

# SMARTWIZ

## GRADE 8 SOCIAL SCIENCE EXAM

**MARKS: 50**

MARKS	

**TIME: 2 hours**

**SCHOOL** \_\_\_\_\_

**CLASS (e.g. 4A)** \_\_\_\_\_

**SURNAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

MYST PATHWORKS

### Instructions for Students:

- > Read all instructions carefully before beginning the exam.
- > Write your name and student ID clearly on the answer sheet/booklet.
- > Answer all questions unless otherwise stated.
- > Show all your work/calculations where applicable.
- > Write clearly and legibly.
- > Use blue or black ink only. \* Do not use correction fluid/tape.
- > No electronic devices (calculators, phones, etc.) are allowed unless explicitly permitted.
- > Raise your hand if you have any questions.
- > Do not talk to other students during the exam.
- > Any form of cheating will result in disqualification.

**This test consists of 4 pages, excluding the cover page.**

## SECTION A: HISTORY

### Topic: The Scramble for Africa (20 Marks)

#### QUESTION 1

1.1 What does the term “Scramble for Africa” refer to?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

1.2 Name any two European countries involved in the colonisation of Africa.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

1.3 What was the Berlin Conference of 1884–1885?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

1.4 Give one reason why European powers wanted to control parts of Africa.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

1.5 How did colonisation impact African societies? Give one political or economic effect.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

1.6 Study the source below and answer the questions:



1.6.1 What does the image suggest about European involvement in Africa?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

1.6.2 Do you think Africans had a say in the decisions made during colonisation? Explain.

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)  
1.6.3 Name one country in Africa that resisted colonisation.

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

## SECTION B: GEOGRAPHY

### Topic: Population and Population Distribution (20 Marks)

#### QUESTION 2

2.1 Define the term **population**.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

2.2 What is meant by **population density**?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

2.3 Give two reasons why people live in densely populated areas.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

2.4 Study the population map of South Africa below and answer the questions:



2.4.1 Which province has the highest population density?  
\_\_\_\_\_ (1)

2.4.2 Name one factor that influences population distribution.  
\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

2.4.3 Why might mountainous areas have lower population densities?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

2.4.4 List one social and one environmental problem caused by overpopulation.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

2.5 Suggest two ways governments can manage high population growth.

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

## SECTION C: CIVICS

**Topic: The Role of Media in a Democracy**  
**(10 Marks)**

### QUESTION 3

3.1 What is meant by the term “media”?

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

3.2 Name two forms of media used in South Africa.

\_\_\_\_\_ (2)

3.3 How can the media promote democracy?

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

3.4 Why is it important for media to be fair and truthful?

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)

**TOTAL: 50 MARKS**

## MEMO

### SECTION A: HISTORY – THE SCRAMBLE FOR AFRICA

**(20 Marks)**

1.1 The Scramble for Africa refers to the rapid invasion, occupation, and colonisation of African territory by European powers during the late 19th century. (2)

1.2 Any two of:

- Britain
- France
- Germany
- Portugal
- Belgium

(2 marks)

1.3 The Berlin Conference was a meeting of European powers in 1884–85 to divide Africa among themselves without involving African leaders. (3)

1.4 To gain access to raw materials, new markets, and expand their empires. (2)

1.5 Colonisation disrupted African governments, took land and resources, and forced African economies to support European interests. (3)

1.6.1 The image shows that Europe dominated and controlled African land, often without African input. (2)

1.6.2 No – decisions were made by European leaders without consulting African people or considering their interests. (3)

1.6.3 Ethiopia (or Liberia) (3)

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### SECTION B: GEOGRAPHY – POPULATION AND DISTRIBUTION

**(20 Marks)**

2.1 The total number of people living in a specific area. (2)

2.2 Population density is the number of people living per square kilometre. (2)

2.3 Reasons include:

- Better job opportunities
- Access to services (e.g., healthcare, education)

(Any two, 2 marks)

2.4.1 Gauteng (1)

2.4.2 Climate / water availability / jobs / infrastructure (any valid) (2)

2.4.3 Mountainous areas are hard to build on, have poor transport, and may have a harsh climate. (2)

2.4.4 Social: unemployment, housing shortages

Environmental: pollution, deforestation

(1 mark each, 2 marks)

2.5 Educating people about family planning, providing health services, creating economic opportunities in rural areas. (Any two, 3 marks)

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## **SECTION C: CIVICS – MEDIA AND DEMOCRACY**

**(10 Marks)**

3.1 Media refers to communication channels through which news, entertainment, education, or promotional messages are spread. (2)

3.2 Any two:

- Television
  - Radio
  - Newspapers
  - Internet / social media
- (2 marks)

3.3 Media informs citizens, holds leaders accountable, and supports freedom of speech. (3)

3.4 Fair and truthful media helps people make informed decisions and prevents the spread of misinformation. (3)

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**TOTAL: 50 MARKS**

# MAP

MYST PATHWORKS

# IVII