

Guided Reading Activity

Evaluating the Economy

Lesson 2 *Population Growth and Trends*

Review Questions

Directions: Read each main idea and then complete the statements below. Refer to your textbook as you write the answers.

A. Population in the United States

Main Idea: The census is a count and analysis of the U.S. population. It examines the number of people living in the United States, where they live, their income, and other key factors that help guide government policies.

1. The _____ of the United States requires the government to periodically take a _____, which is an official count of all the people living in the country and their place of _____.
2. The Census Bureau uses the _____ as its primary survey unit and classifies its data into categories like _____ and rural population.
3. In the United States, the rate of population growth is slowly _____, and there has been a steady trend toward _____ households.
4. Because it takes a long time to plan and construct a country's _____, it is important to understand changes in migration and _____ population trends.

B. Projected Population Trends

Main Idea: Changes in the type and number of different population groups help the government allocate resources and anticipate problems or changing circumstances. Immigration and the age structure of the nation's population are two such significant indicators.

1. A population _____ is a diagram that shows the population by age group and _____.
2. People born during the baby _____ that occurred after World War II make up a large segment of the population, and as they age it is changing the _____ ratio.

Guided Reading Activity *cont.*

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3. Social scientists called _____ study the _____, density, and other characteristics of population. They point to three factors that affect population growth: _____, life _____, and net immigration.
4. As the population ages, there may be less need for _____, playgrounds, and other facilities for the young and more need for medicine, medical facilities, _____ homes, and other products for the elderly.

Summary and Reflection

Directions: Summarize the main ideas of the lesson by responding to the statement below.

Developed nations, such as the United States, are faced with a larger population of older, retired people in comparison with the number of younger people entering the workforce. Developing countries have the opposite problem. They have a huge percentage of their population under age 25 or 30, but few jobs for these young workers. Choose one problem that may result from having an uneven age distribution and describe one way that you think that problem might be fixed or at least made less serious.
