Assessment – The Changing Economic World – Dom Hill

1. The happiness of people
2. Gross national income
3. Gross national income per person
4. It does not measure any other social or environmental factors like happiness
5. Numbers of years in education, Gross national income, Life expectancy
6. Newly emerging economy. Example is china.
7. HDI is expressed from 0 to 1, 0 being the lowest development and 1 being the highest
8. The country may have an aging population so there is a lot of old people dying
9. LIC
10. How many people are able to read and write
11. Demographic transition model
12. There is none.
13. It has a high birth rate and a high death rate.
14. Physical factors can limit the development of a country. For example, a country that has experienced natural disasters will be set back in terms of development. This is because the damage natural disasters create is so expensive to repair. For example, the Nepal earthquakes limited economic growth in the country because lots of money had to be spent on supplies for the people effected by the natural disaster. People would have been homeless, and a lot of people would have been unemployed. The country was already underdeveloped, and this setback increased the development gap when compared to other countries.

On the other hand, historical factors could be helping to grow the development gap. This is possibly because many countries have been colonised previously. Once these colonisers left, the country was left politically unstable. This can lead to civil wars and corrupt governments, which heavily limited social, economic and environmental growth.

Another point of view would be considering economic factors. Trade is essential to maintain a stable economy of a country. Rich countries often trade with other rich countries (USA and UK), while LICs are left out of the deal. This means that these nations struggle to grow economically while the developed countries flourish. Furthermore, the people in these countries are stuck in a cycle of poverty. These countries depend on agriculture for food and don’t have access to advanced technologies created by other nations.

In my opinion, I believe economic development is the biggest cause of the development gap, however historical and physical factors can also increase this gap significantly. This is because with increased economic development, countries would be able to afford to repair broken infrastructure from physical factors. However, a corrupt government may use this money in an authoritarianist manner.