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Chapter 1: An Introduction to Demography

1. Demography is the systematic and study of human
a. social characteristics
b. thorough populations
c. scientific characteristics
d. detailed changes
e. scientific populations **
2. Demography is concerned with
a. how large or small populations are
b. how populations are composed
c. how populations are distributed
d. how populations change over time
e. all of the above **
3. The basic demographic equation states the following:
a. That a population can be balanced with an accounting equation.
b. That a population can change with a multitude of events.
c. That a balanced population creates a pyramid with equal numbers of males and females
d. That the size of a population changes due to births, deaths and migrations. **
e. That a population of a developing country cannot be measured accurately.
4. A population pyramid is
a. a table that shows the ages of males and females
b. a graph showing the numbers or percentages of males and females by their ages **

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- c. a table showing changes in populations
- d. a graph showing the details of population distribution
- e. a table showing how demography is destiny
- 5. To whom do we attribute the quote "Demography is Destiny"?
- a. Dudley Poston, Jr.
- b. Auguste Comte **
- c. Thomas Malthus
- d. the U.S. Census Bureau
- e. John Graunt
- 6. All but one of the following are examples of demographic findings presented in chapter 1:
- a. The childbearing years for men are 15 49 **
- b. The childbearing years for women are 15 49.
- c. Women live longer than men.
- d. Half of international migrants these days are women.
- e. People are most likely to migrate when in their 20s.
- 7. The sex ratio at birth is calculated with this formula:
- a. (male births/female births) *100 **
- b. (female births/male births) *100
- c. (female births/total births) *100
- d. (male births/total births) *100

e. (total births/male births) *100
8. The three demographic processes are
a. fertility, mortality, and international migration
b. reproduction, mortality, and migration
c. births, deaths, and marriage
d. fertility, mortality, and migration **
e. reproduction, marriage, and divorce
9. The biological average sex ratio at birth (SRB) tends to be around
a. 90
b. 100
c. 105 **
d. 110
e. 115
10. Poston and Bouvier argue that the most important demographic characteristics are:
a. age and sex **
b. age and race
c. race and ethnicity
d. race and education
e. marital status and income

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Essay Questions:

- 1. Why are all of us population actors?
- 2. Describe the study of demography, what it is, what it considers, the questions it aims to answer, and why it is important.
- 3. What information does a population pyramid provide to us?
- 4. August Comte, the founding father of sociology, is believed to have stated that "Demography is destiny." Why is it beneficial or even necessary to study demography? Give a couple of examples in your answer about how demography affects the destiny and daily lives of a population.