

Cambridge International AS & A Level

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES & RESEARCH**9239/13**

Paper 1 Written Exam

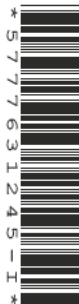
May/June 2026

INSERT

1 hour 30 minutes

INFORMATION

- This insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.
- You may annotate this insert and use the blank spaces for planning. **Do not write your answers on the insert.**



This document has 4 pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

The following documents consider issues related to migration and work. Read them **both** in order to answer **all** the questions on the paper.

Document A: adapted from *Bangladesh close to another record year in manpower export*, an article written by Kamran Siddiqui, published in 'The Business Standard' (Bangladesh) in 2023. The author is a reporter at The Business Standard with specialization in the fields of migration, national and overseas employment, aviation, tourism and hospitality. The Business Standard is a Bangladeshi daily newspaper.

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Also clear is that the government must address these issues to ensure economic security at home.

Document B: adapted from *How To Stop the Health Worker Brain Drain in Africa?*, an article written by Claudia Shilumani, Rebecca Alban and Edwin Mulwa, published in 'AllAfrica' (South Africa) in 2023. The authors work for 'Village Reach', an organization which works with governments to solve healthcare delivery challenges in low-resource communities. Shilumani has 25 years of experience in the public health field, Alban is a global health professional and Mulwa is a member of the Kenya Health Informatics Association. 'AllAfrica' is a news website that writes about African life, politics, issues and culture.

This year, the World Health Organization added 37 African countries to a list of nations at risk of worsening health worker shortages due to "brain drain". Brain drain is a well-documented phenomenon of health workers emigrating to work in high-income countries like the U.S., Canada, and Europe.

This exodus of health workers from African nations is restricting access to healthcare, leading to long delays for patients and lack of medical services. Patients may even get turned away from health centers struggling to manage demand with limited staff.

Brain drain isn't a new issue. But it's contributed to a reality where most countries in Africa have fewer than two health workers for every 1 000 people. This contrasts with countries like Sweden, which has 4.3 doctors and 10.9 nurses for every 1 000 people. By 2030, it's projected that Africa will have a shortage of 6.1 million health workers.

Current solutions to the health worker shortage have focused on preventing overseas recruitment of nurses and doctors. But other issues like poor working conditions and limited professional training opportunities are also driving health workers abroad. So, we need new strategies to ensure health workers do not become part of the brain drain.

In 2022, the International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA) met in Kigali, Rwanda, to discuss strategies to address the shortage of health workers. CPHIA was attended by 2 800 scientists, policymakers, and advocates from around the world. An additional 11 625 participants joined the conference sessions online. The conference identified some solutions to address the shortage of health workers and stop the brain drain.

Countries must ensure that healthcare providers always have the medical supplies they need, when they need them. When health products are out of stock, it puts extra stress on overstretched doctors and nurses already struggling to keep up with patient demand.

Public health supply chains must ensure that products are consistently delivered where they need to go. This can only be made possible with a well-trained technical workforce. In many countries, public health supply chain management is an issue. However, governments and universities in countries such as Rwanda are actively taking steps toward professionalizing public health supply chain management. Academic and government programs provide professional development opportunities and offer formal qualifications. This creates jobs, strengthens health systems, and improves healthcare delivery. Other countries should follow in their footsteps.

Countries must professionalize their community health workers (CHWs). CHWs are the link between under-reached communities and the healthcare system. CHWs work in the community, performing simple but vital healthcare activities that help prevent and address common health issues. This eases the burden on doctors and nurses at health centers. "Professionalizing" CHWs makes them skilled, supervised, and supplied so they are fully integrated into healthcare systems. For example, in Liberia, policymakers are working with Village Reach and other partners to add CHWs to the national health budget, ensuring they are given the supplies they need to provide care.

These solutions are just one piece of the puzzle in addressing the shortage of health workers and strengthening the entire healthcare system. Countries must continue to invest in growing the total number of health workers across the continent and reducing the brain drain.

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