\_\_
3. nationwide \_\_\_\_\_
4. started, formed \_\_\_\_\_

d) Work in groups. Discuss these questions.

1. What are some negative consequences of rapid population growth in Viet Nam?
2. What should be included in the population education program in Vietnamese high schools?

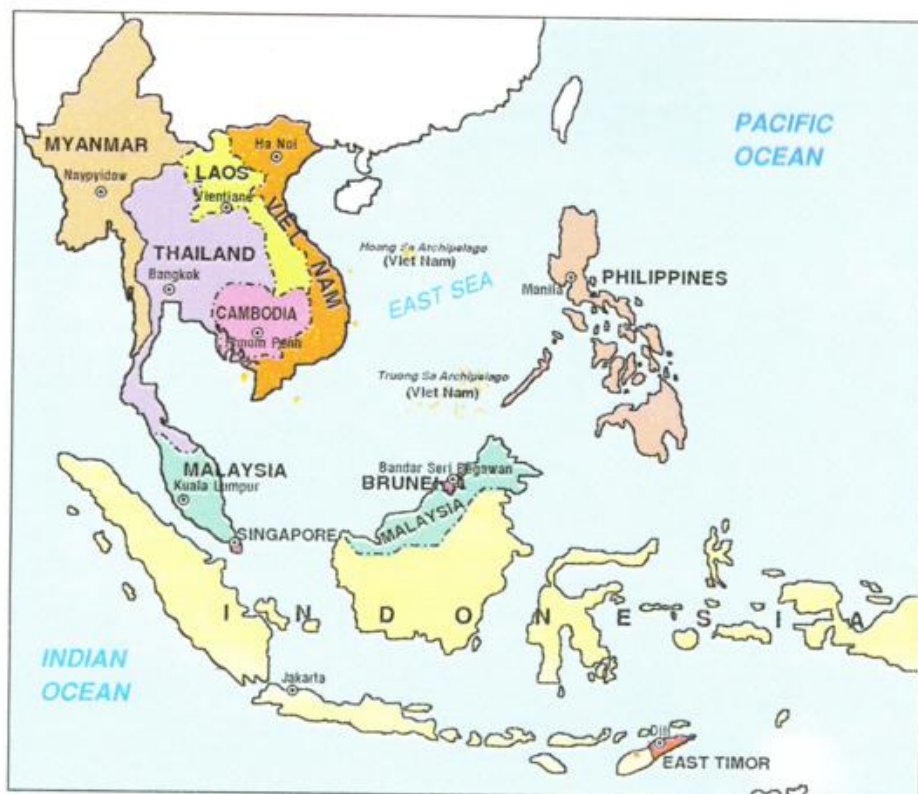




## LISTENING

a) Look at the map. Then answer these questions.

1. Where is Brunei? Is it a large country?
2. What is the capital of Brunei?



Map of Southeast Asia

b) Listen to a schoolgirl talking about Brunei and its people. Complete the following table with facts about Brunei.

area (sq. km)	
population	
population of the capital	

c) Listen to the second part and answer these questions.

1. What does Brunei export and import?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Give three examples of free services that Bruneian citizens are offered.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why don't most Bruneian people want to work in the fields?

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4. What are the speaker's outdoor activities on weekends?

---

- d) Work in pairs. Complete the following table with facts about Viet Nam. Then use these facts to talk about it.

area (sq. km)	
population	
population of the capital	
exports	
imports	



## SPEAKING

### Stating Points of View

- a) Do you agree or disagree with the following proposed solutions to the problems of overpopulation posted in a forum on the Web? Work in pairs. State your viewpoints toward these measures. Which measures are you *for* or *against*?

Proposed Solutions	For	Against
1. Parents who have more than two children should be forced to give up their right to vote and government jobs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. A special tax should be imposed on these parents.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. The families who adopt the two-child norm should be awarded.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Birth control techniques should be made more convenient.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The minimum age for marriage should be raised to 25 by law.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The government should make it a law that men earning less than 200 dollars a month would produce no child.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. The mass media should raise people's awareness of population issues.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Population education programs should be taught to high school students.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



### Example

Student A: It says on the Web that parents who have more than two children should be forced to give up their right to vote and government jobs.

Student B: I think it's OK. What do you think?

Student A: I'm dead against it. I don't like too strong measures.

### Useful Expressions

#### For

- I think \_\_\_\_\_ is quite acceptable.
- I think \_\_\_\_\_ is very good / OK.
- That's a great idea!
- \_\_\_\_\_ is terrific!  
/ fantastic! / wonderful! / great!

#### Against

- I must say \_\_\_\_\_ is quite unacceptable.
- I'm (dead) against \_\_\_\_\_.
- Surely not!
- That's not a good idea.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is terrible  
/ awful.

### b) Work in groups.

- *Make a list of problems students in your class currently have and suggest solutions. Then report to the class.*
- *Students of other groups will state their viewpoints.*



### Example

Group 1: We think one of our class's problems is that many of us usually litter in class. They should stay after school to clean it up.

Group 2: That's a good idea!

Group 3: No. Surely not! We should ask them to empty the trash can every day within a week!



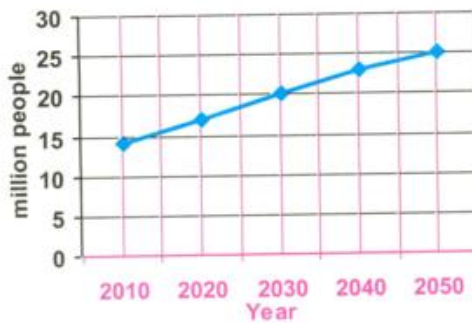


## WRITING

### Describing Trends in Graphs

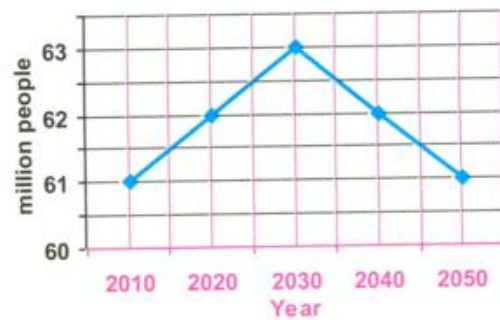
a) Match the graphs with their descriptions.

Projected Population in Cambodia



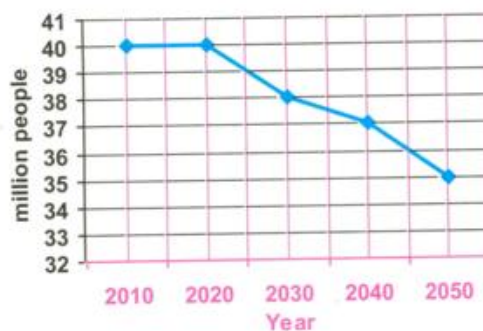
A

Projected Population in France



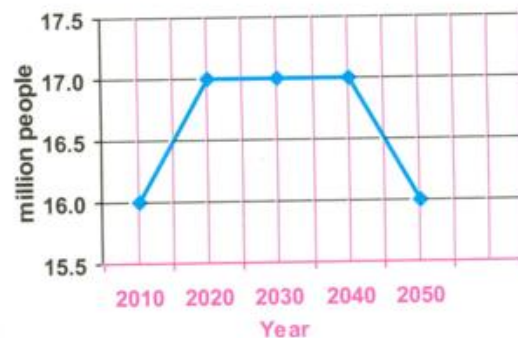
B

Projected Population in Spain



C

Projected Population in the Netherlands



D

1. The graph shows that the population in this country is expected to remain unchanged for the first decade (2010 – 2020). After that, there will be a gradual decrease.
2. According to the graph, the population of this country will be on a steady increase from the year 2010 to the year 2050.
3. The population of this country is expected to fluctuate from 2010 to 2050. There will be a rise during the first decade, and then its population will remain unchanged over the next two decades. After that, a fall might occur.

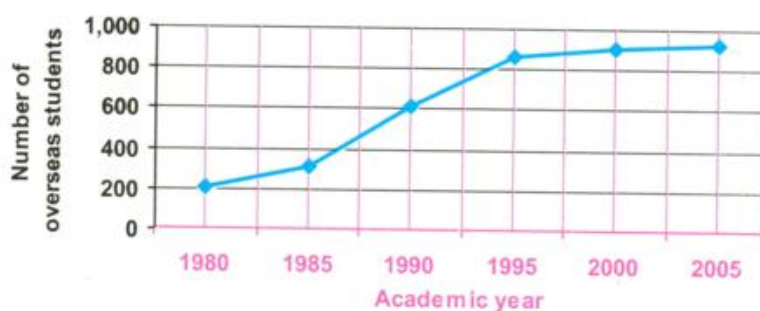
4. The population of this country is expected to fluctuate from 2010 to 2050. There will be a steady rise during the first two decades followed by a steady fall during the next two decades.

b) Look at the graphs and complete the following descriptions with the words and phrases in the box. Make changes where necessary.

increase / rise (v., n.)	decrease / fall (v., n.)	slight(ly)
on the increase	on the decrease	sharp(ly)
to fluctuate	to remain unchanged	steady(ily)/gradual(ly)

1.

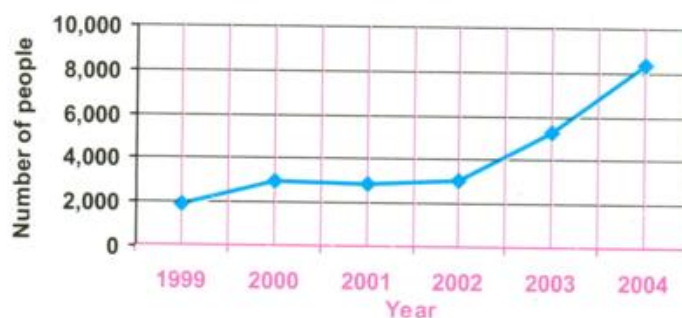
Overseas Students Studying at Yale University



The graph shows the number of overseas students studying at Yale University from 1980 to 2005. There was a \_\_\_\_\_ between 1980 and 1995. Then it \_\_\_\_\_ very \_\_\_\_\_ from 1995 to 2005. In general, the number of overseas students studying at this university is \_\_\_\_\_ over 25 years.

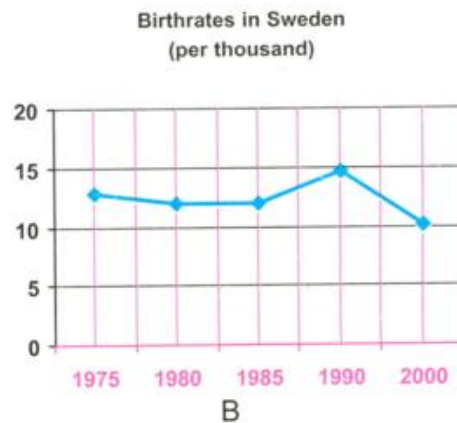
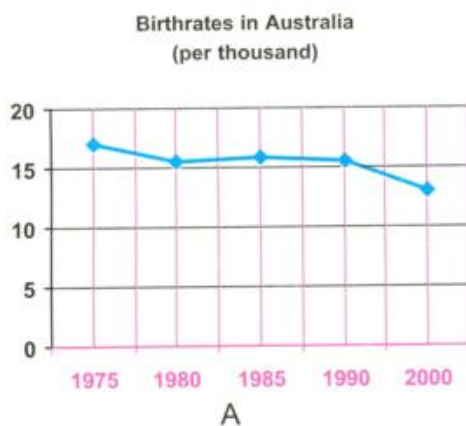
2.

Vietnamese Visitors to Singapore



This graph shows the number of Vietnamese visitors to Singapore from 1999 to 2004. There was a \_\_\_\_\_ in the first two years. Then it \_\_\_\_\_ between 2000 and 2002. After that, there was a \_\_\_\_\_ during the last two years. In general, the number of Vietnamese people who visited Singapore is \_\_\_\_\_ over 5 years.

c) Choose one graph and write a brief report to interpret it.



### A Suggested Outline

- A general statement (title, main subject of the graph)
- Trends at different times
- Overall trend



## LANGUAGE FOCUS

### Word Study

### Fractions



#### Examples

- A *quarter* of China's population is in the middle and lower parts of the Yangtze River.
- We have a house in Bandar Seri Begawan, where *two-thirds* of the population live and work.

Complete the following sentences with the fractions written in their full forms.

1. (3/4) \_\_\_\_\_ of the students in her class are boys.



2. (3/5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the population in Brunei are quite young.
3. It is reported that only (1/3) \_\_\_\_\_ of people from 20 to 30 years old in this town could find a job.
4. I always spend (1/2) \_\_\_\_\_ of my monthly pocket money on books.
5. (7/10) \_\_\_\_\_ of the workers are against the strike.

## Grammar

### Relative Clauses (Review)

#### Restrictive Relative Clauses



##### Examples

- The government started to implement birth control programs to the people in the countryside *where each couple may have more than one child*.
- The “new immigrants” *who were attracted by job opportunities in the SEZ* came from throughout the country.

#### Non-restrictive Relative Clauses



##### Examples

- China’s population is approximately 1.3 billion, *which is almost 22% of world population*.
- Shanghai is China’s largest city, *whose population density reaches 2,118 people per square kilometer*.

#### a) Correct these sentences if necessary.

1. Should parents that they have more than two children be punished?
2. This is my sister, who’s husband’s Chinese.
3. Have you met the model who’s married to Jack’s cousin?
4. I don’t like April that it is very hot.
5. That’s the country which the birthrates need to be controlled.
6. Is that the factory which you are working?
7. The man, whom I introduced to you last week, is my new boss.
8. Is deforestation, that occurs in many countries, a cause or an effect of overpopulation?

b) Join each pair of sentences, using a proper relative word. Add commas where necessary.

1. Jack is my new friend. His parents come from China.

---

2. Mr. Gómez is my new neighbor. He comes from Brazil.

---

3. On Easter Island there were only 4,000 inhabitants. The Dutch had gone there in search of supplies.

---

4. My sister is living in India. Its population is second only to China.

---

5. Next year will be an important period for me. I have to take the graduation exam next year.

---

6. Round the corner is a building. Its windows are all broken.

---

7. Ann and her husband are working in Angola. The death rate of this country is quite high.

---

8. These Swedish families will be given 20 years' income tax-free. The government praised these families for having more children.

---

c) Answer the questions, using the information in parentheses. The first one has been done for you.

1. Who was Dr. Harris? (His whole life was devoted to poor people's health care.)

→ *He was the one whose whole life was devoted to poor people's health care.*

2. What do you know about Brunei? (Its population is only about 300,000.)

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3. What do you know about Australia? (Its birthrates are on the decrease.)  

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4. What do you know about the Incas? (Scientists have studied their drawings in caves for decades.)  

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5. What is East Timor? (This country has a population density of 57 people per square kilometer.)  

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6. Who is Maria Jones? (We are about to examine her life in the next class discussion.)  

---
7. What's your favorite ocean? (The Pacific has thousands of islands with beautiful beaches.)  

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8. Who used to live here a thousand years ago? (Scientists will tell us about their lifestyle and living conditions on a TV program tonight.)  

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9. What is remarkable about the year 1945 in our country? (The Democratic Republic of Viet Nam came into being that year.)  

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10. What's your ideal place to live in? (It has low population density, fresh air, and free medical service.)  

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