

The North-South Divide

Please answer the questions below in as much detail as possible.

Look at the figure below.



1. Using the diagram above, explain the reasons why a north-south divide exists in the UK. (6marks)

ANSWER: There is a clear North South Divide and there are many reasons why. In the North, most of its main industries(factories) were massively infected by de-industrialisation. De-industrialisation is the closing down of factories in England. Most of the jobs in the North were based on making infrastructure for the factories or working in factories so with all the factories closing down the North faced a massive growth in unemployment. However, some Northerners say that due to the poor education in the North most people have a lack of skill leading them to have bad wages or unemployed. The standard of living in the North is a lot lower than the South, this is believed to be because of the South having bed health care. For example,Blackpool(North-West) has the lowest life expectancy in the Uk.

Whereas, in the South, when factories closed down this did not impact the Southerner's because many Southerners worked in the tertiary sector and recently the quaternary sector. Due to more people working in these sectors compared to the North, the wages are generally higher than the Northerners. The standard of living is a lot higher than the North because the South are believed to have better health care and better education. Due to this better education there are less people unemployed. Because of this reason it is believed that a lot of Notherner's are commutating to the South.

2. Explain the regional strategies that are being used to reduce the north-south divide in the UK. (8 marks) Clue: Tell me about the Northern Powerhouse, Devolution and Local Enterprise Partnerships (slides 18-20 on the PowerPoint display).

ANSWER: There are many regional strategies being used to reduce the North South divide. The first of these strategies is the Northern Powerhouse. The Northern Powerhouse is a scheme created by the government to invest in businesses, infrastructure and transport. The government believes that doing this will generate more money in the North of England. An example of this is the HS2. HS2 is a high speed railway that will connect the North of England to the South of England. With this HS2 getting built it is believed to create a multiplier effect by more mechanics will be needed to build the HS2 (creating more jobs) and whilst these mechanics are away making this railway the mechanics will also need somewhere to stay and get food(also creating jobs but for nearby businesses.

Another strategy is devolution. Devolution means the transfer of power to a lower level. For example, the main government in London allows lower cities(I.E Manchester) to elect a mayor. This newly elected mayor will then be in charge of how the city raises money- I.E taxes- or how the city spends its money. Devolution happened in a nearby city Scotland. In 1999, Westminster transferred some of its power to Scotland allowing them to have their own parliament and mayor.

The final strategy is Local Enterprise Partnership(LEP). Local Enterprise Partnership is where local businesses and local authorities come together to encourage new businesses to invest in the local town or city. This creates a multiplier effect by more local businesses creates more jobs and depending what the job is it creates more jobs to supply that business. This improves the local economy and employment. Due to LEP more local businesses are promoting new businesses which are creating over 50,000 jobs by 2023. Local Enterprise Partnership are investing £20 million in local transport to improve transport. With more towns and cities having better economies, superfast broadband has been extended to over 97% of the region.

- 3. Explain how improving transport links could reduce the north-south divide (6 marks).** Clue: Think back to last week when we looked at HS2. How can HS2 (new train line to the north) reduce the problems faced by the north? Try to include the multiplier effect.

ANSWER: Improving transport links could reduce the North- South divide by HS2. HS2 is a high speed railway that connects the North of England to the South of England. HS2 is a faster railway that is set to reduce the time it takes to get from the North to the South. This should allow the North and the South to be more connected. HS2 can reduced the problems the North faces with unemployment by the HS2 creates a multiplier effect(which creates more jobs) by more mechanics will be needed to build the HS2 (creating more jobs) and whilst these mechanics are away making this railway the mechanics will also need somewhere to stay and get food(also creating jobs but for nearby businesses. Also more employers will be needed to work on these trains running them or making sure things run

smoothly. With the North and the South being connected better new businesses are believed to be made to improve the economy. This will also create jobs.