# Thomas Robert Malthus in brief

Theory of population

* Food constrains population growth
* Essay On The Principle Of Population: the planet’s population would always persist at a level simply adequate to support life -> the subsistence level
* Food has a leveling effect:

+ food -> + births -> longer life -> according to Malthus the population can’t only grow

* + food -> the population will e creare exponentially but food production will grow linearly -> not enough food -> many people will die of hunger -> equilibrium
* Land availability , famine, desease are outside of human control -> “positive checks”
* He criticized the Elizabethan “poor laws” : social welfare and food redistribution to the poor would unravel in the long run