Week 6: Human Geography and Population

1. Introduction and Learning Objectives

This week's lecture shifts focus from physical to **human geography**, specifically the study of **population**. Understanding how and why people live where they do, how populations grow or decline, and what factors influence these patterns is essential for geographers and planners alike.

By the end of this lecture, students will be able to:

- Define key terms in population geography using academic sources.
- Identify population distribution patterns.
- Use comparative structures to discuss population differences.
- Apply present simple and comparative forms in written and spoken English.

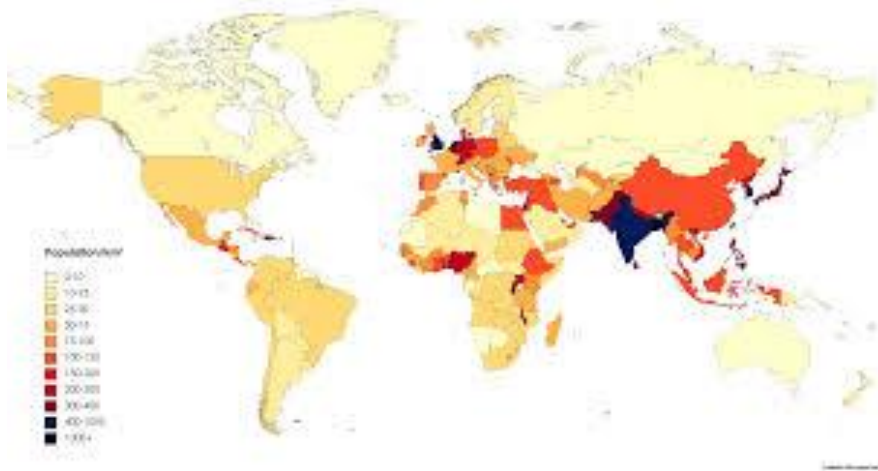## 2. Key Terms and Dual Definitions

Population

- **Definition 1:** "The total number of people living in a particular area, city, or country."
  — *Oxford Dictionary of Geography*, 2022
- **Definition 2:** "A group of individuals of the same species living in a specific geographic area."
  — *National Geographic Glossary*, 2021

Examples:

- *The population of Algeria is over 44 million.*

- *Urban areas have higher population densities than rural areas.*

Population Density

- **Definition 1:** "The number of people per square kilometer or mile of land area."
  — *Cambridge Human Geography Dictionary*, 2020
- **Definition 2:** "A measurement that expresses the number of people relative to the size of the land they occupy."
  — *Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context*, Pearson, 2018

Examples:

- *Tokyo has one of the highest population densities in the world.*
- *The Sahara region has a very low population density.*

Population Growth

- **Definition 1:** "The increase in the number of people in a population due to births, immigration, and decline in death rates."

  — *United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)*
- **Definition 2:** "The change in the size of a population over time."

  — *World Bank Development Indicators*, 2021

Examples:

- *Many African countries experience rapid population growth.*
- *Population growth can strain natural resources and infrastructure.*

Migration

- **Definition 1:** "The movement of people from one place to another, often for economic or social reasons."

  — *International Organization for Migration (IOM)*
- **Definition 2:** "A permanent or semi-permanent change in residence by an individual or group."

  — *Human Geography: People, Place, and Culture*, Wiley, 2020

Examples:

- *Rural-urban migration increases city population.*
- *Many people migrate for better job opportunities or education.*

Urbanization

- **Definition 1:** "The process by which more people live in cities rather than rural areas."

  — *Oxford English for Geography*, 2019

- **Definition 2:** "The growth of urban areas as a result of migration and natural increase."

  — *United Nations Habitat Programme*

Examples:

- *Urbanization is fastest in developing countries.*
- *Urbanization leads to changes in land use and infrastructure demand.*

3. Grammar Focus: Comparatives and Superlatives

Forming Comparatives:

- For short adjectives: **-er** + **than** (e.g., *bigger than*)
- For long adjectives: **more** + **adjective** + **than** (e.g., *more crowded than*)

Forming Superlatives:

- Short adjectives: **the + adjective + -est** (e.g., *the largest*)
- Long adjectives: **the most + adjective** (e.g., *the most populated*)

Examples in Context:

- *Cairo is more populated than Algiers.*
- *Tokyo is the most densely populated city in the world.*
- *Urban areas are usually more developed than rural ones.*

Grammar References:

- Eastwood, J. (2002). *Oxford Practice Grammar*. OUP
- Murphy, R. (2012). *English Grammar in Use*. CUP

4. Practical Language Use: Describing Population Patterns

Examples:

- *The population of coastal cities is generally higher than that of inland towns.*
- *Migration is often caused by unemployment or conflict.*
- *Urbanization results in increased demand for housing and transportation.*

5. Homework Assignment

Task: Write a paragraph (8–10 sentences) about population trends in Algeria or your region.

Instructions:

- Use at least **3 vocabulary words** from the lecture.
- Include **2 comparatives** and **1 superlative**.
- Use the **present simple tense** correctly.

6. References

-Oxford Dictionary of Geography (2022)

-UNFPA and World Bank Population Reports (2020–2021)

-National Geographic Glossary (2021)

-International Organization for Migration (IOM)

-Eastwood, J. (2002). *Oxford Practice Grammar*. OUP

-Murphy, R. (2012). *English Grammar in Use*. CUP

-Human Geography: People, Place, and Culture, Wiley (2020)

-Pearson (2018). *Human Geography: Places and Regions in Global Context*