

AP[®] HUMAN GEOGRAPHY 2015 SCORING GUIDELINES

Question 3

In recent years, the number of refugees has been increasing. However, most refugees come from just a few countries.

- A. Define the term “refugee.”
- B. Discuss ONE political, ONE social, and ONE environmental reason why refugees flee their country of origin.
- C. Using the chart shown, select a country of origin; then identify and explain ONE reason why refugees have left the country.
- D. Explain TWO economic impacts that refugees can have on a receiving country.

Part A: 1 point total

1. A person who flees, is displaced, or is forced to leave his or her home country.

Part B: 3 points total

Political:	1. fear for life during conflict or war
	2. political persecution or political imprisonment (e.g., opposition to government; ideology opposes state)
	3. forcibly evicted by government or military
Social:	1. religious persecution
	2. ethnic/racial persecution (e.g., genocide)
	3. rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
Environmental: (at country scale)	1. natural disaster (e.g., extended drought or flood, tsunami)
	2. pollution or human-caused disasters
	3. epidemic/disease (e.g., Ebola)
	4. food insecurity/famine

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Question 3 (continued)

Part C: 2 points total

Country	ID (1 point)	Explanation (1 point)
Afghanistan	1. Conflict/War	Taliban vs. NATO (e.g., U.S.) or Taliban vs. Afghanis (no points for USSR)
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Taliban Wahhabis (e.g., Salafist) persecuting other Sunnis or Shiites/Pashtun dominance over other ethnic groups (e.g., Hazara, Uzbeks, Tajiks); rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty	Food insecurity, lack of water, little infrastructure, education, or medical care
Somalia	1. Conflict/War	Between warlords; warlords or militants (e.g., Al-Shabaab) vs. UN-backed government
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Militant Wahhabis (e.g., Salafist) persecuting other Sunnis, Animists or Christians; conflicts based on tribal differences; rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty, Famine	Food insecurity, lack of water, little infrastructure, education, or medical care
Iraq	1. Conflict/War	U.S. invasion, flight or exclusion of Baathists, fearful U.S. collaborators
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Sunni or ISIS vs. Shia, Muslim vs. non-Muslim (e.g., Christian, Jewish, Chaldean); Arabs vs. Kurds; rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty	Food insecurity, failing infrastructure, education, or medical care
Syria	1. Conflict/War	Internal civil war between Baathist (e.g., Assad) and opposition Free Syrian Army, or ISIS
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Sunni vs. Alawite or other Shia; Muslim vs. non-Muslim (e.g., Christian, Druze); Arabs vs. Kurds or other non-Arabs; rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty, Drought	Food insecurity, lack of water, failing infrastructure, education, or medical care
Sudan	1. Conflict/War	Government forces or militias (e.g., Janjaweed) vs. minorities
	2. Religious/Ethnic/ Gender Persecution	Muslim vs. non-Muslim (e.g., Christian, Animist); Arabic African versus sub-Saharan African; tribal differences; rights or opportunities denied based on gender or sexuality
	3. Poverty, Famine	Food insecurity, lack of water, little infrastructure, education, or medical care

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Question 3 (continued)

Part D: 2 points total

1.	adds to available low-wage labor pool
2.	competition with locals for limited jobs
3.	additional cost on receiving country to provide services (e.g., housing, food, education, health care)
4.	may result in higher taxes
5.	increased demand for goods and services (e.g., housing, food) that may result in price increases
6.	increased strain on natural resources (e.g., water, energy, forests)
7.	refugee camps financially depend on receiving country
8.	may pose costly security risks for receiving country
9.	refugees may provide skills and knowledge (e.g., some Iraqi doctors now work in Pakistan)

ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 3

- * a) A refugee is a person who leaves their home country in search of better situation. A refugee can leave for political, economic, social, or environmental reasons but they are different from migrants in that refugees usually need to leave in order to be safe and stay alive whereas a typical migrant can often choose to leave solely for increased opportunities or for personal reasons.
- * b) One political reason that a refugee might escape or flee their country is because of a war. The refugee might feel that their life is in danger and that if they remain in the country, they might be killed in the conflict. Thus, a political refugee might flee a civil war or conflict in their home country out of a desire to remain safe and find a place that is not war-torn. * One social reason that a refugee might flee their country is because of cultural or religious persecution. If a government is sponsoring one ethnic religion or one group of people, minority groups might feel threatened. Often, social refugees ~~leave~~ leave out of a fear of being victims of ethnic cleansing. Thus, a social refugee might flee their

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ADDITIONAL ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 3

Country in an attempt to escape cultural or religious persecution and to maintain their cultural identity in a safe country.* One environmental reason that a refugee might flee their country would be to escape rampant disease or pestilence. Often, disease becomes rampant in many developing countries that do not have the infrastructure, government, or medical staff to respond to the disease. Thus, an environmental refugee might flee their country in an attempt to stay alive by avoiding the disease or epidemic in their home country.

* c) One reason that many refugees have left Afghanistan is because of the occupation of US and ally troops in response to the 2003 invasion under the Bush administration. As people in Afghanistan have been effected by the invasion, many have sought safety from the constant fighting by the US to eliminate the Taliban and al Qaeda. As Afghans have tried to remain in their homeland, many terrorist groups are forcing the young men and girls into service and slavery, respectively. Thus, as many Afghani

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people are being attacked by terrorist groups such as the Taliban and al Qaeda in response and retaliation of the 2003 invasion by US and ally troops, there has been an increasingly large number of political refugees to escape the horrors of war.

* A major environmental impact that refugees can place on their receiving country is the stretching of their infrastructure created by the lack of doctors and medical staff to respond to their needs. As many refugees come to a new country, they have needs that stem from their problems in their home country. When large amounts of people come to one country, a strain can be placed on the government's infrastructure and their healthcare system by the abundance of wounds and diseases and the lack of adequate hospital personnel. Another environmental impact that refugees can place on their receiving country is the stretching of their limited sources of food and resources. Much like everyone else and the other natives or immigrant citizens in a country, refugees need to eat and drink. If refugees escape to

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ADDITIONAL ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 3

a country that is not as highly developed or industrialized, there might be a lack of food or water for the refugees. Thus, as refugees are received into a new country, they might put a strain on the already limited amount of ~~and~~ available food and water supply because the ~~to~~ government was not prepared for the large influx of people all at once in addition to continuing to support their own current and existing population.

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ANSWER PAGE FOR QUESTION 3

A. Refugees are people forced or pushed away from their home country due to varying social, economic or political factors. Often they are displaced and lack basic amenities either internally or externally to their home country. Many times they seek help and guidance from surrounding countries or other citizens within their country.

B. A political reason why refugees may flee their country of origin is a revolution or overthrow of government. A new leader or dictator may implement authoritarian style practices, such as oppressed rights and freedoms, that influence individuals to flee. It is also possible that authoritarian regimes will use military force (or other forms of violence) that will make citizens feel insecure or threatened and cause them to leave.

A social reason refugees may flee their country of origin is an ethnic cleavage or tension. Two forms of religion may be present in one region and the ideology could clash with one another. For example, the clash between Sunni and Shia Muslims. These ethnic differences may lead to violence or oppression and refugees are influenced to leave so that they may practice their culture elsewhere.

An environmental reason why refugees may flee their country of origin would be a natural disaster or very sudden environmental change. An area that gets

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hit by a Tsunami (like Japan) or earthquake (in Nepal) can have massive destruction in a matter of hours. Thousands of people may be left homeless and forced to leave their country of origin.

C. Afghanistan is a country that has had an extremely large population flee as refugees. This is because of political conflicts and wars going on in recent years between several countries including the U.S. The war in Afghanistan has resulted in several military occupation zones. These areas of the country have had thousands flee because their families and well-being are threatened by the fighting that goes on.

D. One economic impact refugees can have on a country is debt, or increased spending. Refugees can quickly become economic burdens because they require food, water, and shelter something very difficult for receiving countries to provide on such short notice and to so many people. However, the receiving country cannot simply let the people die so money must be spent to take care of them.

Another economic impact refugees can have on a country is an increased consumer and labor population. Although refugees can be a burden they can also help foster the economy by filling in jobs and spending money at businesses.

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A refugee is someone who must flee their country because they are in danger.

One political reason why refugees flee is because the government becomes corrupt and dictatorship emerges. This leaves people in an unsafe situation in which they will be taken over by someone who does not represent their people. One social reason is that there might be intensive fighting, especially between ethnic groups. One example of this is the Sunni and the Shiite people. A refugee may flee because they don't want to be killed. One environmental reason is in Afghanistan. They are a buffer between Russia + India. People may flee because they find they are getting dragged into the conflict. One environmental reason is because the land might not be arable. For example, the Arabian Peninsula is very dry and is hard to farm on. Most people are pastoralists. However, some people may need to farm so they flee to another country to do so.

Sudan is a country with a lot of refugees. For example, the last boys of Sudan left their country because of a corrupt government. There was a dictatorship and it was targeting young boys. Their lives were in danger and if they wanted to survive, they would have to leave. These boys left Sudan for political reasons.

Refugees can have positive ~~impe~~ economic impacts on a receiving country. For example, refugees come into the country with very little, speaking a language of their own. They provide the country with workers. The kind of jobs they take are usually very unsanitary and they are long hours. These are the jobs that nobody in that country will take because of the conditions. Another impact is that they provide cheap labor. These jobs are so unsanitary that nobody wants. When immigrants, such as refugees,

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come into a country, they take these jobs because this is all they can get. They are taken advantage of and paid a very minimal amount. They don't usually speak the language so they accept whatever they are offered. In America, citizens protest against low wages but immigrants don't always know the difference.

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2015 SCORING COMMENTARY

Question 3

Overview

Students were asked to (A) define a term, refugee, that appears in the Human Geography course outline, (B) discuss reasons why refugees flee their countries of origin, (C) focus on the specific reasons why refugees fled one particular country, and (D) explain the impacts that refugees may have on a receiving country. An entire process of geographical movement, including its causes and consequences, is embodied in this question. The intent of this question was to see if students could explain a process, at the appropriate scale, from beginning to end, and in light of causes and consequences. A secondary purpose of this question was to signal the importance of connecting students taking the course to newsworthy events that are shaping the world. Events related to refugee populations have been ongoing for several decades, and they are frequently covered by news sources. Refugees are mentioned by name in Part II of the course outline.

Sample: 3A

Score: 8

The essay earned full credit and demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of the political, social, environmental, and economic issues associated with refugees. The response received 1 point in part A for defining a refugee a person who leaves their home country in order to be safe. The response received 3 points in part B for a full discussion of the political, social, and environmental reasons why refugees flee their country. The response received 1 point in part B for discussing that a refugee might escape or flee their country because their life is in danger because of war (Political B1). The response received 1 point in part B for discussing that refugees might flee their country due to cultural or religious persecution for fear of ethnic cleansing (Social B2). The response received 1 point in part B for discussing that a refugee might flee trying to escape rampant disease or pestilence (Environmental B3). The response received 1 point in part C for identifying that refugees left Afghanistan due to occupation by United States' troops since the start of the war in 2003 (C Afghanistan 1) and 1 point in part C for explaining that refugees fled Afghanistan and sought safety from the fighting between the United States and the Taliban and al-Qaeda (C Afghanistan 1). The response received 1 point in part D for explaining the economic impact that refugees can place on the receiving country's infrastructure and healthcare systems (D3). The response received an additional 1 point in part D for explaining the economic impact of the strain placed on the receiving country's food and water systems (D6).

Sample: 3B

Score: 6

The response earned full credit (1 point) in part A, full credit (3 points) in part B, partial credit (1 point) in part C, and partial credit (1 point) in part D. The response received 1 point in part A for defining refugees as people forced or pushed from their home country. The response received 1 point in part B for discussing that refugees flee due to authoritarian regimes using military force or threat, which causes people to leave (Political B1). The response received 1 point in part B for discussing that refugees may flee their country of origin due to ethnic cleavage or tension (Social B2). The response received 1 point in part B for discussing a tsunami or earthquake produces massive damage in the affected areas which may leave thousands of people homeless and forced to leave their country of origin (Environmental B3). The response received 1 point in part C for identifying many refugees left Afghanistan due to political conflict and war (C Afghanistan 1). No explanation point was received for part C Afghanistan 1 as no additional information was provided. The response received 1 point in part D for explaining an economic impact that refugees can become economic burdens on the receiving country as refugees require large amounts of food, water, and shelter (D3). No additional economic impact point for part D was received as the explanation was insufficient.

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Question 3 (continued)

Sample: 3C

Score: 5

The response earned full credit (1 point) in part A, partial credit (2 points) in part B, partial credit (1 point) in part C, and partial credit (1 point) in part D. The response received 1 point in part A for defining a refugee as someone who must flee their country because they are in danger. The response received 1 point in part B for discussing that refugees may flee their country because a corrupt dictatorship may emerge and as a result refugees feel unsafe causing them to leave (Political B2). The response received 1 point in part B for discussing that refugees may flee due to intensive fighting between ethnic or religious groups (Social B2). No environmental point was received in part B as the discussion provided was insufficient. The response received 1 point in part C for identifying many refugees have fled Sudan, including the Lost Boys, because of a corrupt government (C Sudan 1). No explanation point was received in part C Sudan 1 as no additional correct information was provided. The response received 1 point in part D for explaining an economic impact that refugees can provide low-wage labor to the receiving country (D2). No additional economic impact point for part D was received as the explanation was insufficient.