

Examiners' Report
June 2013

GCSE Geography A 5GA3F 01

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Introduction

This was the second appearance of spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) on this paper following the January 2013 series. The actual specification content that was assessed remained the same as in previous series; however, centres are reminded that from June 2014, the revised linear specification will be assessed (see Edexcel's website for further details).

Candidates were once again required to answer one question from Section A (worth 25 marks) and one question from Section B (worth 28 marks as 3 SPaG marks were available on the final extended writing question).

The size of the cohort sitting this paper was approximately 6 162, which is smaller in quantity to that of the previous two summer series', possibly due to the introduction of the linear course in September 2012. The mean mark for the paper was, at the time of writing slightly lower than that of the January 2013 series, when SPaG was first introduced.

This report will provide exemplification of candidates' work, together with tips and/or comments, for a selection of questions. The exemplification will come mainly from questions which required more complex responses from candidates.

Question 1(a)(v)

Many candidates did not choose a specific industry or use any examples. Some candidates gave examples of the location of a primary or tertiary industry rather than a secondary industry showing a lack of understanding of the question. One of the commonest answers was Nike in China, due to cheap labour costs. A high proportion of these answers went on to give lots of extraneous information and did not include any more creditable points. Other answers that gained marks were those focusing on the car manufacturing industry (eg Toyota). Many candidates did not get second marks for development; for example, they would state that the factory is built on a large area of flat land, or that it was near a motorway, but not why this was beneficial. Some candidates also incorrectly answered with explanations of why secondary industry has increased in some areas or how Nokia have made their offices more environmentally friendly.

This response scores 4 marks.

(v) Outline the reasons for the location of an activity (industry) in the secondary sector.

(4)

Chosen activity (industry)

Locations of an activity in the Secondary sector need to be by a main road, so it is easy to transport goods. Also it needs some space around it so, in the future the company if it wants is able to expand. Also, it can't be in the middle of nowhere because not many people will visit it.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate identifies the main road (+ development) and space (+development) as reasons for the location of secondary industry. The candidate is not penalised for failing to name a chosen activity as the reasons are clearly outlined.

Question 1(b)

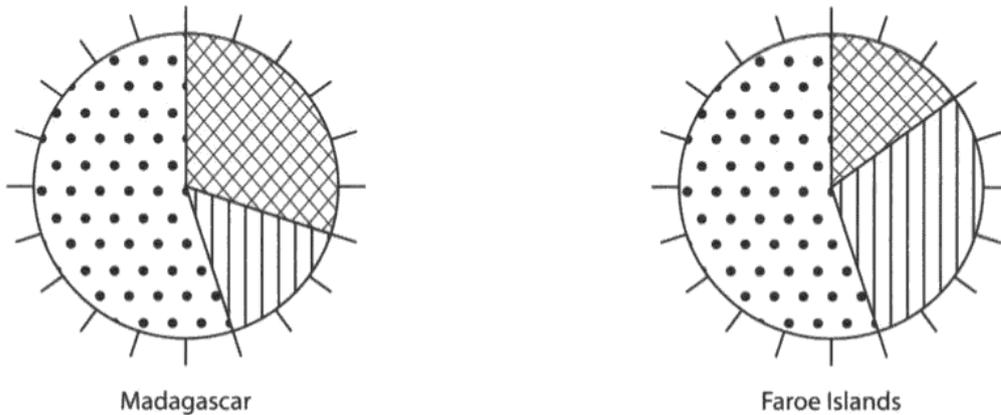
This question was well-answered by the majority of candidates.

Some candidates simply stated the percentage (%) for each graph in turn (taking one sector at a time), failing to draw direct comparisons which restricted the marks; some other candidates misinterpreted the graphs, stating the divisions on graphs to be 10% (rather than 5%) intervals. A number of candidates were restricted to 3 marks as they failed to incorporate data from the resource into their answer.

This response scores 3 marks.

(b) Look at Figure 1b.

It shows the percentage (%) of people employed in the different economic sectors in two locations.



Key

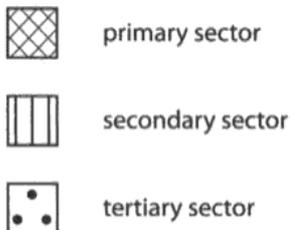


Figure 1b

Compare the pie charts for Madagascar and the Faroe Islands in Figure 1b.

Use percentage of people employed data in your answer.

(4)

The people in Madagascar have more of a primary sector and the Faroe Islands have more of a secondary sector than Madagascar but both have an equal tertiary sector.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate has made three comparative statements but has failed to support any of them with accurate data.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

You will not get full marks if you do not use data from the resource to support your answer (if the question asks for it).

Question 1(d)

In general this was very poorly answered, with the majority of candidates scoring 0 marks. Responses often focused on why the secondary sector declined, rather than answering the question. Some wrote about technology but failed to really meet the demands of the question eg 'more games consoles are wanted/ more machines are being used'. When referring to the advert in Figure 1c, many wrote about how car cleaning companies would come to you, rather than realising the advert was there to prompt discussion of web usage. The car advert was referred to more often than the call centre picture, although in the majority of cases this was just to describe the car valeting services. Few candidates successfully linked the question/resource to other areas of the specification such as online banking and shopping.

Question 1(e)

A large proportion of candidates wrote about urban areas in HICs (eg New York or Blackpool), or about tourism rather than secondary industry. A few responses wrote about a country changing from a LIC to a HIC; others used 'Asia' as an example, showing a lack of basic geographical understanding. Better candidates were able to give developed reasons, for example that foreign companies chose to locate in China due to cheaper labour costs and therefore more profits. More often than not, however, comments on low labour costs were stand alone and usually not linked to the location of industry (eg 'people work long hours for not much pay').

Question 2(b)

A common pitfall for many candidates here was to write about rural-urban migration, or reasons for depopulation of rural areas. Better candidates supported their answers with locations, often using specific population change figures.

This response scores 3 marks.

(b) Outline the consequences of the suburbanisation of the countryside close to urban areas.

Use an example in your answer.

(4)

The consequences are that there will be more crime as it is close to an urban area. Also working people may have to drive through causing air and noise pollution, for example, Mulbarton or Hethersett. Also the working age people will move there as it is close to an urban area causing ~~the retired people~~ less room for retired people to move there. This is also another example for more crime in the area.



ResultsPlus

Examiner Comments

The candidate has identified more crime (1) and has made a developed point about a (qualified) pollution (2).

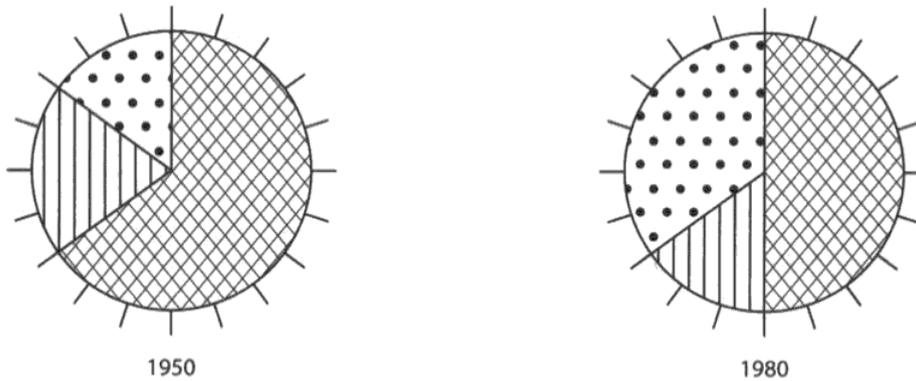
Question 2(c)

When comparing the percentage of people employed in the different economic sectors, between 1950 and 1980, candidates were generally able to recognise that the proportion of people employed in the primary sector had decreased and that the proportion employed in the tertiary sector had increased. There was confusion amongst some candidates over the secondary sector, with some incorrectly stating that the proportion employed in the sector had increased or stayed the same. The highest scoring candidates were successfully able to quote percentage data in their answer, either by quoting the actual figures or commenting on the percentage change between the years.

This answer scores full marks.

(c) Look at Figure 2b.

It shows the percentage (%) of people employed in the different economic sectors for area W.



Key

-  primary sector
-  secondary sector
-  tertiary sector

Figure 2b

Compare the pie charts for 1950 and 1980 in Figure 2b.

Use percentage of people employed data in your answer.

(4)

In 1950 65% of people worked in the primary sector where as in 1980 only 50% did. In 1980 35% of was employed in the tertiary sector, which is over double the amount to in 1950. In 1950 there was 25% more people working in the secondary sector compared to 1980.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 4 marks as the candidate has made three comparative statements and has used accurate data to support at least one of these points.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Be sure to use data if it is asked for in the question.

Question 2(e)

Most candidates were able to refer to litter and increased traffic (although not all specifically mentioned 'congestion' - it was usually clear that this is what they meant). Basic points were occasionally developed, sometimes weakly (such as 'litter causes areas to look messy'), but often succinctly and clearly (such as 'litter overflows from bins and may cause problems for wildlife if they eat it'). The majority focused on negative consequences. More successful candidates usually gave several consequences, with further developments.

This answer scores all 4 marks.

(e) Look at Figure 2c in the Resource Booklet.

Villages in the UK countryside are turning into tourist 'honeypots'.

Outline the consequences of this change.

Use evidence from Figure 2c in your answer.

(4)

If a village becomes a 'honeypot' site, the amount of tourists visiting increases. This has several negative effects such as litter, bins will become overflowed and require more work to dispose of it. Congestion levels will also increase because cars is the main way of transport. This leads to higher pollution levels and traffic jams, which affect the local people.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 4 marks as the candidate makes two developed points - one about litter and one about traffic congestion.

Question 2(f)

Weaker candidates wrote about what the pressures were, rather than management. Most candidates were able to name a National Park at the top of the page (although it was more common to name an area within a park eg Malham), but only a minority of candidates then wrote a specific answer that made it clear that they were referring to a particular location. Better responses gave clear detail about a National Park, for example 'Dartmoor introduced the Moor Care programme with £150,000 government funding. This makes tourists aware of the damage they cause and how to stop it, such as walking in single file to prevent erosion and not parking on grass areas... also a speed limit of 40mph was introduced to prevent accidents involving animals'.

This response scores 4 marks.

(f) Choose a study of a UK National Park.

Outline how pressures are being managed in this National Park.

(4)

Chosen National Park Malham

So many tourist where there it was causing
footpath erosion so they built in footpaths
so the land wasn't getting ruined secondly
there was so many cars parked on the
road side it was causing so much
traffice farmed offer there long so people
can park there car. they have placed
bins around so people arnt littering
causing maybe an animal to pick it up
and maybe make it ill



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate actually makes three developed points and can access full marks as a legitimate example has been named.

Question 3(a)(iv)

Better answers included specific facts and figures on problems caused by rapid growth, such as waste disposal or car ownership, eg in Cairo (sometimes writing far more than required for full marks). Lots of comments were about 'less jobs' or 'less housing' rather than the idea of there being pressure on these. Some candidates wrote what appeared to be a good answer on the surface but they did not link their comments, eg on car ownership, to an increase in population/an increase in pollution etc. Some candidates gave reasons for rapid growth rather than effects whilst others wrote about tourism numbers increasing rather than rapid urban growth.

This answer scores 3 marks.

(iv) Choose a study of rapid urban growth in a LIC.
Outline the **negative** effects of this growth. (4)

Chosen study of rapid urban growth Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Dhaka in Bangladesh has a rapidly growing population. This means that a lot of the people have to live in the slums which ~~water~~, during monsoon season floods. It can cause people to lose their homes and it can also cause people to catch water-borne diseases.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 3 marks: 1 mark for the growth of slums and 2 marks for the developed point about the monsoon floods.

Question 3(b)

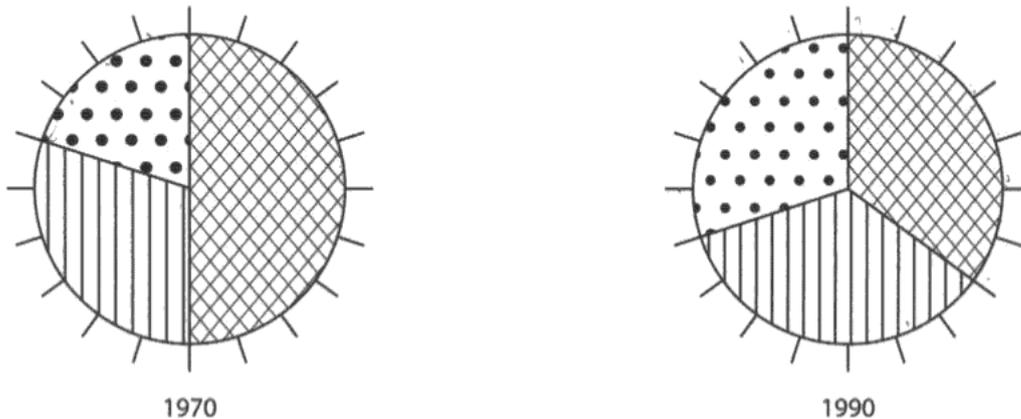
This question was well-answered by the majority of candidates.

Some candidates simply stated the percentage (%) for each graph in turn (taking one sector at a time), failing to draw direct comparisons which restricted the marks; some other candidates misinterpreted the graphs, stating the divisions on graphs to be 10% (rather than 5%) intervals. A number of candidates were restricted to 3 marks as they failed to incorporate data from the resource into their answer.

This answer scores 3 marks.

(b) Look at Figure 3b.

It shows the age structure (% of people) for settlement Y.



Key

-  29 years old or under
-  30 to 59 years
-  60 years old or over

Figure 3b

Compare the pie charts for 1970 and 1990 in Figure 3b.

Use percentage age group data in your answer.

(4)

In 1970 there was 50% of people aged 29 or under but in 1990 there has been a decrease of 15% now being at 35%. There has also been an increase of over 60s from 20% in 1970 to 30% in the 1990s. In the 1990s, more people are living longer due to better health. So the % of ages have balanced out.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 3 marks: the candidate has made two comparative statements and they have used accurate data to support their answer; the information in the final two lines is explanation which is not what was asked for here.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Pay attention to command words: this candidate has incorrectly started to explain when it is a 'describe' question.

Question 3(d)

Many candidates gained credit for referring to the football stadium being converted into houses and some were able to identify that this was a brownfield site. Very few mentioned the use of old derelict warehouses, Victorian houses converted into flats, new high rise flats or open spaces for conversion and relied heavily on the source in answering the question. Many candidates unnecessarily discussed the reasons why more houses are needed eg divorce, later marriages and so on.

This answer scores 2 marks.

(d) Look at Figure 3c in the Resource Booklet.

Outline how urban land use in the UK is changing because of the need for more housing.

Use evidence from Figure 3c in your answer.

(4)

In the UK urban land is used to make more housing by using old stadium or factories (on brownfield sites) for example Hybre arsenal ex ground was changed in flats for residents so that they did not damage the environment.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 2 marks - 1 mark for the change (flats) and a second mark for the development about not wanting to damage the environment.

Question 3(e)

Many candidates focused on the negative changes to rural areas brought about by depopulation. Very few candidates exemplified with specific locations; however, most answered succinctly with two simply developed points eg 'schools have to close because there are not enough pupils to stay open'. There were a number of confused answers, for example 'people move to the rural areas to find jobs', 'rural areas are caused by depopulation' and 'there has been a decline in ageing population.... as the population of old people increases there are less young people working'. Many gave reasons for depopulation, which were not required, although this was usually in addition to changes that had already been outlined.

This response scores 4 marks.

(e) Outline the changes to remote rural areas caused by depopulation.

Use examples in your answer.

(4)

In rural areas changes happen when depopulation happens. This could be the reduce in congestion on road, crime, litter and less pollution. However it could have a negative effect such as shops closing down as they are not bringing in enough profit.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate has made points about congestion and crime and a developed point about shops closing down.

Question 4(b)

Most candidates were able to recognise physical factors that would lead to a sparse population, but a number failed to give the 'so what?' part of the answer, so credit was not given. Some candidates either did not read the question properly, or did not understand the term 'physical factors' as they wrote only about human factors, or about both human and physical. Better answers, often supported with locations, were able to fully outline the factors leading to a low population density. Another common error was for candidates to outline how physical factors resulted in a high population density. Some wrote about population levels rather than distribution eg China's one child policy. Many responses also used the word 'inhabitable' when they meant 'uninhabitable'.

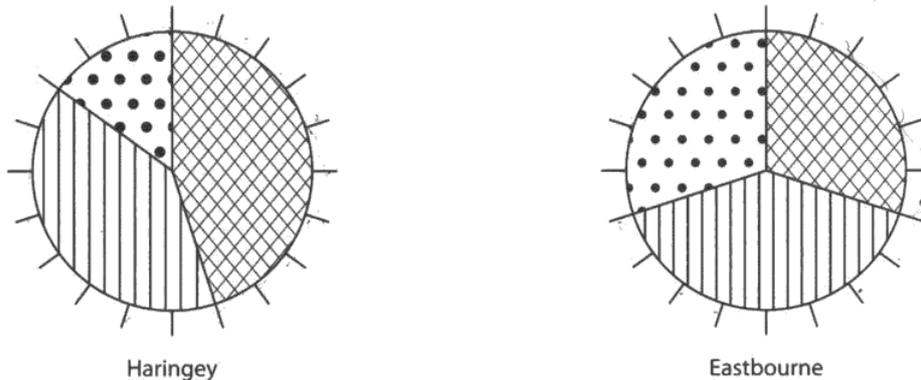
Question 4(c)

Candidates were generally able to make comparisons between the age structure of Haringey and Eastbourne, recognising that Eastbourne had more people who were '60 years old or over' and that Haringey had more people of '29 years old or under'. A few candidates compared the proportions within each area rather than between the areas. Some also mixed up the segments of the pie charts and therefore quoted incorrect figures when discussing a particular age group. The more successful candidates were those who could systematically make three clear, comparative statements and incorporate some data to support at least one of these statements. Those who scored 3 marks usually did not include any percentage data in their answer.

This response scores 4 marks.

(c) Look at Figure 4b.

It shows the age structure (% of people) for two areas of the UK.



Key

-  29 years old or under
-  30 to 59 years old
-  60 years old or over

Figure 4b

Compare the pie charts for Haringey and Eastbourne in Figure 4b.

Use percentage age group data in your answer.

(4)
The ages 60 years old or over in Eastbourne is double than Haringey ~~which is~~ ^{which is} 30%. The ages 30 to 59 years old in Haringey which has the same percentage as ^E Eastbourne which is 30%. Lastly, the ages 29 years ~~or over~~ in Haringey is 40% more than Eastbourne.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate successfully makes three comparative statements and uses accurate data to support at least one of these.

Question 4(e)

Volunteering in charity shops was a popular answer, with a few candidates developing this (for example 'this leads to more profit for the charity/ shop as they don't need to pay wages'). Referral to the bowls picture was not usually answered well, with responses often simply stating that older people had time for leisure activities like bowls, without any reference to giving more business to these services. Other popular responses included the grey pound (or grey yen). Weaker answers referred to advantages for older people of being retired (eg more leisure time, fun to be had etc). Very few candidates used other factors learnt from the specification such as free child care or unemployment figures falling.

This response scores 3 marks.

(e) Look at Figure 4c in the Resource Booklet.

Outline the **positive** consequences of an ageing population.

Use evidence from Figure 4c in your answer.

Firstly a big positive is retired people don't⁽⁴⁾ have much to do with their time and often help out at charity shops as shown in the ~~resource~~ resource booklet (Nansa Charity Shop) another positive is retired people or even known as pensioners spend a lot of their money on leisure which helps the economy.



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Examiner Comments

The candidate makes one point about charity shops (1) and a developed point about leisure/the economy (2).

Question 4(f)

Many candidates failed to meet the demands of the question, instead writing about China's one child policy to reduce birth rate. Sometimes this appeared to be as a result of just writing down what they had studied about China, but others tried to link it to population (although these were usually confusing the terms 'distribution' and 'structure'). Those that did write about distribution of population often wrote about both human and physical reasons. A few answers were comprehensive in terms of factors, but lacked a named area in context so were limited to 3 marks. Quite a few candidates confused east and west.

Question 5(b)(iii)

Many candidates were able to provide a correct reason for the flow of refugees shown in Figure 5b of the resource booklet, by stating either 'civil war', 'food shortages' or 'famine'. A very small minority of candidates did not draw on information from the resource booklet and provided an incorrect reason for the flow of refugees such as a natural disaster eg 'an earthquake' or a pull factor eg 'more jobs there' or 'it's less populated'.

Question 5(c)

A rather limited range of answers were seen here, largely focusing on footballers moving for more money. Very few candidates wrote about climatic factors or used any support other than football (although the London Olympics were referred to and gained some marks).

This response scores 3 marks.

(c) One type of short-term population flow is for sporting reasons.

Describe the push and pull factors for this type of population flow.

Use an example in your answer.

(4)

the pull factors for premier ship footballers to move to another country is because of a higher wage. better competition from other footballers to improve themselves as footballers. the push factors are poorer quality of life and living conditions also not as high wage



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate makes the point about higher wages and a developed point about more competition. No marks were awarded for 'poorer quality of life' - candidates need to be more specific than this.

Question 5(d)

Common answers often included a reference to the lack of visa requirements. Many answers were quite vague, with a general comment on moving between different EU countries. Very few candidates exemplified their answers. Some wrote about general reasons why migration/movement was easier (eg cheap flights).

Question 5(e)

Candidates were free to choose to address any type of population flow, including for sporting, tourism and medical reasons, but most focused on economic migration. Poland was a popular example, but most case studies lacked specific locational facts/figures. Most candidates focused their answer on the benefits to a host country, but some wrote about reasons for migration or impacts for a country of origin.

This answer scores 7 marks in total.

*(e) Explain the **positive** impacts of population flows on the host country.

Use examples in your answer.

(6)

The positive impacts of population flows on the host country include the host countries overall wealth increases. Also more of a greater workforce is provided as there is a population increase. Also the government can use unused houses and properties that have not been sold. It also provides the host country with a multicultural society, improving the populations world and cultural education and understanding. In addition to the workforce aspect, it provides a greater workforce to support the ageing population and the young population. which means the government have more money to spend on other things such as housing, medical care and education. But this also means that there will be large competition for jobs and there may be a great number of people who are unemployed.



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Examiner Comments

This is a Level 3 response, scoring 5+2 marks. The answer includes several descriptive and explanative points, but the weak locational information restricts this answer to 5 rather than 6 marks. 2 marks were awarded for SPaG.

Question 6(b)(iv)

Most candidates were able to gain 1 or 2 marks for comments on the involvement stage (often the increasing number of tourists and new facilities developed). Some referred to other stages instead, but this was relatively rare. Many responses were limited to 3 marks for no examples. Those that did use an example (often Blackpool) frequently quoted key dates or facts to give a specific answer (such as name of first hotel/hotelier; date of railway being built etc). Some referred to developments by big businesses or mass tourism, which is characteristic of the later stages of the Butler model of resort development.

This answer failed to score any marks.

(iv) Describe what happens during the involvement stage of the Butler model of resort development.

Use an example in your answer.

(4)

Black pool where in the way that they needed to rebuild there town and make it a more better looking place for the tourists who visit every summer.



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Examiner Comments

No marks were awarded for this response as the candidate has focused on the rejuvenation stage rather than the involvement stage of the Butler model.

Question 6(c)

When outlining the differences between a package holiday and a backpacking holiday, most candidates were able to understand that package holidays included 'everything' – hotel/transport/transfers and often food. Many also picked up on the fact that package holidays were arranged by someone else such as a tour operator. Popular characteristics of backpacking holidays included the fact that they were arranged by the individual or involved walking or camping. The majority of candidates were able to outline at least one point for each type of holiday; those that did not obtain full marks either lacked sufficient development or did not provide a sufficient number of differences between the holidays. In addition, some candidates incorrectly drew on ideas relating to the length of trip and the location of the holiday.

This answer scores 2 marks.

(c) Outline the **differences** between a package holiday and a backpacking holiday.

(4)

The differences between a package holiday and a backpacking holiday are that the package includes everything you pay one price and it includes food and drink and then the backpacking you tend NOT to know where you staying and carry your own food drink and other essentials comparing to the other one everything was included. ~~backpacking~~



ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 2 marks: 1 mark for package holidays including everything for one price and 1 mark for backpacking involving the individual carrying everything that they need for their holiday.

Question 6(d)

Candidates often did not exemplify very well - either by not naming a location or by using vague terms like 'Africa' or non-LIC examples (eg Ayia Napa and Blackpool were quite common). Most candidates were able to write about some negative impacts of tourism, but some others included positive impacts or wrote about the problems of not having enough tourists/why tourists may not want to visit somewhere. A fair number of candidates wrote general sweeping/questionable statements, without backing them up with evidence, such as tourists taking jobs from locals or causing local house prices to increase.

Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- Read each question carefully, highlighting the key terms and command words to help you understand the demands of the question.
- When tackling questions that require the study of a graph, take time to check the intervals along the axis / around the pie chart. Also, make sure the key is studied as this is often crucial when identifying and comparing trends.
- Incorporate case study information, for example specific facts and figures, if the question asks you to 'use examples in your answer'. It is also useful to be able to draw upon 'mini case studies' to contrast/compliment' your main case study.
- Be clear whether the question is asking for reasons **why** or an explanation **how**.
- On 6 mark 'levelled' questions, include at least two explained points which are clearly centred on the demands of the question and offer both depth and balance.
- Be clear about cause and effect: is the question asking you to explain *why* something has happened or *what* the effects are?
- If the command word is 'describe', do not be tempted to offer an explanation.
- Make sure that a resource is referred to if the question asks you to 'use evidence from figure in your answer'.
- Learn the definitions for each of the key terms in each unit and be able to incorporate these into answers that require more extended writing.

Grade Boundaries

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