

## Teenage pregnancy

Teenage pregnancy is defined as a teenaged or underaged girl (usually within the ages of 13–19) becoming pregnant. The term in everyday speech usually refers to women who have not reached legal adulthood, which varies across the world, who become pregnant.

The average age of menarche (first menstrual period) in the United States is 12 years old, though this figure varies by ethnicity and weight, and first ovulation occurs only irregularly until after this. The average age of menarche has been declining and continues to do so. Whether fertility leads to early pregnancy depends on a number of factors, both societal and personal. Worldwide, rates of teenage pregnancy range from 143 per 1000 in some sub-Saharan African countries to 2.9 per 1000 in South Korea.

Pregnant teenagers face many of the same obstetrics issues as women in their 20s and 30s. However, there are additional medical concerns for younger mothers, particularly those under fifteen and those living in developing countries. For mothers between 15 and 19, age in itself is not a risk factor, but additional risks may be associated with socioeconomic factors.

Data supporting teenage pregnancy as a social issue in developed countries include lower educational levels, higher rates of poverty, and other poorer "life outcomes" in children of teenage mothers. Teenage pregnancy in developed countries is usually outside marriage, and carries a social stigma in many communities and cultures. For these reasons, there have been many studies and campaigns which attempt to uncover the causes and limit the numbers of teenage pregnancies. In other countries and cultures, particularly in the developing world, teenage pregnancy is usually within marriage and does not involve a social stigma. Among developed countries, the United States and United Kingdom have the highest level of teenage pregnancy, while Japan and South Korea have the lowest.

### 1. Comprehension exercises (2 points)

1.a. According to the text (0.5 points)

- a. **The age when girls have their first period is decreasing.**
- b. Teenage girls become pregnant outside the marriage in developing countries.
- c. Teen pregnancy is a term to describe pregnancy in girls between 13-18 years old.

1.b. According to the text (0.5 points)

- a. Menarche and the first ovulation happen at the same time.
- b. **The legal adulthood varies depending on the country where a girl lives.**
- c. The only fact of giving birth being a teenager is not a risk.

1.c. Campaigns to limit the number of pregnancies have been done in order to prevent the social stigma this brings to girls.

(Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write the sentence supporting this idea) (0.5 points)

- **TRUE – There have been many studies and campaigns which attempt to uncover the causes and limit the numbers of teenage pregnancies.**

1.d. South Korea has the lowest rate of teen pregnancy all over the world.

(Answer 'True' or 'False' AND write the sentence supporting this idea) (0.5 points)

- **TRUE – Worldwide, rates of teenage pregnancy range from 143 per 1000 in some sub-Saharan African countries to 2.9 per 1000 in South Korea.**

**2. Do the following grammar exercises according to the instructions given (2 points)**

2.a. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one (0.5 points)

-Morocco is bound to become a popular holiday destination.

- People expect **Morocco to become a popular holiday destination.**

2.b. Write the second sentence in reported speech (0.5 points)

- "I am sorry I upset her" he apologised.

- He apologised **for upsetting her.**

2.c. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first one (0.5 points)

-We went to the cinema to watch a horror film, later he felt a bit nervous.

- After **having gone** to the cinema, he felt a bit nervous.

2.d. Write the appropriate preposition in the blank (0.5 points)

- I might go out, it depends **on** the weather.

**3. Identify ONLY FOUR words from their definitions (1 point)**

- Amount of a charge or payment relative to some basis. **(rate)**

- A variety of different things or activities. **(range)**

- Extending throughout the entire world. **(worldwide)**

- Something that causes anxiety, a source of unhappiness. **(concerns)**

- Information (plural). **(data)**

- Phenomena that follow and are caused by a previous phenomenon. **(outcomes)**

**4. Write a summary of the text of about 30 – 45 words using your own words (2 points)**

**5. Write a composition of about 100 – 150 words on ONLY ONE of the following topics (3 points)**

5.a. What can our government do to avoid teen pregnancy?

5.b. Write about an amazing holiday you have had.