Life in an emerging country – subject summary

9.3.1 Describe the location of the newly emerging countries and the characteristics of them.

Who are the emerging countries?

A map showing the BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India China)

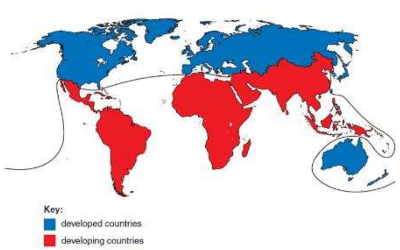
1. The **BRIC** countries are the countries with the **fastest growing economies** world-wide.
2. They are located in South America (Brazil) and Asia (Russia, India, China).
3. They have a **large land mass**.
4. They tend to be rich in **natural resources**.
5. They have **large populations**, which are generally young.
6. They play a key role in **world trade**, with China being the world's biggest exporter.

A map showing the MINT countries (Mexico, Indonesia, Nigeria, Turkey)

1. The **MINT** countries are another four recently emerging countries.
2. One is located in South America (Mexico), two in Asia (Indonesia and Turkey), and one on the east coast of Africa (Nigeria).
3. Similar to the BRIC countries, they have **large land masses** and a young population.
4. **Nigeria's** growth has been based on exporting **oil**.
5. Mexico is home to many **TNCs** (see below), such as Fiat, therefore exporting secondary products world-wide.

9.3.1 Describe the location of the newly emerging countries and the characteristics of

Is the Brandt line still relevant?



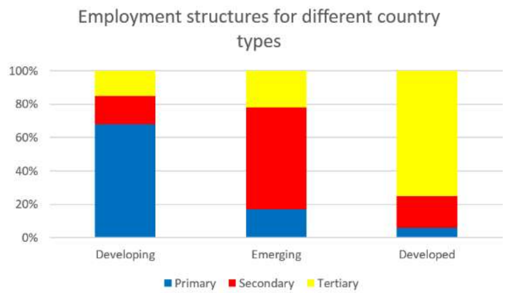
1. The **Brandt line** suggests that there are just two categories of countries, developed and developing.
2. This was created in the 1980s and was based purely on GDP.
3. The rise of the **BRIC and MINT countries** does **undermine** the line.
4. 7 of the countries are found south of the line.
5. Today many countries are seeing a rapid increase in their GDP per capita.

Key Terms:

1. **Imports** – Goods brought into a country.
2. **Exports** – Sending goods to another country for sale.
3. **Trade unions** – An organisation of workers who work to protect the rights of those employed.
4. **Tax Breaks** – This reduces the amount of tax a company must pay (normally for a fixed period), therefore increasing profit.
5. **Subsidies** – Money given by a government to help an industry keep down the cost of exports.
6. **Human development index (HDI)** – A development measure which combines GDP per capita, life expectancy and literacy rate.
7. **Urbanisation** – The growth in the number/ proportion of people living in towns and cities.

9.3.1 Describe the location of the newly emerging countries and the characteristics of them.

The key features of emerging countries:



	GDP	Life expectancy	Infant mortality	HDI
Somalia	$550	50	117 per 1000	0.26 (v. low)
Mexico	$13, 150	72	19 per 1000	0.81 (high)
UK	$36, 250	77	6 per 1000	0.95 (v. high)

1. The graph shows the 'general' employment structures for a developing, emerging, and developed country.
2. **Emerging countries** are characterised by having a **large % of workers in secondary** industries (manufacturing).
3. Emerging countries have seen **mechanisation of primary activities** such as farming, in rural areas, so a reduction in jobs in the primary sector.
4. This has allowed people to move to cities, to work in the **manufacturing sector**, where wages are often higher.

Development indicators in an emerging country:

1. Emerging countries are categorised as having a **rapidly improving quality of life**.
2. In general, the **population is getting richer**, due to higher wages.
3. This means the **governments** of these countries have more money to **invest in infrastructure** such as schools and hospitals, which also improves quality of life.
4. From the table it is clear to see that **Mexico** (an emerging country), has **significantly improved development indicators**.
5. This has resulted in a HDI score for Mexico, which is much closer to the UK.

How China became an emerging country:

1. China had a very **low minimum wage** compared to developed countries, this encouraged companies to set-up, as products could be made cheaply, leading to **greater profits**.
2. **Trade unions were weak** in China, resulting in many companies attempting to pay below the minimum wage and making **workers work long hours**. This led to **greater production and profits**.
3. Companies such as **transnationals were given tax breaks**, this encouraged companies to set-up.
4. There were **fewer environmental laws** in China, this meant that **industries could operate more cheaply,** resulting in bigger profits.
5. The **government placed subsidies on exports**; $1 billion was set aside each year to reduce the cost of the goods exported, resulting in **more being sold** and therefore increasing job opportunities.

NB: The points are historic and have been generalised for revision purposes.

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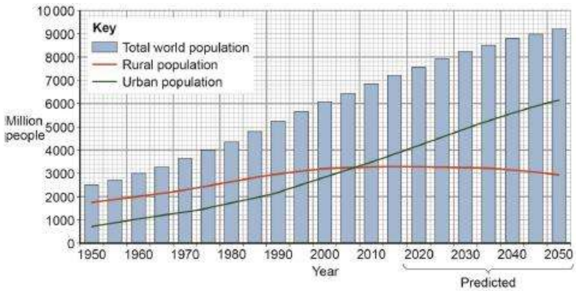
Life in an emerging country – subject summary

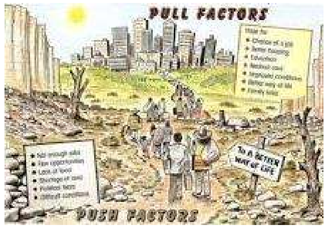
9.3.2 Explain why rural to urban migration is a key feature of life in emerging countries.

Urbanisation is a key feature of emerging countries:



1. The world's population is becoming **more urbanised**.
2. The **fastest rates** of urbanisation are taking place in the **emerging countries.**
3. People are moving from the rural areas to the urban areas; the pace of this movement is rapid.

Push and pull factors to urban areas are a key feature in emerging countries:



Possible push factors from rural areas:

1. **Mechanisation** of primary industries (farming) means few jobs.
2. **Potential drought**, lack of food and clean water.
3. **Lack of schools**, meaning less chance of children getting an education.
4. **Difficult to access medical care**, meaning illness and disease may go untreated.

They are pulled to the city as there are many jobs in the manufacturing industries, with improved wages.
As well as a reliable food and water source, access to medical care and education.

KPIs:
9.3.1 Describe the location of the newly emerging countries and the characteristics of them.
9.3.2 Explain why rural to urban migration is a key feature of life in emerging countries.
9.3.3 Assess the opportunities and challenges faced by people living in a city in an emerging country.
9.3.4 Evaluate the social, environmental, economic and political impacts of a TNC(s) in an emerging country.

9.3.3 Assess the opportunities and challenges faced by people living in a city in an emerging country.

The opportunities and challenges of living in a city in a newly emerging country (Rio):

1. Rio is a city in an emerging country (Brazil) which has seen rapid rates of urbanisation.
2. Some people live in **modern apartments** and housing, whilst others live in **favelas** (shanty settlement/ illegal) on the edges and

What are shanty settlements (favelas) like?

1. **Houses** are **densely packed** together.
2. They are **built illegally** and could be knocked down by the authorities.
3. They are usually built on land which developers do not want to use e.g. **hillsides**, near railway tracks, on marsh land, on the outskirts of cities etc.

Opportunities of living in Rocinha (a favela in Rio):

1. Located in **Rio** which has the **highest income per head** in the country, so jobs could lead to wages for food, medicines and sending children to school.
2. **88%** of housing is connected to the main **water supply**, so less diseases e.g. cholera.
3. **Housing has electricity**, which means an improved quality of life e.g. being able to heat and light the home.

Challenges of living in Rocinha (a favela in Rio)

1. **12%** of the population **do not have** access to **clean water**, so might be forced to drink dirty water with the risk of getting diseases
2. **Unemployment** in favelas is **20%,** so many people do informal, cash in hand jobs. Pay can be low, so they might not be able to afford basic medicines and food.
3. Only **50% of waste is collected**, so waste builds up in the streets, sometimes leading to vermin and mosquitos, which can increase the risk of diseases, such as malaria.
4. **Crime** can be a problem in the area.

9.3.4 Evaluate the social, environmental, economic and political impacts of a TNC(s) in an emerging country.

The role of TNCs in emerging countries

A **transnational corporation** is a company which has its **headquarters** in one country (normally a **developed country**), and its **factories elsewhere** (normally an emerging or developing country).

TNCs as a route out of poverty:

1. South Korea is a good example of a country which historically used TNCs to help it develop.
2. During the 1960s they encouraged companies to set-up within the country.
3. They promoted their cheap labour force, and ensured workers worked long hours.
4. Companies such as Ford set-up in S. Korea.
5. **The S. Korean's used taxes to improve schools** and develop their own industries.
6. **Today S. Korea** is home to some of the **biggest companies in the world**, including Samsung, LG, and Hyundai.
7. The South Korean example demonstrates that TNCs can significantly help a country develop

Foxconn (Apple in China) – opportunities and challenges

Foxconn has factories in Shenzhen, China. Inside the factory electronic items are manufactured, including the **iPhone**, an Apple product from California.

Opportunities:

1. **Wages** in the factory are just above the minimum wage at **£152 per month**, which means people have money which they can spend on other things, which can lead to a positive multiplier effect.
2. In total **300, 000 people are employed** at the Foxconn sites at Shenzhen, this an increase in taxes for the government and therefore increased spending on schools and hospitals.
3. **Workers are learning new skills**, this means they may start developing their own companies. Many Chinese companies are now big global brands e.g. Huawei.

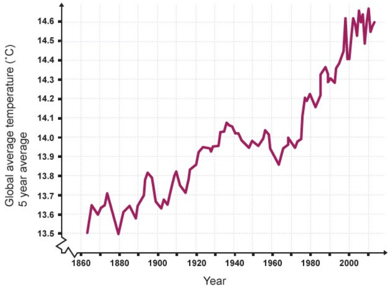
Challenges (some are perceived and in the past):

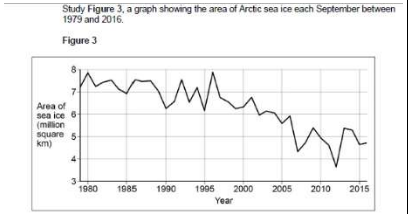
1. Workers work **extremely long hours** sometimes without breaks (up to 60 hrs per week), this means they may not see their family, reducing quality of life.
2. **Rules** inside the factories can be **strict**, in the past there have been reports of financial punishments.
3. Foxconn is said to **pay a relatively small amount of tax** to the Chinese government.
4. The **company is footloose**, meaning it can leave at any time, therefore workers worry that the company will close, and they will become unemployed

Climate change – subject summary

KPI 9.1.1

Evidence of climate change:



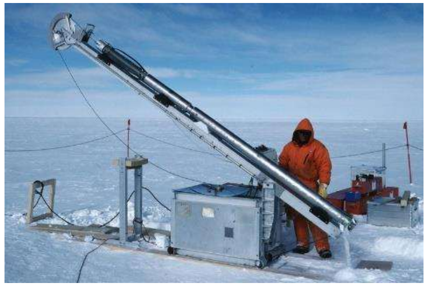


What is the evidence for climate change?

1. The world's climate has always changed. During the Medieval Warm Period grapes were grown in London but during the time of the Stuarts, the River Thames would freeze.
2. **Since 1880** the Earth's climate has increased by approx. **0.8 degrees**.
3. However, the increase in temperature has **not been steady**. The first graph shows that this increase **fluctuates.**
4. 16 out of the 17 warmest years in the last 136 years have all occurred since 2001.
5. Also, since the 1980s the **Arctic sea ice has been in decline**. fluctuated,

Methods to find out what the climate was like in the past:

Ice cores

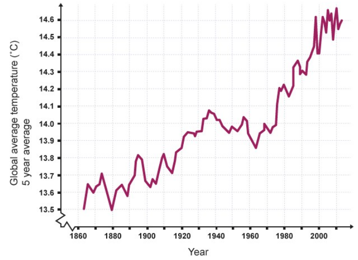


1. **Ice sheets** are huge blocks of ice made up of **layers**. A new layer forms each year.
2. **Gases trapped in the ice** give information about the **temperature** when they were trapped.
3. One ice core from Antarctica shows

Tree Rings

1. As a tree grows, a **new outer layer (or ring)** is formed each **year**.
2. These are thicker in warm, wet conditions.
3. Tree rings can go back **10,000 years**.

Temperature records

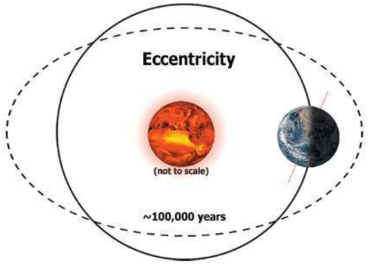


1. Since the 1850s, global temperature has been measured.
2. **Thermometers** are used to measure temperature and are very **accurate**.

KPI

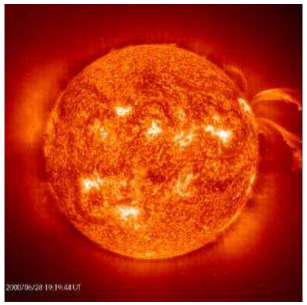
Physical cause of climate change

Orbital change



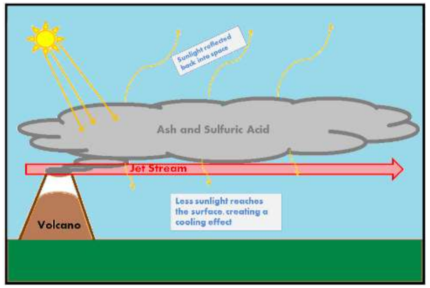
1. **Orbital change** is about how close the Earth is to the sun. Every 100,000 years the proximity of the **Earth's orbit** will move from **circular to elliptical (oval)**.
2. The further the Earth is from the sun, the colder the temperature. A more eccentric **(elliptical)** orbit makes the distance from the Earth to the sun fluctuate.

Sunspots



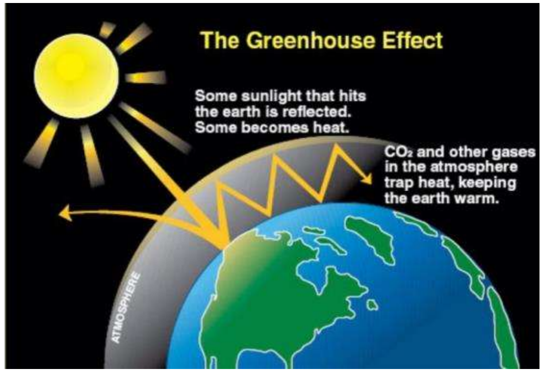
1. These are **dark spots** that appear on the surface of the sun.
2. The **more** the sunspots, the **greater** the **heat** produced.
3. They come and go in **11-year cycles**.
4. This is known as the **sunspot cycle**.

Volcanic eruptions



1. Lots of **material** is released into the **atmosphere** during a volcanic eruption.
2. This **reflects the sun rays back out** (so they do not reach the Earth).
3. This leads to **cooling** e.g. after the Mt Pinatubo eruption (1991), global temperature fell.

Manmade greenhouse effect



1. **Sun rays** travel through the **atmosphere** to Earth.
2. As they **reflect** off the **Earth,** some of the outgoing rays **escape** back out of the atmosphere.
3. **Some** are **trapped.**
4. This balance is needed to keep the Earth warm enough for life.
5. The atmosphere is made up of many gases, two important gases are carbon dioxide **(CO_2)** and **methane**.
6. **Human activity** e.g. driving cars and using electricity often requires the burning of **fossil fuels** such as oil and coal, which give off **CO_2**.
7. These **greenhouse gases** are released into the **atmosphere** and they trap more and more rays that would normally escape into space.
8. So, the **global temperature increases.**

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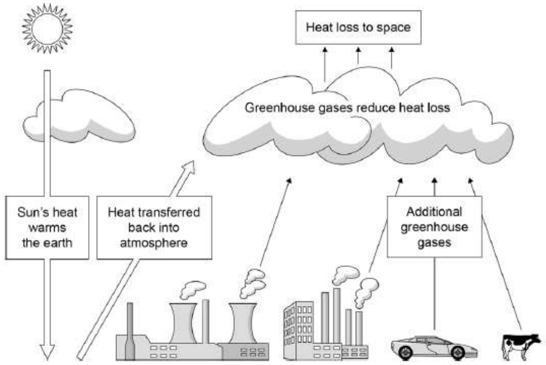
Climate change – subject summary

KPI 9.1.4

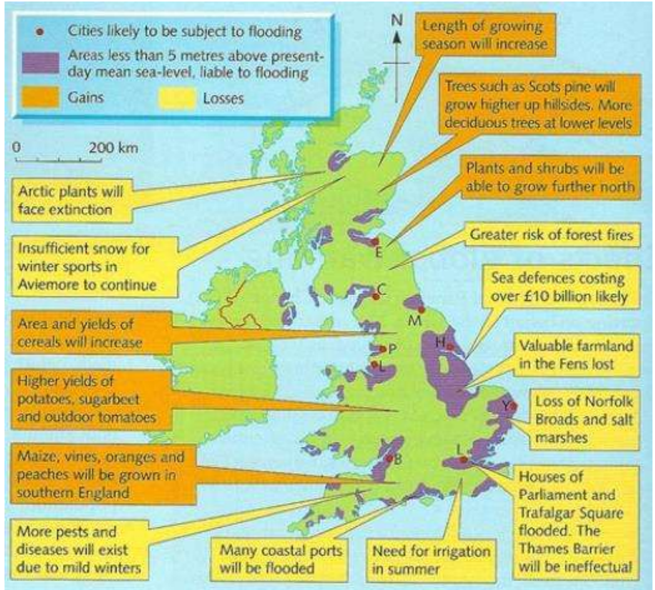
Human factors causing climate change:



1. **Cars (and other transport)** burn fossil fuels increasing CO_2 into the atmosphere.
2. **Coal and gas power plants** give off CO_2 whilst burning fossil fuels to make electricity.
3. **Building factories** means more electricity is needed.
4. **An increase in the standard of living** means more electricity used in homes so more CO_2 is released.
5. **Increased farming** (pastoral) means more dung so more methane.
6. **Deforestation** means less trees to absorb CO_2

Developed countries are the biggest contributors to the greenhouse effect. This is because they

KPI 9.1.3



Social impacts of climate change

1. **Temperature rise** so there are more **droughts & deaths** from dirty water in places like the Sahel.
2. **Rising sea levels** means coastal areas are flooded, leading to migration. For example, **Shanghai** is at risk with 24.5 million people.
3. **Lower yields of crops** (e.g. Maize) due to warmer temperatures means farmers go bankrupt.
4. Droughts cause **crop failure**, which can cause famine and starvation.
5. **Sea temperatures increase**, causing more **tropical storms**, causing death /

Environmental impacts of climate change

1. **Warmer climate** means glaciers and **ice sheets melt** (e.g. Greenland) so sea levels will rise.
2. **Sea ice shrinking** means lost habitats e.g. **polar bears** risk **extinction.**
3. **Rising sea levels** means coastal areas flood which **destroys habitats** e.g. Norfolk Broads.
4. **Sea temperatures rise** so **coral reefs are bleached** and habitats are lost e.g. the Great Barrier Reef.

Mitigation vs Adaptation – dealing with climate change

Mitigation:

International agreements:

Countries agree to reduce their carbon emissions (carbon footprint) by setting emission targets.

1. Good – reduces CO_2, so stops the negative impacts e.g. flooding
2. Bad – not all countries agree to this e.g. USA pulled out of the Paris Acord. China has not engaged = CO_2 still increases as these are the biggest contributors.

Alternative energies:

Using wind farms, solar energy, nuclear and tidal.

1. Good – reduced CO_2 and associated effects, also they will not run out (infinite).
2. Bad – unreliable so will need to use fossil fuels when they are not working. Also, expensive initially, so higher bills.

Carbon Capture:

Some power plants are designed to capture the CO_2 they create when they burn fossil fuels. Once caught, it is stored underground.

1. Good – reduces CO_2, so reduces consequences e.g. flooding.

Adaptation:

Coping with rising sea levels:

Sea levels are predicted to rise by 82cm by 2100. Physical barriers – flood embankments (levees) could be built e.g. The Thames Barrier.

1. Good – these will hold the water back.
2. Bad – very expensive, so developing countries will unlikely be able to prevent floods and the people will be forced to move.

Changing agricultural systems:

Crop patterns are charging. In Kenya drought resistant crops are being used to provide food even when rainfall is low.

1. Good – reduces the risk of starvation.
2. Bad – can be expensive, so the cost of food increases, resulting in the poor going without.

Managing water supply:

Areas will get drier, so adding water meters may reduce use. Also, using water storage facilities.

1. Good – people will have clean water during times of low rainfall.
2. Bad – water meters may not change usage in wealthy countries. Both have little impact if there is not enough rain, so the impacts of droughts e.g. drinking dirty water will remain.

9.1.1 Can describe the evidence to suggest that the world's climate is changing.
9.1.2 Can explain the natural and human processes which cause climate change.
9.1.3 Can discuss the different impacts that climate change will have globally.
9.1.4 Assess the effectiveness of methods used in response to climate change.