

Demography- AfL

Item 2A

Improvements in medicine and health care have had an impact on family life over the past 100 years or so. At one end of the life cycle, the fall in the infant mortality rate has contributed to a fall in the birth rate and a reduction in family size. At the other end of the life cycle, rising life expectancy has contributed to an ageing population.

Explain what is meant by the infant mortality rate (**Item 2A**). (2 marks) (Jun 2013)

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From a functionalist point of view, government welfare policies support families in performing their functions. For example, the provision of health care by the National Health Service means that parents are better able to care for their sick children. This is one of the reasons for the fall in the infant mortality rate over the past 100 years or so.

Suggest **two** reasons for the fall in the infant mortality rate, **apart from** that mentioned in **Item 2A**. (4 marks) (Jan 2013)

Identify **three** reasons why the birth rate has fallen since 1900. (6 marks) (Jun 2011)

Suggest **three** ways in which the differences between children and adults are becoming less clear in society today. (6 marks) (Jan 2012)

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