

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND  
FINAL EXAMINATION: DECEMBER 2013  
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) Briefly describe the Rank Size Rule. (6 marks)
- (b) Table 1 below shows urban areas in Swaziland and their population sizes. Based on the table, calculate the expected population sizes of the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> ranked cities using the Rank Size Rule. (4 marks)
- (c) Plot the data in Table 1 below to produce a curve comparing ranks of the cities and their population sizes. (5 marks)
- (d) Comment on the applicability of the Rank - Size Rule in Swaziland and provide evidence to support your argument. (10 marks)

**(25 marks)****Table 1 Swaziland urban areas and their population sizes (2005).**

Urban areas	Population sizes
Simunye	6 500
Mhlume	8 600
Big Bend	10 300
Lavumisa	1 300
Bulembu	2 200
Mankayane	1 100
Thabankulu	2 800
Hlatikulu	2 700
Tshaneni	1 800
Siteki	6 100
Bhunya	3 000
Piggs Peak	5 700
Nhlangano	9 000
Mbabane	76 200
Manzini	110,500
Ngwenya	1 200
Vuvulane	4 100

Central Statistical Office (2005).

**QUESTION 2**

- (a) Account for the differences in land values in an urban place. (15 marks)
- (b) With the help of a sketch diagram, present a general land use pattern as influenced by the variability in land values in an urban place. (10 marks)
- (25 marks)**

**QUESTION 3**

Using examples, discuss the role of urban places in the socio - economic development of a country. (25 marks)

**SECTION B**

**ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION 4**

- (a) Using examples, explain any **four** critical factors influencing the location of a manufacturing activity on a given landscape. (16 marks)
- (b) Using Weber's model, 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 5**

Explain the factors constraining human beings from utilizing some of the environmental elements. (25 marks)

**QUESTION 6**

- (a) Account for the recent decline in long term Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Swaziland. (16 marks)
- (b) Critically explain the strategies the Swaziland government is implementing to attract Foreign Direct Investment. (9 marks)
- (25 marks)**