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GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

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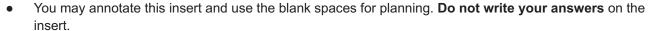
Paper 1 Written Examination

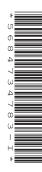
May/June 2020

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INFORMATION







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Source 1

Different countries have different rates of crime. Statistics from the United Nations show that Japan and Iceland have low rates of crime. In comparison, Honduras and South Africa have higher rates of crime.

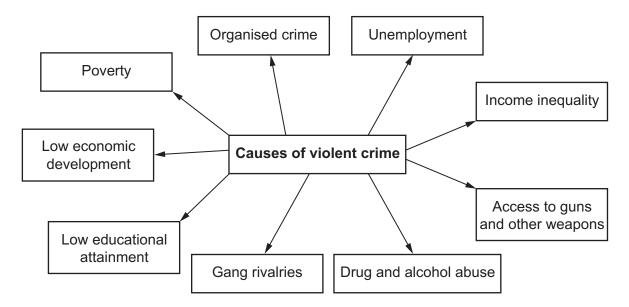
Homicide is an example of a crime with different rates in different countries. Homicide is the deliberate and unlawful killing of a human being by another person.

Table 1 – Homicide rate* in different countries in 2015

Country	Homicide rate
Iceland	1
India	3
Nigeria	10
Singapore	0.25
Venezuela	57

^{*} The homicide rate is the number of homicides per 100 000 of the population.

Source 2



Source 3: Violent crime spoils lives

Violent crime has begun to rise in some countries. The Office for National Statistics in England has just published figures for violent crime. The statistics show a rise in serious crime since 2014, especially for homicide, knife crime and gun crime. In the United States the same thing is happening. The Federal Bureau of Investigation says that violent crime has been rising for several years. A recent academic study in Germany also showed that the violent crime rate rose by about 10 per cent in 2015 and 2016.

Violent crime has serious effects. Victims suffer from pain, stress and personal loss. This can lead to suffering and mental illness for years to come. People fear going out at night due to reporting of violent crime in the media. Businesses spend more money on security and may not invest in areas where violent crime is high. The government has less money to spend on schools and hospitals. Tourists may stop coming to the country.

Extract from a newspaper article published in Europe, 2018

Source 4: Debate – How do we solve the problem of violent crime?

Jack

It is no surprise that the rate of violent crime is increasing in some countries. Governments have been spending less on social services like education, health and the police. The Guardian newspaper in the UK in 2018 reported that crime rates rose as the number of police went down. Government statistics show that the number of police officers fell from 144 353 in 2009 to 123 142 in 2017. At the same time, crime rose by 14 per cent.

The World Health Organization says that crime rates are linked to inequality, unemployment, poor health and low education. Governments must reduce inequality, support the disadvantaged and improve policing, even if it costs more.

As a police officer, I know that we cannot prevent crime without more resources.

Eve

As a lawyer, I disagree with Jack. Most violent crime is caused by individuals and gangs choosing to use violence. I think it would be quicker and cheaper to focus on the individual and change some laws.

For example, stop individuals from owning guns and other weapons. Countries where citizens and police do not have easy access to weapons have less violent crime and fewer deaths from shootings. Most countries with high rates of gun ownership have high rates of gun crime.

Much violent crime is linked to the supply of illegal drugs by criminal gangs. Governments should take control of the supply of drugs, making more of them legal. In Portugal, these actions improved health and lowered crime rates.

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