

## 4th GRADE MINIMUM CONTENTS- SOCIAL SCIENCE UNIT 6: POPULATION AND TERRITORY

### ► POPULATION AND ITS DISTRIBUTION

The **population** is the total number of people who live in a town, a country, a continent or on the whole planet.

The global population is not evenly distributed around the world and some countries and cities have much bigger population than others.

People usually live in places with favorable conditions. As a result, they usually live:

- Near major rivers, due to the abundance of water.
- In coastal areas where the climate is mild.
- In areas where the land relief is flat. It is easy to cultivate the land and construct buildings and transport links.
- In major cities, which have more services, better transport and more job opportunities.

The population in Europe is irregularly distributed throughout the territory.

- Most people live in cities. These are located on coastlines, in central areas, along major rivers and near communication and transport links.
- Mountain areas and places in the far north of the continent, where it is very cold, have small populations.

### ► WHY POPULATIONS VARY

Population means all the people, or **inhabitants** of a village, a city or a whole country. The population of a territory is not always the same. A population sometimes increases or decreases from year to year.

The population of a place **increases** when:

- a. More people are born than die.
- b. There are more **immigrants** than **emigrants**. Immigrants are people who leave their homeland to come to live in a new place. Emigrants are people who leave a place in their homeland to live in a different place.

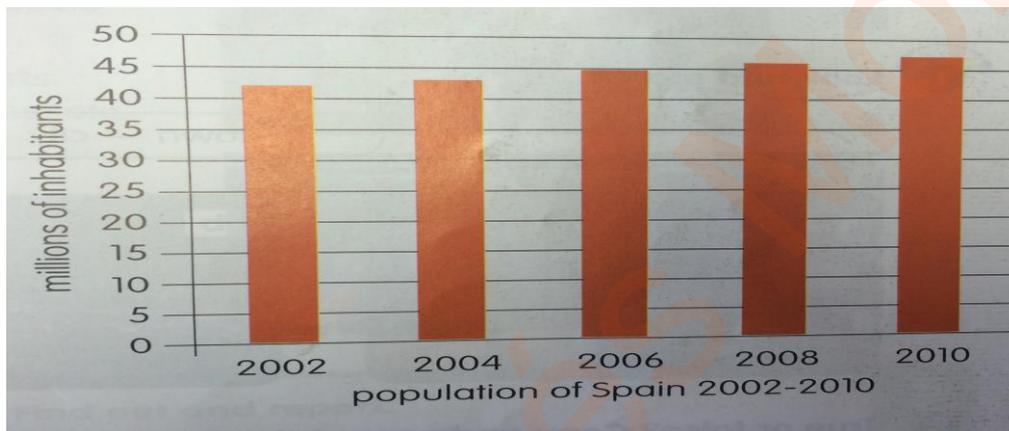
The population of a place **decreases** when:

- a. More people die than are born.

- b. There are more emigrants (people leaving) than immigrants (people coming).

There are different ways to study population:

- a. **A census.** This is a list of the inhabitants of a place. It tells us how old they are, what jobs they do, etc. In general, a census is updated every ten years, with new information collected from every home.
- b. **A population graph.** It shows the number of inhabitants in a place for each year. It shows you if the population of a place is increasing or decreasing.



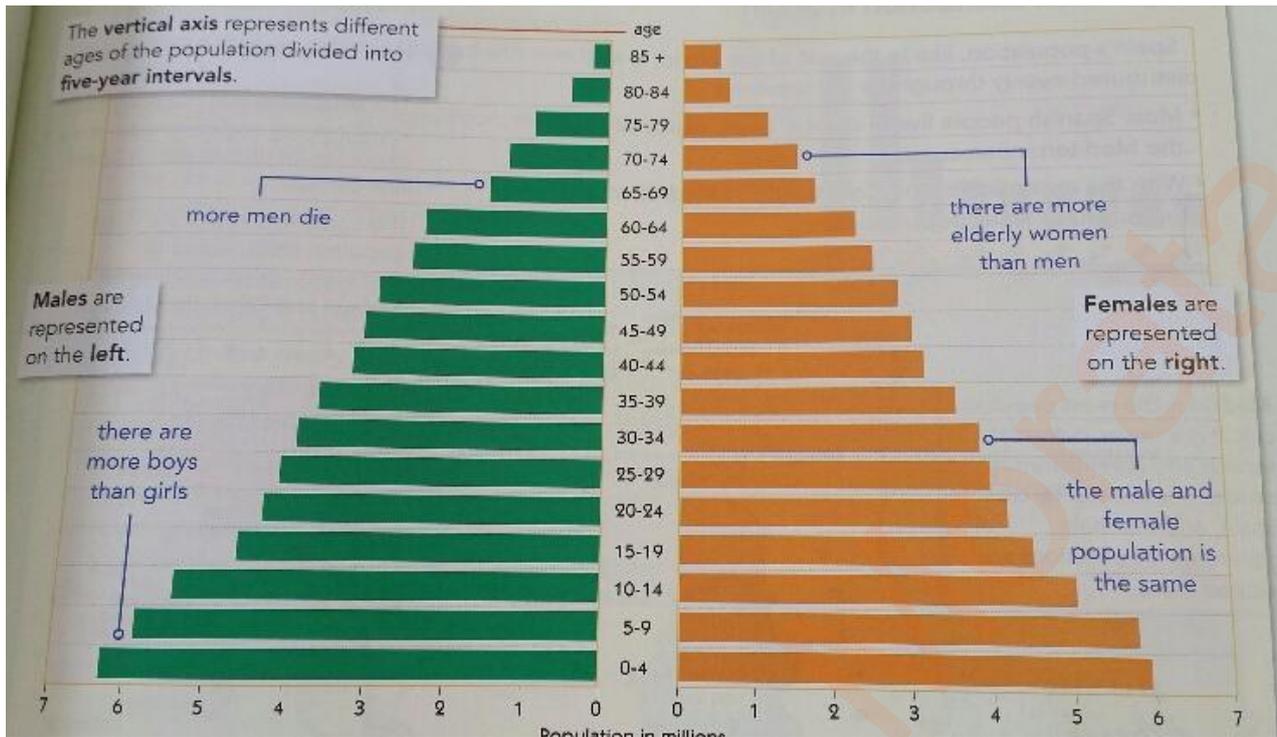
To find out about the population of a territory we can divide it up in different ways. One of the most common methods is to organize it by **age** and **gender**.

When we study the age of a territory's population, we usually divide it into five-year intervals: 0 to 4 years, 5 to 9 years, 10 to 14 years, ...

Sometimes we classify it into three larger groups: young people, adults and **elderly**.

The territory's population can also be divided according to gender: the number of **males** and **females**.

Information about the age and gender of territory's inhabitants is represented graphically in a population pyramid.



## ► THE POPULATION OF SPAIN

Spain has around 46 million inhabitants. Immigration in recent years has contributed to its **population growth**.

Spain's population, like in the rest of the world, is not distributed evenly throughout the territory:

-Most Spanish people live in coastal areas, especially near the Mediterranean coast. The Mediterranean coastline has a lot of industry and commerce. It is a major tourist destination for Spain and Europe. Some of most population cities, like Barcelona, are here.

-With the exception of the Community of Madrid, interior regions have small population.

The 21<sup>st</sup> century has seen huge changes in the number of inhabitants in Spain.

- Between 2001 and 2010, the population grew by more than six million. This growth was the result of the natural increase in population (there were more **births** than **deaths**) and the rise in immigration (Spain's favorable economic situation attracted immigrants looking for jobs)
- After 2011, population growth began to slow down, and it started to decrease in 2013. This was the result of the birth rate is very low and

fewer foreigners are coming because of the economic crisis and, in addition, many immigrants who arrived in previous years are returning to their countries after losing their jobs. Much of the Spanish population is emigrating due to the difficulty of finding employment. Therefore, the levels of emigration are much higher than those of immigration.

## UNIT 6: POPULATION AND TERRITORY

### ACTIVITIES

**1.-Complete the text using these words: flat, cities, rivers, evenly, central**

The population is not ..... distributed throughout a territory. People usually choose to live in ..... in ..... areas, near major ..... and areas with .....land relief.

**2.-Let's calculate it.**

In the town where Marta lives, this year there have been 1500 births and 800 deaths. Has the population increased or decreased? .....

Also, in Marta's town this year, there have been 220 emigrants and 250 immigrants. Has the population increased or decreased? .....

By how much has the population of Marta's town really grown?

**3.- Look at the data in the table. It shows the changes in a town's population in a year.**

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	Total
<b>Births</b>	227	221	211	243	254	231	219	216	228	264	211	212	2737
<b>Deaths</b>	144	178	156	143	111	101	118	133	104	109	107	133	1537

-Look at the totals. Were more births or deaths registered?

.....

- Calculate the natural increase of this population

**4.- Copy the text and complete it with the following figures so that it makes sense: 3 5691-389 699-2013-425 390**

In the year....., the natural increase of the Spanish population was positive. .... births and .....deaths were registered, which meant a natural increase of ..... inhabitants.

**5.- Match the word with its definition.**

a) Population pyramid

b) Census

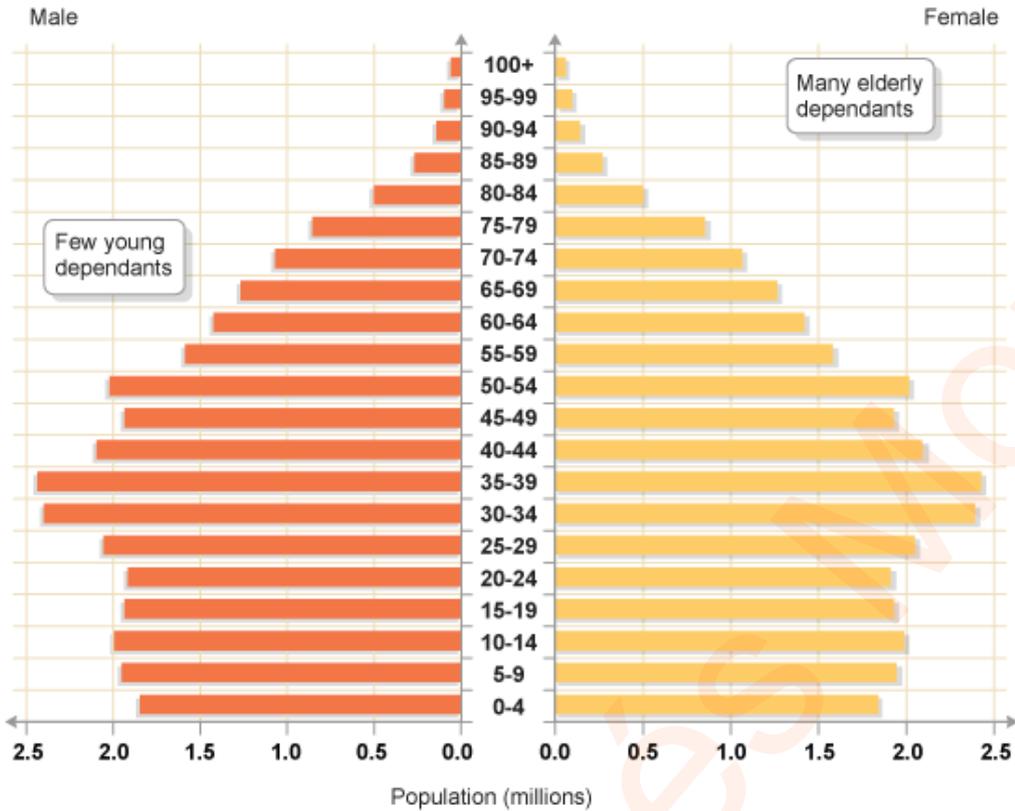
c) Register

1) A form with personal information of inhabitants

2) A population survey about everyone in the country.

3) A graphic with information about the age and gender of territory's inhabitants

6.- Look at the population pyramids and answer the questions.



-Are there more males or females?

.....

-Which age group contains the most people?

.....

- How many are there?

.....

**7.- Complete your bilingual dictionary.**

POPULATION AND TERRITORY		
- Population : _____	- Population graph : _____	- Birth : _____
- Inhabitant : _____	- Census : _____	- Death: _____
-Immigrant: _____	- Elderly: _____	- Increase: _____
- Emigrant: _____	- Male: _____	-Decrease: _____
	- Female: _____	
	- Population growth: _____	



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