

## Questions to the first part of the course in Demography and Economics

1. Explain "The Iron Law of Wages".
2. Explain Malthus shortcomings as a prophet.
3. Explain the difference between "Period Total Fertility Rate" and "Cohort Total Fertility Rate".
4. Discuss the "stylized" pattern of (i) fertility; (ii) childlessness; (iii) mother's age at first birth; (iv) spacing between births; (v) fertility and education; (vi) fertility and female labor force participation for the development over time in industrialized countries.
5. What is Anders Björklund's explanation to why the cohort fertility rate for women born in the 1950ties did not decline? Explain the statistical method he refer to in order to motivate his claim.
6. Explain the Becker's quality-quantity model for the fertility decision. How can it be used to explain the long-term inverse relation between economic development and completed family size?
7. Describe the time-allocation model and how it can be used to explain the inverse relation between female wage rates and fertility.
8. Explain the problem in interpreting the results from a regression analysis where individual data is used and number of children are regressed on family income. Explain the problems if we instead use municipality level data. Explain the related problem when using female wage rates as an independent variable.
9. Explain how Paul Schultz used a technological shift to explain the decline in the fertility rate in Sweden.
10. Explain intuitively Kevin Milligan's research methodology for studying if economic incentives affects fertility. Describe his results.
11. Describe Chiswick's findings on immigrant assimilation.
12. Discuss different explanations to Chiswick's findings.

13. What is the advantage of using longitudinal data when studying immigrant assimilation.
14. Describe the cohort pattern of the skill level among US immigrants.
15. Describe the arguments of Edin et al. for the importance of controlling for return migration when studying assimilation. Describe their empirical finding on this.
16. Describe Hammarstedt's results of wage differentials between different groups of immigrants and natives.
17. Describe Borjas's model for immigrant selection. What is meant by "positive", "negative" and "refugee" selection respectively. Between which countries can we expect the different types of selection? Give examples and motivate.
18. What can we expect will happen to employment and wage of unskilled native workers if immigration of unskilled immigrant workers increase. Explain counteracting mechanisms.
19. Describe the methodology used in Card's study of the Miami labor market response to the Mariel boatlift immigration.
20. What are the typical results on the effect of immigration on native's employment rate.
21. Describe the conceptual problems in measuring the immigrant's share of government consumption expenditures.
22. Describe how income redistribution between immigrants and natives through the transfer system can be measured.
23. Describe how Ekberg measure the importance of immigrant employment rate in his cost-benefit analysis of immigration.
24. Why is "regression towards the mean" an important concept in measuring the economic status of second generation immigrants.
25. Define the "mortality transition".
26. Explain why it may be a reversed causality between income and health.

27. Discuss different hypotheses behind the relation between absolute income and health.
28. Explain why a non-linearity in the relation between income and health may have implications for the relation between income inequality and mortality.
29. Explain the "relative income" hypothesis for the relation between income and mortality. What are the implications for the effects of income redistributions?
30. Explain the hypotheses behind the relations between income inequality and mortality.
31. Explain the methodological problems for empirical studies between income and mortality/health.
32. Describe the empirical evidences summarized by Deaton on the relation between (i) absolute income; (ii) relative income; (iii) income inequality and mortality.

### **Questions on this year's additional literature**

Explain what Borjas means by "the immigrant surplus".

How is the immigrant surplus distributed? Discuss different cases with respect to who owns the capital stock.

Explain how the immigrant surplus is affected if we assume that there are externalities of immigration.

Explain how the income distribution is affected if we assume different skill compositions of immigrants and native workers.

Oded Stark discusses how "risk diversification", "relative deprivation" and "asymmetric information" relates to migration. He claims that discontinuity is a common theme for these motives for migration. Explain what he means.

Explain what Stark means by (i) "risk diversification", (ii) "relative deprivation" and (iii) "asymmetric information" as motives for migration.