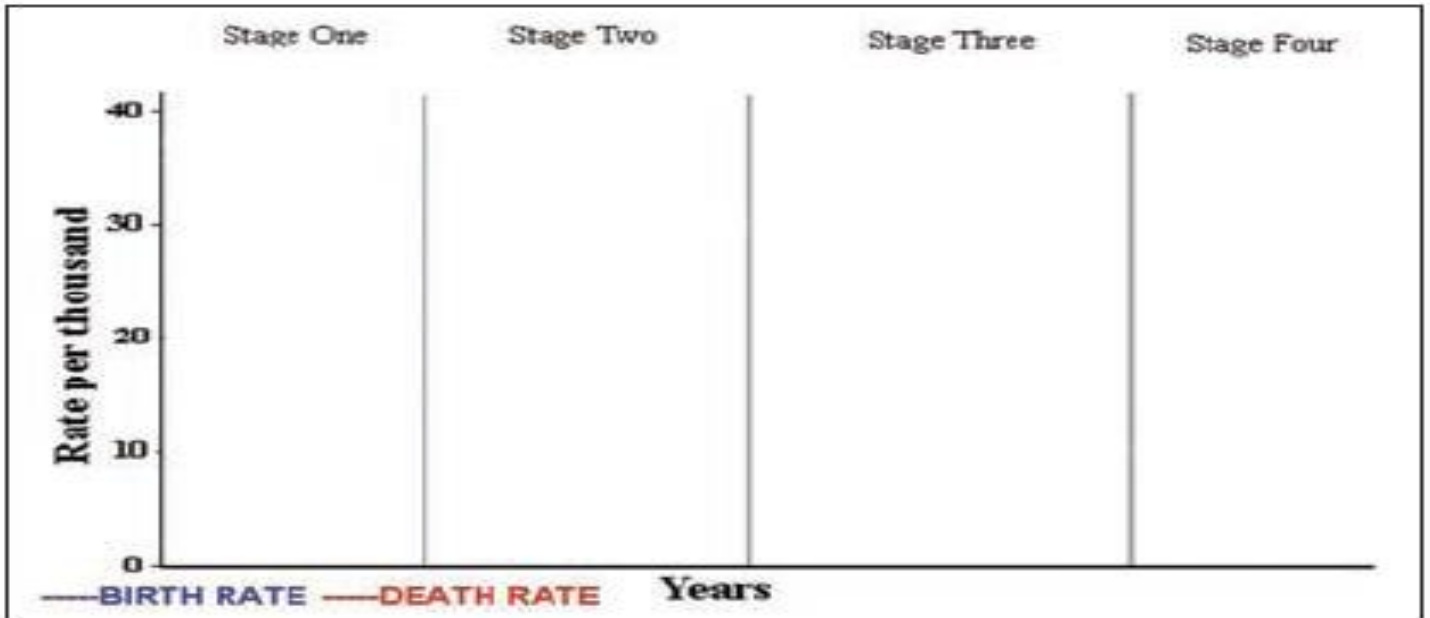


### WORKSHEET 3: The DEMOGRAPHIC TRANSITION and ITS FEATURES

#### Instructions:

- To read the information
- To fill in the table
- To draw the graph according to the figures of the table

The changes in population growth rates and the effect on population can be shown on



the **Demographic Transition Model** (Population Cycle).

This can be divided into **four** stages:

#### **Stage 1 - High Fluctuating (MEDC's)**

**Birth Rate and Death rate are both high. Population growth is slow and fluctuating.**

#### **Reasons**

**Birth Rate is high as a result of:**

- Lack of family planning
- High Infant Mortality Rate: putting babies in the 'bank'
- Need for workers in agriculture
- Religious beliefs
- Children as economic assets

**Death Rate is high because of:**

- High levels of disease
- Famine
- Lack of clean water and sanitation
- Lack of health care
- War
- Competition for food from predators such as rats
- Lack of education

Typical of Britain in the 18th century and the Least Economically Developed Countries (LEDC's) today.

**Stage 2 - Early Expanding (DEVELOPING COUNTRIES)**

Birth Rate remains high. Death Rate is falling. Population begins to rise steadily.

Reasons

Death Rate is falling as a result of:

- Improved health care (e.g. Smallpox Vaccine)
- Improved Hygiene (Water for drinking boiled)
- Improved sanitation
- Improved food production and storage
- Improved transport for food
- Decreased Infant Mortality Rates

Typical of Britain in 19th century; Bangladesh; Nigeria

**Stage 3 - Late Expanding (NIC's or EMERGING countries)**

Birth Rate starts to fall. Death Rate continues to fall. Population rising.

Reasons

- Family planning available
- Lower Infant Mortality Rate
- Increased mechanization reduces need for workers
- Increased standard of living
- Changing status of women

Typical of Britain in late 19th and early 20th century; China; Brazil

**Stage 4 - Low Fluctuating (MEDC's)**

Birth Rate and Death Rate both low. Population steady.

Typical of USA; Sweden; Japan; Britain

	Stage One	Stage Two	Stage Three	Stage Four
Birth Rate				
Death Rate				
What's going on? Why?				
Examples				

***CONCLUSION: is the model universally applicable?***

Like all models, the demographic transition model has its limitations.

It failed to consider, or to predict, several factors and events:

**1** Birth rates in several MEDCs have fallen below death rates (Germany, Sweden). This has caused, for the first time, a population decline which suggests that perhaps the model should have a fifth stage added to it.

**2** The model assumes that in time all countries pass through the same four stages. It now seems unlikely, however, that many LEDCs, especially in Africa, will ever become industrialized.