

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FINAL EXAMINATION: DECEMBER 2009
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 : **EACH QUESTION CARRIES TWENTY FIVE (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 shows urban areas in Swaziland and their population sizes. Based on table 1, calculate the expected population sizes of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th ranked cities using the Rank Size Rule. (4 marks)
- (c) Plot the data in Table 1 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, 1997.

Urban Area	Population Size
Simunye	9 535
Mhlume	7 661
Big Bend	9 374
Lavumisa	1 117
Bulembu	2 443
Mankayane	1 040
Thabankulu	2 551
Hlatikulu	2 076
Tshaneni	2 250
Siteki	4 157
Bhunya	2 650
Piggs Peak	4 581
Nhlangano	6 540
Mbabane	57 992
Manzini	78 734
Ngwenya	8842
Vuvulane	3 594

Central Statistical Office (1997).

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)