

Population Explosion in Pakistan

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After completing this lesson, you will be able to:

- use complex questions for a range of audiences
- ask and answer higher-order questions to guide/assess reading(e.g., Why is the author saying this right now? Why did the author choose this word? How is this different from what I read somewhere else?
- analyse organisational patterns in a text:
 - a. list/ sequence of ideas/ events comparison-contrast
 - b. cause-effect
 - c. problem-solution
 - d. reasons/ assumptions-conclusion
- demonstrate knowledge and application of parts of speech in oral and written communication in varying degrees of complexity.
- comprehend and use contemporary Idioms and proverbs in the different texts and in their speech.
- produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.

Pre-reading

- How does population explosion affect the economy of a country?*
- Which plan should be adopted to create awareness among masses against this threat?*

As Pakistan's population surges past 240 million, the nation grapples with a demographic crisis demanding urgent reforms to stave off the looming threats of poverty and inequality.

Imagine a world with just five billion people. It was on July 11, 1987, when this milestone was reached, marking the first World Population Day (WPD). Fast forward to 2023, and our planet now teems with a staggering eight billion inhabitants. This explosive

growth shines a light on the pressing challenges and opportunities that come with such a rapidly expanding global population, impacting sustainable development, health, and well-being.

In the heart of this numerical growth lies South Asia, home to over 2.2 billion people. Among these nations, India leads with a population of 1.4 billion, followed by Pakistan's 240 million, and Bangladesh's 172 million. These figures are not just numbers; they are the pulse of a region undergoing significant demographic shifts, demanding urgent and effective policies to manage these changes.

Pakistan, in particular, faces an astounding scenario. The quality of human resources is under strain, resources are stretched thin to meet the growing demands, and the nation remains vulnerable to extremism and climate change shocks.

Literally speaking over population arises when the resources in a country fall short of meeting the needs of its people. Since its inception Pakistan had to face the problems of illiteracy, poverty, pollution, unemployment, lawlessness and terrorism, inflation, loans, corruption, defective tax structure, government instability and many more serious threats. Unless we control our population increase, these elated problems will not be easily solved.

From 2010 to 2015, Pakistan's population increase rate stood 69pc higher than that of Turkey, Iran, India, Indonesia, and Bangladesh. Today, its increase rate of 3.6 remains the highest in South Asia, painting a rather bleak picture of its demographic reality.

While-reading

How does population arise?

It is, therefore, imperative to scrutinise policies that have failed to curb skyrocketing population growth.

Even after 74 years of its growth, Pakistan is still struggling to find a respectable place in the comity of nations. All the efforts made in the past seem to have gone in vain. Every sector of life today tells a sorry tale. The problem that could be blamed for this bad state of affairs is over population in the country. Over population emerges as the main villain in Pakistan for a number of reasons. Pakistan's progress, though commendable, is a tale of uneven strides.



Birth rate is the most common indicator that the countries today use to keep a check on over population. Pakistan today suffers from a high birth rate in the country and we must be mindful of it. A serious thought should be given today to the factors which have translated the high birth rate into over population. The advancements in the medical field have led to a sharp decline in the death rate.

The life expectancy has increased due to the use of improved health technologies. So the decline in death rate has in other words led to the problem of over population.

Pakistan is a developing country and like many other countries, it is trying hard to survive in the

While-reading

What is the reason of a sharp decline in the death rate?

developed world. A huge population of over 180 million that could have been an asset, is today a huge liability. Fast increasing population is thus a source of constant danger to Pakistan.

Over population has badly hampered the economic growth in the country. This leads to a decline in the purchasing power of the people. As the demand for the goods decreases, then by "demand and supply" law, the investment in the country also suffers. Such a stagnant economy will lead to closing of factories and businesses, and in return add to joblessness and poverty. Even if the country is somehow successful in attracting foreign investments, still over population will not allow these investments to have a positive effect on country's economy. Greater population means a greater number of hungry souls to feed.

Agriculture is also adversely affected by the rapid increase of over population. More population means smaller farms, and leads to a decline in productivity. People having small farms have no choice but to migrate in hope of a better life. This leads to urbanization, which itself is a major problem.

Many social evils like lawlessness, crime and corruption are all the result of over population. The fight over resources has divided the society into two groups i.e. those who have all and are not willing to share it and second group that is fighting for its mere survival. The fight between haves and have-nots has the seeds of conflict in it, which, if erupted could imperil the peace and order in society. Over population has also contributed to toxic pollution. A greater number of vehicles on the roads means the emitting of poisonous gas for people to inhale. Sewage problem and lack of clean drinking water can also be attributed to the population problem.

Proper measures and decisions should be taken to ensure increase in our literacy rate. In 2016-17, 13.7pc of children aged 10-17 were trapped in child labour, as reported by the International Labour Organisation. What's more alarming is that 5.4pc of these children were engaged in hazardous work which endangered their lives and futures. This exploitation isn't just a tragedy for the children – it's a ticking time bomb for the country's workforce – setting the stage for a generation of illiterate and unskilled laborers.

The United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) sheds light on an even darker reality; 22.8 million children between the ages of five and 16 are out of school in Pakistan. Instead of learning in classrooms, these kids are toiling away in car mechanic shops, selling vegetables on street corners, or begging for their next meal. This dire situation is alarming and needs to be addressed on priority basis to educate and aware children of the importance of education.

The unchecked population growth, coupled with inadequate planning, spells disaster for a country already strained by scarce resources, a rising debt burden, poor growth, and development scenarios. This precarious situation heightens disappointment and fuels hatred.

The role of media can help a lot in bringing awareness among masses. With most of the population of illiterate people, electronic media can prove to be a huge success in getting the message across. Print media too needs to emphasize the problem of over population on a more regular basis.

According to a report by Population Action International Washington, a great reason for population increase in Pakistan is that the Government has made a very insignificant investment in social sector. It is a very serious problem because it leads to frustration, which means chaos. Chaos means danger to state.

The problem must be tackled pragmatically. Otherwise our dream of a bright and glorious future will just remain a wish. A strong Pakistan should be our top priority, and if we have to make certain hard decisions, no one should hesitate to co-operate. Pakistan comes first even before our personal vested interests.

Pakistan stands at a crossroads. The future of the nation depends on it. Addressing these multifaceted challenges is not just an option – it's a necessity.

The population is divided into three basic groups.

Children	Adults	Aged
6 to- 14 years	15 to 64 years	64 years and above

Post-reading

What is needed to implement the checks to over population?

Reference (Dawn 11 July 2024 Theme: Population Education)

Theme

The theme is to influence challenges which occur due to over-population, understand the impact and take measures accordingly.

Glossary

Words	Meanings	Synonyms
vulnerable	capable of being attacked, damaged	weak
milestone	breakthrough	
staggering	astonishing	
sustainable	viable, continual	

demographic	analytical, numerical	
astounding	overwhelming, stunningly surprising	
scrutinize	analyze, to inquire, inspect	
comity	courteousness, civility	
crossroads	at an important point of someone's life	
hamper	to prevent someone from easily doing something	
stagnant	dormant, inactive, static	
hazardous	full of risk, perilous, unhealthy	
inadequate	meager, lacking	

Comprehension

a) Answer the following question.

- 1 Describe the indicator affecting the challenges and opportunities of population growth.
- 2 Identify the astounding scenario of Pakistan regarding population growth.
- 3 Explain the importance to scrutinise policies that curb population growth.
- 4 Assess the hampering of economic growth by over population.
- 5 Write down the social evils which are the result of over population.
- 6 'Demand' and 'supply' formula plays an important role in the economy of a country. Devise a plan to resolve this issue.
- 7 Describe the ticking time bomb for the country's work force.
- 8 How can the role of media bring awareness among people?

b) Circle the correct meaning of the following words.

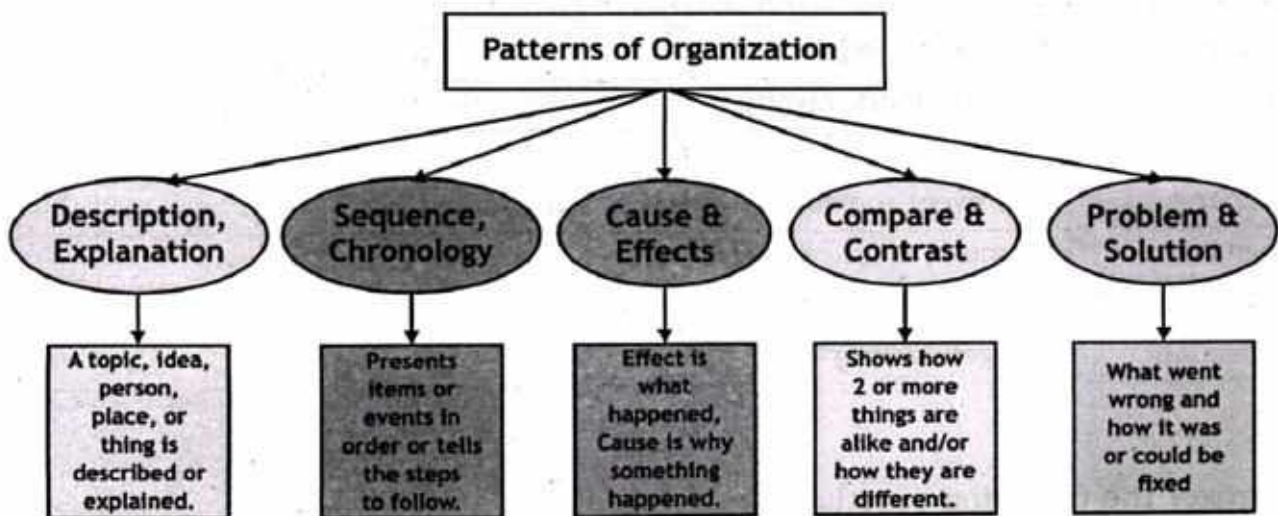
i) toxic		
a) dangerous	b) septic	c) precise

ii) hamper		
a) flatten	b) hinder	c) connect

iii) menace		
a) hazard	b) pollution	c) mischief

iv) stagnant		
a) filthy	b) static	c) difficult

c) Analyse Organisational Patterns in a Text



To analyze organizational patterns in a text, you typically look at how the author structures the information.

1. **Chronological:** Information is presented in the order it occurred, often using time markers like "first," "then," "next," etc. This pattern is common in historical texts, biographies, and process essays.
2. **Spatial:** Information is organized based on physical location or arrangement. This pattern is common in descriptive writing, travel guides, and spatial analysis.
3. **Cause and Effect:** This pattern explores the relationship between events, actions, or phenomena. It presents causes followed by their effects or vice versa. Signal words might include "because," "consequently," "as a result," etc.
4. **Problem and Solution:** The text presents a problem or issue and then proposes one or more solutions. This pattern is common in persuasive essays, policy papers, and articles addressing social issues.
5. **Compare and Contrast:** Information is presented by highlighting similarities and differences between two or more subjects. Signal words might include "similarly," "in contrast," "on the other hand," etc.
6. **Classification and Division:** Information is organized into categories, subcategories, or groups based on shared characteristics. This pattern is common in scientific classification, taxonomies, and organizational structures.
7. **Sequential or Process:** Similar to chronological, but focuses specifically on the steps or stages in a process or procedure. This pattern is common in instructional writing, technical manuals, and recipes.
8. **Problem-Solution:** This pattern outlines a problem or issue and then presents one or more solutions. It's commonly used in persuasive writing, policy proposals, and argumentative essays.
9. **Topical or General-to-Specific:** The text starts with a broad overview and then narrows down to specific details or examples. This pattern is common in academic essays, research papers, and some types of journalism.

Activity: Analyze the organizational patterns in text of this unit and gather the relevant information:

- a. list/ sequence of ideas/events comparison-contrast
- b. cause-effect
- c. problem-solution
- d. reasons/ assumptions-conclusion

Oral Communication

- Discuss how some communities are experiencing the effects of population growth, such as lack of food and space. Same can be said for housing. Over population also puts pressure on the environment.
- What can we do to minimize the impact of population growth?
- Make groups to discuss this drastic population increase since the inception of Pakistan.
- Discuss the cause of this population increase, and how can it be taken care of.
- Compare and contrast the population of Pakistan with India, China, Malaysia.

Inference

1. Do you think illiteracy affects the economy of a country?
2. Will it be advisable to limit the size of the family?

Vocabulary and Grammar

a) Parts of speech in oral and written communication in varying degrees are as given under,

Parts of Speech

Parts of speech are the fundamental building blocks of language, and understanding their roles is crucial for effective communication.

Part of Speech	Function	Examples
Nouns	Naming people, places, things & ideas/concepts	• Mahmud owns the fastest car • They decided to buy the house • I believe in free speech
Adjectives	Describing nouns and pronouns	• That was an exciting film • The boy in the red jumper is happy • This is the longest essay
Adverbs	Modifying verbs, adjectives & adverbs	• She is completely wrong • They are extremely happy • The driver arrived very quickly
Verbs	Expressing a physical action or state	• Federer plays tennis • The floods are serious • Take your time
Prepositions	Showing relationships of words and phrases	• The book is on the table • He went into the room • I'm against eating at night
Pronouns	Replacing nouns	• Jawad gave her a gift • Why did you push me? • Please look after yourself

Conjunctions	Joining words, phrases & clauses	• He's tall and slim • I'll wait until she arrives • Tom's sick so he's not here
Interjections	Showing strong emotions or feelings	• Wow, that's brilliant news! • Ouch, that really hurt • Hi! How are you doing?

Why are the parts of speech important?

These building blocks allow us to construct sentences and communicate complete ideas. Each part of speech plays a specific role. They also unlock more advanced grammar and writing concepts.

As we move into a little bit more advanced English lessons about sentence structure, we will start to discuss the different types of sentences, like complex sentences, simple sentences, and compound sentences. It also includes how to identify the direct object and indirect object of a sentence. There is also a difference between an independent clause and a dependent clause and a difference between a main verb and a helping verb.

This might all seem like boring grammar topics now, but learning all of these building blocks will make your life so much easier when you try to speak and write fluently in English.

Proper sentence structure

The order words appear in a sentence depends on their part of speech. Knowing if a word is a noun, verb, adjective, etc. allows you to structure sentences properly.

For example, English sentences often follow a subject-verb-object order. The subject is usually a noun or pronoun, the verb is an action word, and the object receives the action. Parts of speech tell you which words play those roles.

Using the right sentence structure makes your writing clear, coherent, and easy to understand.

Correct punctuation

Punctuation like periods, commas, and semicolons belong in certain places around parts of speech.

For instance, commas go between items in a list of adjectives. Periods indicate the end of a sentence containing a subject and predicate. Knowing parts of speech guides you to use punctuation correctly.

Proper punctuation makes writing flow smoothly and conveys ideas clearly.

More engaging writing style

Relying too much on one part of speech makes writing boring. Overusing nouns and verbs leads to a repetitive, unsophisticated style.

Varying your parts of speech adds flavor to your writing. Well-placed adjectives and adverbs add vivid description. A strategically used interjection can grab the reader's attention.

Understanding parts of speech unlocks your ability to craft more engaging prose.

Improved reading comprehension

When reading, identifying the role each word plays as a part of speech helps you analyze the text critically.

Seeing how the author uses nouns, verbs, adjectives, and other parts of speech provides deeper insight into the meaning. It allows you to discern subtleties and patterns that create a richer reading experience.

Simple Communication:

- **Oral:** "Hi! My name is Kamran. (Noun) I can help you today. (Verb)"
- **Written:** "The cat sat on the mat. (Noun, Preposition, Noun)"

Descriptive Communication:

- **Oral:** "Wow, that (Interjection) sunset is (Adjective)! The fiery orange and purple hues (Adjectives) create a breathtaking view. (Adverb)"
- **Written:** "The ancient (Adjective) castle loomed on the hilltop (Noun), its crumbling (Adjective) towers are a stark contrast to the vibrant (Adjective) wildflowers blanketing the slopes below. (Adverb)"

Complex Communication:

- **Oral:** "While artificial intelligence has revolutionized (Verb) many industries, it's important to consider the ethical implications (Noun) as well. (Conjunction) On the one hand, it can improve efficiency, but on the other hand, it raises questions about job displacement. (Conjunction)"
- **Written:** "Although the protagonist's journey was fraught with peril (Noun), her determination (Noun) and resourcefulness (Noun) ultimately led her to triumph (Verb). (Conjunction) The story serves as a powerful reminder that even in the face of adversity, perseverance can prevail. (Conjunction)"

Activity: Write a sentence for each of the eight parts of speech:

Noun: _____

Verb: _____

Adjective: _____

Adverb: _____

Pronoun: _____

Preposition: _____

Conjunction: _____

Interjection: _____

b) Comprehend and use contemporary Idioms and proverbs in the different texts and in their speech

Idioms:

An idiom is a phrase or expression whose meaning is not predictable from the usual meanings of its constituent elements, often having a figurative rather than literal meaning. *Idioms are unique to*

specific languages or cultures and are commonly used in everyday speech. They often add color, humor, or emphasis to language.

Example: "Kick the bucket" is an idiom meaning "to die." Its literal meaning would suggest physically kicking a bucket, but its actual meaning is understood within the context of the idiom itself.

Proverbs:

A proverb is a short, well-known saying that imparts wisdom, advice, or a universal truth based on common sense or cultural experience. Proverbs are often handed down through generations and encapsulate societal values and beliefs. They are meant to provide guidance or convey moral lessons.

Example: "A stitch in time saves nine" is a proverb advising that addressing a problem early can prevent it from becoming larger or more difficult to solve later.

IDIOMS VS PROVERBS	
Idioms are a fixed expression that contain a figurative meaning.	Proverb is a short, well known saying that contains an advice.
Idioms do not contain a moral.	Proverb contains a moral or an advice based on the general truth.
Idioms are phrases not complete sentences.	Proverbs are sentences.
Idioms do not make sense if you are not familiar with it.	Proverbs can be understood even if you are hearing it for the first time.

Activity: In this unit we will learn to make sentences with the contemporary idioms. Make meaningful sentences after using these idioms given below.

Hit the nail on the head:	To do or say something exactly right.
Piece of cake:	Something very easy to do.
Break the ice:	To initiate conversation in a social setting.
Bite the bullet:	To endure a painful or difficult situation with courage.
Cost an arm and a leg:	To be very expensive.
On cloud nine:	To be extremely happy.
Cut to the chase:	To get to the point without wasting time.
Burn the midnight oil:	To work late into the night.
Break the bank:	To spend more money than one can afford.
Jump on the bandwagon:	To join or support something that is already popular.
A piece of the pie:	A share of something, usually profits or benefits.
Beat around the bush:	To avoid addressing the main topic; to speak indirectly.
Let the cat out of the bag:	To reveal a secret.
Take it with a grain of salt:	To not take something too seriously; to be skeptical.
Hit the sack:	To go to bed.
A dime a dozen:	Something very common or easy to obtain.
Get cold feet:	To suddenly become nervous or hesitant.

Writing

Clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.

Writing that is both clear and cohesive is necessary to effectively communicate concepts, details, or arguments to a particular audience.

Clarity: Easy reading for the target audience is a sign of clear writing. It stays clear of jargon, ambiguity, and complicated language. Clear writing ensures that readers understand the intended message without difficulty by using simple language, accurate terminology, and logical explanations.

Coherence: Writing that is coherent builds a coherent story or argument by making sense transitions between concepts. Coherent writing keeps tone, style, and structure constant throughout the text, allowing readers to navigate the information easily and logically. By indicating changes in topic or emphasis, transitions between paragraphs and sections aid in the coherence of the text.

Development: Well-developed writing goes in-depth into the selected subject or thesis and offers enough proof, examples, and analysis to back up its assertions. Development is the process of arranging concepts logically, building on earlier ideas to produce a thorough comprehension of the topic at hand. Every paragraph advances the main concept farther, highlighting the author's intent and piquing the reader's curiosity.

Structure: Writing that is well-organized has a distinct outline that improves reading comprehension. To do this and to help readers navigate the content, headings, subheadings, and bullet points may be used to break up the text. Depending on the type of writing assignment, effective organization also entails placing data in a logical order, either chronologically, spatially, or thematically.

Appropriateness to Task, Purpose, and Audience: Writing is adapted to satisfy the particular demands of the assignment, fulfill the purpose that is intended, and connect with the intended audience. This entails taking into account aspects including the writing task's aims and objectives in addition to the audience's demographics, past knowledge, and expectations. The appropriate adjustments are made to the style, tone, and formality level to guarantee efficacy and relevancy.



a) Activity: Read the following passage and answer the questions below based on the principles of clear and coherent writing.

Passage:

"Many people today have concerns about the environment. There are various environmental issues that need to be addressed. These issues include pollution, deforestation, and climate change. Pollution is harmful to the environment. Deforestation involves the cutting down of trees. Climate change is a global issue."

Questions:

Clarity:

- a) Identify any ambiguous or unclear phrases in the passage.
- b) Rewrite one unclear sentence to improve clarity.

Coherence:

- a) Does the passage flow logically from one idea to the next? Why or why not?
- b) Identify any transitions that could improve the coherence of the passage.

Development:

- a) Does the passage provide sufficient detail and explanation about the environmental issues mentioned?
- b) Suggest one additional detail or example that could enhance the development of the passage.

Organization:

- a) Describe the overall organization of the passage. Is it effectively structured?
- b) Propose one way to reorganize the passage to improve its clarity and coherence.

b) Writing a Clear and Coherent Essay

- Choose a topic related to environmental conservation, such as recycling, renewable energy, or endangered species.
- Write an essay (approximately 5 paragraphs) about the chosen topic, ensuring clarity and coherence in your writing.
- Pay attention to the organization of your paragraph, use of transitions, and development of ideas to create a well-structured and cohesive piece of writing.
- Review and revise your essay to improve clarity, coherence, and overall effectiveness.

Teacher's Note

- Help students to ask and answer higher-order questions to guide/assess reading(e.g., Why is the author saying this right now? Why did the author choose this word? How is this different from what I read somewhere else?
- Encourage them to demonstrate knowledge and application of parts of speech in oral and written communication in varying degrees of complexity.
- Let them comprehend and use contemporary Idioms and proverbs in the different texts and in their speech.
- Encourage them to produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience.