

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND PLANNING
FINAL EXAMINATION: DECEMBER 2014
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, calculate the extent of dominance of Manzini and Luanda on the urban systems of Swaziland and Angola respectively using:
- The two - city index (8 marks)
 - 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 Selected urban places and population sizes in Swaziland and Angola (hypothetical)

SWAZILAND		ANGOLA	
<u>Urban Place</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Urban Place</u>	<u>Population</u>
Manzini	134, 000	Luanda	2 400 000
Mbabane	93, 000	Lobito	730 000
Nhlangano	11, 000	Gabela	535 000
Siteki	7, 500	Benguela	307 000
Piggs Peak	7, 000	Lubango	126 000
Vuvulane	5, 000	Malanja	115 000

QUESTION 2

With the help of examples, critically discuss the approaches used in the classification of cities in the world. (25 marks)

QUESTION 3

With reference to African countries south of the Sahara, discuss the main problems that arise due to rapid urban growth. (25 marks)

SECTION B**ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS****QUESTION 4**

'Transport cost rates are not always proportional to distance'. Discuss the validity of this statement by citing factors that influence transport cost rates. (25 marks)

QUESTION 5

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

QUESTION 6

- a) Identify and explain factors that are a threat to the attraction and retention of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in Swaziland and the country's eligibility to global markets. (10 marks)
 - b) Critically assess the strategies the Government of Swaziland is implementing to attract FDI into the country. (15 marks)
- (25 marks)**