

Cambridge International Examinations

Cambridge Pre-U Certificate

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

9766/12

Paper 1 Written paper

October/November 2015
1 hour 30 minutes

RESOURCE BOOKLET

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS FIRST

This Resource Booklet contains Documents 1 and 2 which you should use to answer the questions.

You should spend approximately 10 minutes reading the documents before attempting to answer the questions. This is allowed for within the time set for the examination.



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International Examinations

The documents below consider migration and work. Read them **both** in order to answer **all** the questions on the question paper.

Document 1: adapted from a research paper *Making the Best out of Immigration* by Anne Hammerstad, a lecturer in International Relations at the University of Kent (UK). Published online in 2012.

In 2008, when the global financial crisis started, many thought that international migration would shrink. Assuming that most migration takes place to improve the quality of life of migrants and their families, it was thought that fewer jobs and economic problems in traditional destination countries would stop them wanting to move.

However, the proportion of the world's population that are international migrants has remained steady at around 3%. Recession and debt problems have not changed well-established migration patterns. While numbers of migrants have not changed, how they are treated by host countries has. Hostility against migrants, and attempts at stopping both legal and illegal migration have become normal in the industrialised world. In crisis stricken southern Europe, Greece is building vast prison-like detention centres for the many migrants who use the country to stop on their way to less economically troubled parts of Europe. Rickety and overloaded vessels filled to the brim with migrants have been left to their own fate. Hundreds of migrants die in the attempt to cross the Mediterranean every year in what is becoming a growing human rights scandal.

In the US, a state-of-the-art border fence and high-tech cameras aim to stop Mexican and other Central American migrants entering the country, while Australia keeps possible illegal migrants arriving by boat in detention centres on Christmas Island, Nauru and other off-shore islands. Some countries react badly to migrants and refugees; in the Indian state of Assam, local people and settlers from Bengal clashed in riots in 2012, leaving dozens dead with almost 500,000 people having to move from their homes. In South Africa, immigrants, especially from Zimbabwe, are adding to its economy. They add much needed skilled and willing workers, often prepared to take on the country's least attractive jobs. Even so there is little doubt that many South Africans view their arrival as a serious problem rather than a benefit.

These examples of ways to stop migration have three things in common. First, they are very severe with little thought for the rights of migrants and refugees. Second, they show that most governments have closed legal migration routes to try to reduce immigration numbers. Those who really want to move, whether to have a better life or escape from their own country have looked for alternative, more dangerous, desperate and illegal ways to move across borders. Third, and crucially, these attempts by countries have been generally unsuccessful in their aim of slowing immigration. If one way is closed down, other ways quickly open up.

Research shows that migration is driven by factors on a world scale. Individual countries, or even regions such as the European Union, are not able to stop and start migration according to the needs of their economies or the wishes of their people. International migration is a result of long established patterns and networks and, most importantly, of global differences in wealth and opportunity. The same conditions of vast economic inequality that encourage people to move from countryside to cities within countries are also pushing international migration from poorer to richer countries.

Countries should move away from the current approach of looking at immigration only as a matter for police and border control. Instead, immigration should be planned by looking at the needs for schooling, healthcare, jobs, farming and city planning. Rather than making migrants criminals, countries should recognise that migration is a global issue, and one that individual countries will not manage to stop, regardless of how harsh the measures. Many of the social and political problems blamed on immigrants are made more serious by treating them as criminals.

Document 2: adapted from *Global Governance of Migration* by Gemma Pinyol Jimènez. The author is an academic researcher at the Centre for International Affairs, Barcelona. The article was published online in 2013.

We can confidently state that international migration, i.e. the movement of people across the borders of countries, has never before had such interest from political leaders.

The United Nations estimates that about 200 million people can currently be classed as international migrants. They come from all over the world making them the world's fifth "nationality", with a population the same size as Brazil. Even though international migrants make up only 3% of the global population, a lower figure than in the past, movements today are more complex. This is due to a growing number of countries of origin, transit and destination, which has meant that migration has become a global issue.

It is obvious that governments are most important in developing migration policies. Also, governments are aware that managing migration is a challenge that must be discussed with their neighbours. This explains why formal and informal agreements, in regions and countries, are currently being put forward to manage movements of people jointly. However, governments have preferred to keep control over the main aspects of the country, which are the population and territory, so few agreements between countries have been reached. Indeed, becoming a citizen of a country and gaining access to its territory are the two key issues of immigration policies.

It seems important to expand knowledge of migration as a whole and its impact on the labour market in the countries of origin, transit and destination. This is a key factor in discussions on issues, such as admission (border control and visas), integration and return. But it is just as essential to allow both skilled and unskilled workers to gain access to labour markets in countries of origin and destination. With regard to skilled workers, it is imperative for countries and regions to avoid the loss of its best people by allowing knowledge to be spread and to have a positive impact on both the country of origin and destination.

It is vital to link immigration policies with those that develop the economy. We must therefore increase our efforts to agree shared standards that will allow the development of a framework to manage international migration. This should be based on the idea that cooperation, discussion and joint agreements should form the basis of this global system. In short, we need to establish a clearer approach to migration in the world, as well as a shared vision of global cooperation on migration issues.

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