

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPT. OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND PLANNING
FINAL EXAMINATION: MAY 2008
BASS II.

TITLE OF PAPER : URBAN AND ECONOMIC GEOGRAPHY
COURSE NUMBER : GEP 229
TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS
INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS (TWO
FROM EACH SECTION)
2. ILLUSTRATE YOUR ANSWERS WITH
EXAMPLES AND LARGE CLEARLY
DRAWN DIAGRAMS WHERE
APPROPRIATE.

ALLOCATION OF MARKS : ALL QUESTIONS ARE WORTH 25 MARKS

THIS PAPER MUST NOT BE OPENED UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
THE INVIGILATOR.

SECTION A: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1

- (a) Define the concept of primate city and explain how an urban place becomes a primate city. (5 marks)
- (b) With reference to Table 1 below, calculate the extent of dominance of Manzini and Luanda on the urban systems of Swaziland and Angola respectively using:
- (i) The two - city index (8 marks)
- (ii) The multi - city index (consider the top four cities) (8 marks)
- (c) According to your calculations, which is a primate city between Manzini and Luanda? Explain your answer. (4 marks)
- (25 marks)**

Table 1 Major Urban Places and their Population Sizes in Swaziland and Angola

SWAZILAND		ANGOLA	
<u>Urban Place</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Urban Place</u>	<u>Population</u>
Manzini	76 000	Luanda	2 400 000
Mbabane	57 000	Lobito	730 000
Nhlangano	4 600	Gabela	535 000
Piggs Peak	3 300	Benguela	307 000

QUESTION 2

- (a) Outline the Burgess Ecological Approach and Harris and Ullman's descriptions of the internal structure of the city. (16 marks)
- (b) Explain which of the two theories is close to reality in its description of the internal structure of a city. (9 marks)
- (25 marks)**

QUESTION 3

Critically discuss the various housing development strategies that have been implemented by developing countries to address the housing problem among the low income people.

(25 marks)

SECTION B: ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS

QUESTION 4

- (a) Discuss the factors that influence exploitation of mineral resources in African countries south of the Sahara. (15 marks)
- (b) Discuss briefly, the major threats to the mining industry in sub-Saharan Africa. (10 marks)
- (25 marks)**

QUESTION 5

- (a) Using relevant examples, discuss **four** critical factors influencing the location of a manufacturing activity on a given landscape.
(16 marks)
- (b) Using Weber's interpretation, explain why manufacturing industries are concentrated in the Matsapha Industrial Estate instead of being spread out into the other industrial areas in Swaziland.
(9 marks)
(25 marks)

QUESTION 6

- (a) Critically discuss the strategies the Swaziland government is implementing to attract foreign investment into the country.
(15 marks)
- (b) Identify and explain the factors that may pose a threat to the inflow and retention of foreign investment in Swaziland and the country's access to global markets. (10 marks)
(25 marks)