

Week 1: Where is Asia?

Asia is one of the world's seven continents.

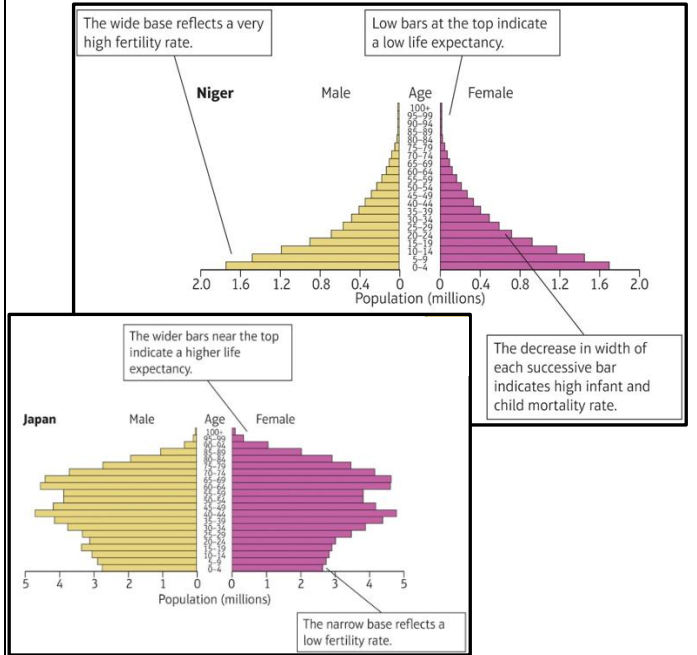
Learn the different countries that are found in Asia



Week 2: Asia facts

- It is the world's most populated continent.
- 4,216 million people lived there in 2011, 60 per cent of the world's population.
- India and China are the two most populated countries in the world, each containing nearly one fifth of the world's population. Both are located in Asia.
- The largest city in Asia is Shanghai in China. With more than 24 million inhabitants Shanghai is also the largest city in the world by population.
- Yangtze River is the longest on the Asian continent. It is in China.

Week 3: Population pyramids



Week 4: One Child Policy

In 1979, the One Child Rule was introduced in China.

It is an **anti-natal** policy. (A policy introduced by countries with very high birth and fertility rates to try and control and reduce population numbers).

It was brought in because of concerns about the size of China's population. In the 1960s the **fertility rate** (The average number of babies born to each woman) was as high as 5.7 and the country could not support this rate of population growth.

The new policy meant that any couple having a second child would get a heavy fine, around £3,000, which only the very affluent could afford. There were financial incentives to follow the policy.

Week 5: Impacts of the one child policy

- The fertility rate has dropped from 5.7 in 1960 to 1.5 in 2011.
- About 400 million births may have been prevented.
- It has led to an ageing population (a high percentage of people over 65)
- The cultural preference for boys has meant that there seems to be a gender imbalance in China.
- This gender imbalance is now narrowing as China seems to be valuing girls more. For example, girls are now encouraged to travel to the factories to work and bring home pay. Being a one-child policy girl also meant extra university points in one province.

Week 6: Urbanisation

In many areas of Asia there is **rural-to-urban migration**.

China has seen **rapid urbanisation** as an increasing proportion of people live in urban areas. Over the last 20 years, the percentage of people who live in cities has increased from 20 per cent to nearly 50 per cent.

The reasons for rural to urban migration are:

- people are moving into cities to find work
- farming systems in rural areas changed to allow people to leave the **group cooperative**
- newly industrialised areas needed workers
- there was the belief that the standard of living is better in cities

