

3. Consider the following sources:

Source A:

Regional statistics for Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) (2012)

Region	People living with HIV		Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita (US\$)	Adult Literacy Rate (%)
	15 years old and above (as % of total population)	Under 15 years old (as % of total population)		
Africa (excluding North Africa)	22.1 million (2.60%)	2.9 million (0.34%)	1 306.8	60.4
South and South-East Asia	3.7 million (0.16%)	0.2 million (0.01%)	5 891.6	78.9
Western and Central Europe	0.9 million (0.14%)	0.0 million (0.00%)	34 860.5	97.9

Source B: Some information about Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) damages the human body's ability to fight diseases and may lead to Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). As a result, the body cannot defend itself against infections and cancers. HIV may be transmitted through sexual contact, blood contact and mother to child infection. However, people do not get HIV through air or social contact.

Access to prevention, care, and treatment for people living with HIV or at risk of HIV varies from region to region, and there is not yet a cure for HIV. However, treatment with anti-HIV drugs can control the virus and reduce the risk of transmitting the virus to others. According to the World Health Organization, most newly infected children in 2013 living in Africa (excluding North Africa) were infected by their HIV-positive mothers during pregnancy, childbirth or breastfeeding. Of people living with HIV in the world today, 54.3% do not know that they have the virus.

Currently, the global investment on HIV vaccine research, including industry and research agencies in developed countries, has been estimated at approximately US\$500 million per year. Despite the investment in research, the drugs to control HIV are still expensive, costing US\$115-330 per patient per year.

Source C: Adapted from a cartoon on the Internet



- (a) Describe the pattern of HIV infection as shown in Source A. (4 marks)
- (b) HIV is a global problem. From the sources provided, identify and explain *two* difficulties in tackling this global problem. (7 marks)

END OF PAPER

Sources of materials used in this paper will be acknowledged in the *Examination Report and Question Papers* published by the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority at a later stage.