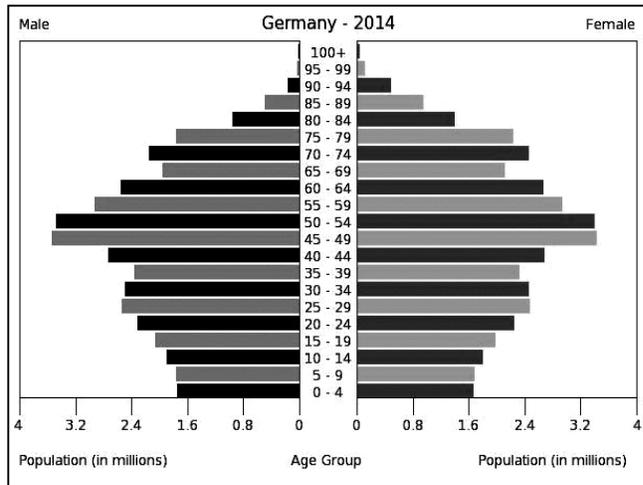
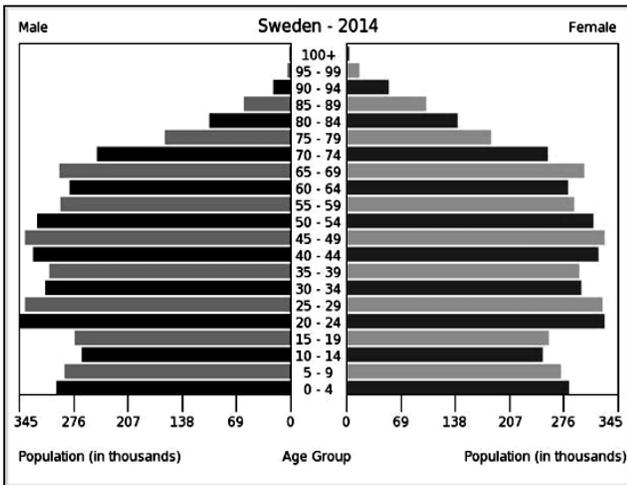


Name: _____ Hour: _____ Date: _____

1. Which country has **the best system right now to encourage families to have children** – Germany or Sweden?

2-3. Why do you choose **that** country? (Write at least two complete sentences.)

- ▶
- ▶

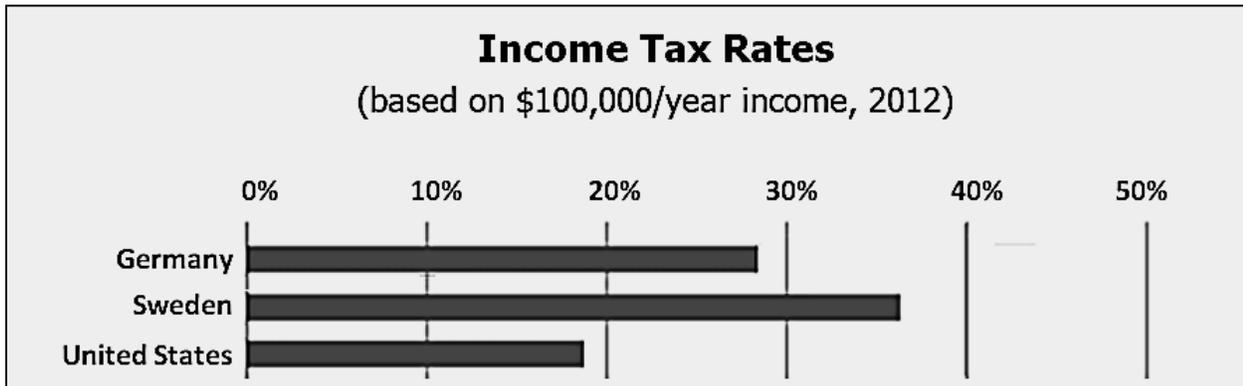


4. Analyze the two population pyramids above. **JUST** based on the population pyramids, **how can you tell** that one country is a better place to have children? (How do the **shapes** of the population pyramids tell you this?)

5. The support parents get from Sweden’s government is a lot more than the support parents in the United States get. How do you suppose Sweden has the money to give so much support to their parents? (The answer is NOT in an article. You have to think it out. How do governments get money?)

6. Many governments have special programs to encourage couples to have children. Why is having a low birth rate something that governments try to avoid? (Re-read the Germany article if you’re not sure.)

7. For how long has Germany had a problem with low birth rates?



http://cdn.static-economist.com/sites/default/files/imagecache/full-width/images/2012/10/blogs/graphic-detail/20121020_inc285_0.png

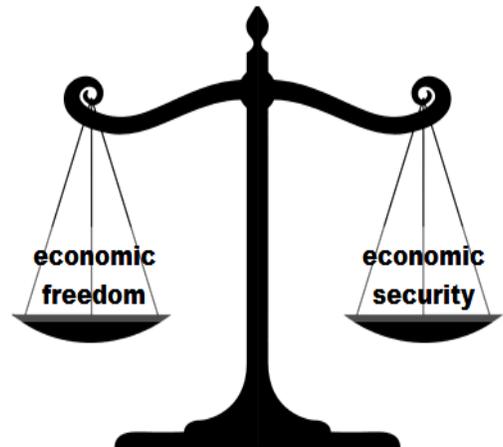
8. If you lived in **Germany** and you made \$100,000 per year, you would pay about 28% of that money to the German government for taxes. That means you would pay about \$28,000 for income tax. How much of your salary would you get to **keep**? \$ _____

9. If you lived in **Sweden**, you would pay about 37% of that money to the Swedish government for taxes. That would be \$37,000 for income tax. How much of your salary would you get to **keep** in Sweden? \$ _____

10. Living in the **U.S.**, if you made this same salary, you would pay about 18% of your salary to the government for taxes. So you would pay about \$18,000 income tax. How much of your salary would you get to **keep** in the U.S.? \$ _____

11. Which country gives their citizens more **economic freedom**: the United States or Sweden?

12. In our opinion, which is more important for a government to do: give citizens lots of **economic freedom** or lots of **economic security**? In other words, would you rather have great help from the government (like they have in Sweden) or have lots of independence in what you do with your money (like we have in the U.S.)?



13. Explain your answer to #12.