

A pair of hands is shown holding a small, realistic globe of the Earth. The globe is centered on the Americas, with North and South America visible in shades of green and yellow, surrounded by blue oceans and white clouds. The hands are rendered in a dark, almost black, monochromatic style, contrasting sharply with the vibrant colors of the globe. The background is a solid, deep black, which makes the globe and the hands stand out prominently.

# Answering Questions on Obscure Developing Countries

How to build a speech out of a few small facts

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# Avoid these fails when talking about Africa

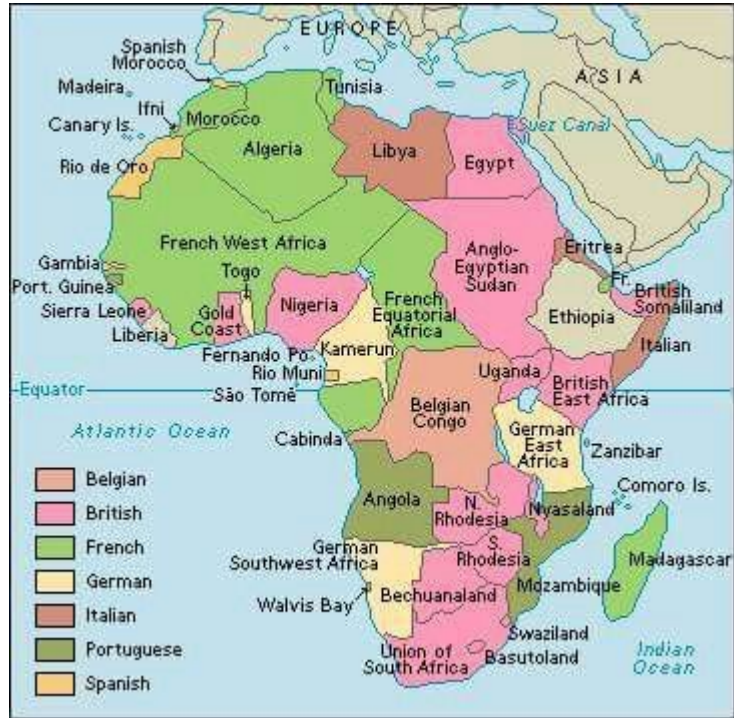
- ❖ Africa is not a country
- ❖ The people of Africa are not African-Americans
- ❖ Africa occupies 11.73 million square miles and contains 1.2 billion people. You cannot talk about it as if it's all one place. You **MUST** refer to specific countries or examples in your speech.
- ❖ Ethnic groups is a better term than 'tribes.' Tribes connotes primitive, warlike people or Native Americans, neither of which is true.



## The Colonial Economic Model

- ❖ Create conflict between ethnic groups to ensure need for colonial leadership
- ❖ Extract raw resources from the region, process them, and sell at heavy profit
- ❖ Prevent colonies from manufacturing goods so that they must purchase them from you. Make more profit.

# Africa: 1935 & 2020



## Source Spotlight: The Population Reference Bureau

- ❑ Produces a 20-page PDF with statistics on birth and death rates, HIV, gross national income, etc. for every country in the world on a yearly basis
- ❑ Includes themed information focusing on topics like poverty and sustainable development
- ❑ Used to be free, so try to get an older version (\$10 if not)



Getting  
Acquainted with  
their publications

Any Questions?



## **Discussion Time**

Why would large populations be beneficial?

Why wouldn't they?

# Large Populations: A Mixed Blessing

## Advantages

- ❖ Economic power due to large number of consumers
- ❖ Potential for a larger military through recruiting
- ❖ Cultural Influence

## Disadvantages

- ❖ Must provide many factories, offices, and good transportation to keep people employed
- ❖ High unemployment → competition for resources → political instability or violent conflict





## **Significance for the World**

Unstable countries with large populations produce large-scale refugee and immigrant movements that can destabilize neighboring countries

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## Where is this happening today?

- Syria
  - Caused problems within the EU
- Venezuela
  - Swollen population of Columbia and neighboring countries
- Myanmar
  - Rohingya flee to Bangladesh

# Talking about Birth Rate

- ❖ How do you think a high birth rate would impact a country
  - Short term?
  - Long Term?



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# How does this tie into development and growth?

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## A high birth rate means...

- ❖ Low economic growth
  - Significantly reduced disposable income
  - Women are significantly less likely to join the work force
    - Cultural traditions
- ❖ Less development overall
  - Low tax revenue
    - Linked to a smaller workforce
  - Strain on public education and public health systems
- ❖ Increased potential for internal tension
  - Competition over resources
    - Causes economic problems
    - Feeding ground for nationalism
      - Spreads xenophobic views and dangerous to minority populations

**What's the solution?**

**What is a birth rate that should  
keep the country's population the  
same?**

What does a shrinking population mean for a country?



# Positive Effects of Low Birth Rate on Growth and Development

Short term economic benefits → think opposite  
of growing population

- ❖ Families have more disposable income
- ❖ Government does not need to spend as much on transportation, hospitals, etc.
- ❖ Fewer jobs needed to keep next generation employed

Example: China during the one-child policy



# Negative Effects of Low Birth Rate

## Long term hindrance in economic growth

- ❖ Tax revenue declines when older generation retires
- ❖ Government expenses increase as older generation needs more health care, nursing homes, etc.
  - Think about funding issues with education discussed earlier
- ❖ Businesses don't have enough employees to replace retirees

**What are the causes of low birth rate?**

# Causes of Low Birth Rate

- ❖ Low economic opportunity and high access to birth control
  - On the low fertility list, how many countries have recently experienced financial crisis?
- ❖ Lack of social support for working mothers
  - Reasonable hours
  - Affordable daycare
  - Men willing to do fair share of household chores
  - Paid maternity leave

# Source Spotlight: The CIA World Factbook

- ❖ Available online or as an actual book
- ❖ Published every year
- ❖ Contains a profile of every country in the world, including government type, detailed economic statistics, and major foreign conflicts

[CIA World Factbook](#)

## Let's Practice!

What can \_\_\_\_\_ do to improve its economy?

[Random Country Generator](#)

Let's use the CIA world factbook to help us out.



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Amsterdam, featuring a prominent cathedral with a large dome and two smaller spires. The city is densely packed with buildings, and the sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

# Three Main Indicators of Development

- ❖ Healthcare
- ❖ Infrastructure
- ❖ Education (especially for women)



Why is educating women especially important to economic growth?



**Educating women  
produces a 1.5 to  
1.9% increase in GDP**



# Why?

- ❖ One year of education raises a woman's income by 10-20%. One year of education raises a man's income by 5% less. This puts more money into the economy.
- ❖ Businesses are more productive when they can choose between a greater range of qualified workers.

A woman wearing a bright yellow sari and a matching headscarf is sitting on the floor in a classroom, pointing at an open book. She is surrounded by several young girls in blue school uniforms who are looking at the book with interest. The background shows more children sitting on the floor, some looking towards the camera and others looking at the book. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an indoor classroom setting.

**Educated women  
have fewer children**

# The Reasoning

Women bear the risks of childbirth and the labor of raising children. Most women in the developing world do not want as many children as they have.

One study in Zambia found that educating women about birth control reduced the birth rate by 57%.

When families have fewer children, they have more money to spend and the children are more likely to attend school

A photograph of two young girls in school uniforms standing in a classroom. The girl on the left is wearing a purple vest over a blue shirt, and the girl on the right is wearing a white vest over a blue shirt. They are both holding up small yellow signs that read "I AM A GIRL". In the background, there is a chalkboard, a computer monitor, and other students sitting at desks. A semi-transparent white box with text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**The children of  
educated women tend  
to be healthier**

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# The Reasoning

The higher the income, the more families can spend on healthcare


Women are more likely than men to invest money in healthier, more nutritious food for the family

Women are more likely than men to use extra money to invest in their children's education.

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide, consisting of a teal triangle pointing downwards and a white diagonal line that separates it from the dark grey background.

# Let's talk about infrastructure

First, what is it?

The image shows a construction site at sunset. A large tower crane is the central focus, its silhouette against a sky of orange and red clouds. In the background, the skeletal frame of a building under construction is visible, with scaffolding and rebar. The overall scene is industrial and dramatic due to the lighting.

# Three Main Types of Infrastructure

- ❖ Roads
- ❖ Electricity
- ❖ Telecommunications

## Shopping with no electricity

Tell me everything that would be different about a trip to Target if there were no electricity in the store







Overall, how  
would lack of  
reliable electricity  
affect a country's  
economy?

## **A world without paved roads**

- ❖ Business activity slows and prices are higher because transporting goods takes longer
- ❖ Higher risk of food shortages
- ❖ Roads wash out during rainy seasons, making some portions of the country inaccessible
- ❖ Military may be slow to respond to insurgents, terrorists, or rebellions in remote areas
- ❖ Increased political/cultural divisions between distant areas of a country

# The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

A comprehensive list of goals agreed upon by all UN member states to be completed and reviewed in 2030 to reduce poverty, increase education, combat climate change, etc.

## Key Takeaways

- Progress and monitoring progress is heavily dependent on individual member states
  - What's the problem here?
- Spending predicted to be around \$5-7 trillion annually, or around \$200 trillion total.
- Progress not swift enough
- Countries are “expected to” establish a national framework to achieve these goals