

Examiners' Report
June 2012

GCSE Geography 5GB2H 01

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Introduction

Some of the terminology embedded in this unit is still slightly unclear for some candidates. This is addressed in the analysis of individual questions. It is vital that candidates have the opportunity to discuss key ideas and the controversy surrounding them. Young people are, in general, not averse to debating meanings and definitions and there are many controversial elements in any GCSE geography course.

Question 1(a)

This was satisfactorily completed by the majority of candidates. The most common error was to detect a fall in the share of 0-14 year old in the total population.

SECTION A – INTRODUCTION TO PEOPLE AND THE PLANET

Answer ALL questions.

Topic 1: Population Dynamics

1 Study Figure 1.

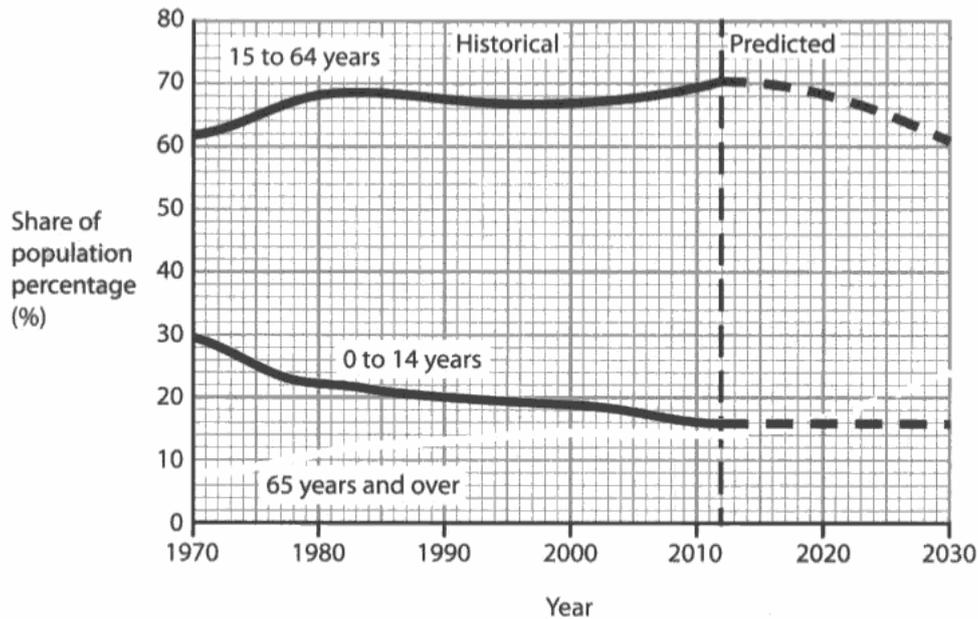


Figure 1 – The changing population structure of Ontario, Canada

(a) Describe **two** changes in the population structure of Ontario between 2012 and 2030.

(2)

1. Ontario has a high life expectancy, which will rise between 2012 and 2030.
2. The number of 0 to 14 years has stayed level which shows that the birth rate has stayed level.



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Examiner Comments

The first comment was not descriptive.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Remember to just answer the question set and don't offer reasons when none are asked for.

Question 1(b)

Skills tests were explicitly mentioned in the specification but some candidates struggled with the concept. Those that had were often better at describing places that had applied them rather than the motive of tailoring migration to particular needs in a country.

(b) Describe how skills tests are used to limit the numbers of migrants allowed into a country.

(3)

Skills in borders of a country, a report...
controls the people going and out the
country. The people that they are suspected with
goes back to their country. Some countries sends the
migrant people to their country even if it was
in the country for long time.



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Examiner Comments

The question asked 'how' and this moved into motivation.

Question 1(c)

Almost all candidates had something to say here on the central economic point of rising wealth driving social changes. Many candidates still wanted to invoke availability of contraception as the main cause of declining fertility rather than a facilitating factor. They were rewarded as were others with a myriad of possible causes offered. The more advanced answers linked aging populations to a subsequent decrease in birth rates (one even described how fertility decreases with age, linking this to decreasing birth rates in Germany and Scandinavian countries with ageing populations).

(c) Explain why global population growth rates are slowing down.

(3)

Global population growth rates are slowing down for many reasons. One reason is because of people in Poland and Greece moving to find work. The majority of the migrants are young men meaning that countries like Poland have less children as there are less men. It is costing more to look after children.

(Total for Question 1 = 8 marks)



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Examiner Comments

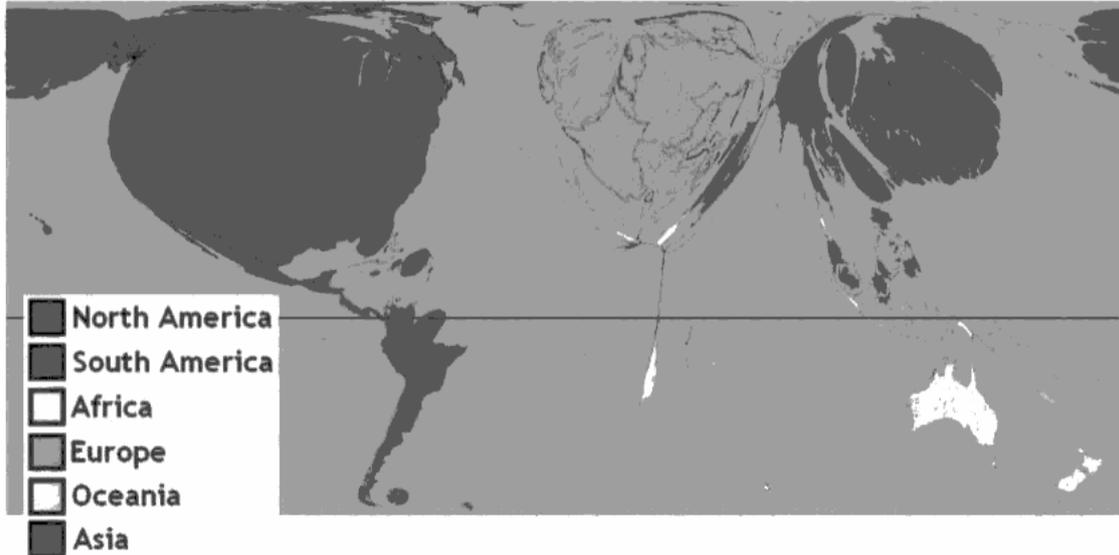
This answer identified fewer children but offered no other reasons.

Question 2(a)(i)

Most had no trouble in gathering both marks on this question. The exceptions simply said the north and left it at that.

Topic 2: Consuming Resources

2 Study Figure 2.



(Source: © Copyright SASI Group (University of Sheffield) and Mark Newman (University of Michigan))

Figure 2 – A map of the world in which the size of countries is proportional to the number of fast-food outlets

- (a) (i) Compare the numbers of fast-food outlets in the northern hemisphere with those in the southern hemisphere.

(2)

The northern hemisphere has a ~~very~~ much larger amount of fast food outlets with America being the country with the most. Both South America and Australia have little compared to their size.



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Examiner Comments

Northern Hemisphere larger (1) South America and Australia were given in this response, therefore 2 marks were awarded.

Question 2(a)(ii)

The first mark was easily come by (wealth and income related ideas) but the second proved more difficult although those that did often invoked cultural ideas, sometimes with sophistication.

(ii) Suggest **two** reasons for these differences. (2)

1. People in the developed world such as America are richer and have disposable income. They can afford luxuries such as fast foods so they look after their health more than poorer people.

2. People in the developing world are poor and cannot afford luxuries such as the fast food. If they were to have them, they would have to decrease the price which would result in a smaller profit.

(b) Describe **one** way in which the use of an alternative or renewable resource helps



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Examiner Comments

The idea of wealth differential (1) was identified and the candidate also gained a mark for the 'smaller profit' point made (1), gaining 2 marks.

Question 2(b)

There were two routes to 3 marks here with the question focussed on why adopting these types of energy was in any way sustainable. Too many candidates gave details of what the system was without making the link and thus failed to pick up their third mark.

A few candidates seemed confused over exactly what solar power was. They didn't understand that it was another way of creating electricity and referred to electricity as if it were a non-renewable resource (rather than the fossil fuels that are used to make it).

(b) Describe **one** way in which the use of an alternative or renewable resource helps sustainability. (2)

Named alternative or renewable resource HEP

These turbines help produce electricity without emitting any CO₂ and therefore not contributing to global warming. They also use no fossil fuels which are quickly running out. HEP will never run out.

(c) Explain **one** possible benefit of a rapidly growing population



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Examiner Comments

This response gained 3 marks - no CO₂ (1), no contribution to global warming (1), no fossil fuel depletion (1).

Question 2(c)

Many candidates scored 0 as they stated 'a growing population would lead to more work force and aid economy' but showed no concept of under population which was a necessary prerequisite for this idea. Those who had a clear idea of Boserup and innovation scored well.

(c) Explain **one** possible **benefit** of a rapidly growing population. *their needs (2)*

~~As more people shall be working, increasing money being put back to food sources may run low due to increasing population.~~
new new technologies may be invented and a more efficient way of growing crops may be invented. Also more people working so more money put back into the economy through tax.

(Total for Question 2 = 8 marks)



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Examiner Comments

This response gained 2 marks - growing inventiveness (1) stimulus idea just about enough 'As....due to increasing pop...' (1).

Question 3(a)

Many scored 2 marks through describing size of homes and transport links. Several were too basic in their answers to gain marks with just one word answers.

Figure 3 – Part of 'Palm Island', one of Dubai's recent urban development projects

(a) Describe **two** features of this living space. (2)

1. lots of living spaces houses

2. easy access road road.



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Examiner Comments

This response gained 2 marks, (1) for 'lots of' and (1) for 'easy access'.

Question 3(b)

The majority of candidates answered this well, using Bedzed or Curitiba as their example, thus being able to score giving a list or a developed idea of what made this sustainable, gaining full marks. Those that chose an example of a renewable resource tended not to score full marks given that the question asked for one attempt. A percentage of candidates were misled referring to Fig 3 and scored 0 or 1.

(b) Describe **one** attempt to create a sustainable living space.

(3)

Bedzed is an attempt at a sustainable living space. The Bedzed houses all use solar panels for electricity, they have very insulated walls and glass is used a lot to replace walls so in summer the heating costs are a lot lower. These houses have lowered their area's eco-footprint hugely.



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Examiner Comments

This response gained 3 marks - solar panels (1), insulated walls (1), extension to lower costs and example (1).

Question 3(c)

The mark scheme allowed flexibility over 'inner city' but those who did factor this into their answers had more to say about urban regeneration and found several reasons why some inner cities have grown rapidly. 'Recent years' was largely ignored although its function was to direct candidates attention to this particular area of the specification which in some cases it succeeded in doing.

(c) Explain why the population of some inner city areas has risen in recent years.

(3)

The development of industries create more jobs so workers would be attracted to move to these cities in order to find better or any employment.

Also, as education has developed, more people want to go to the cities for a better education.

(Total for Question 3 = 8 marks)



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Examiner Comments

The idea of movement of workers (1), motivation being jobs (1) and education (1) were identified and therefore 3 marks were awarded.

Question 4(a)

The vast majority gained full marks, describing changes and supporting observations with data. Candidates need to remember the role and meaning of 'command' words.

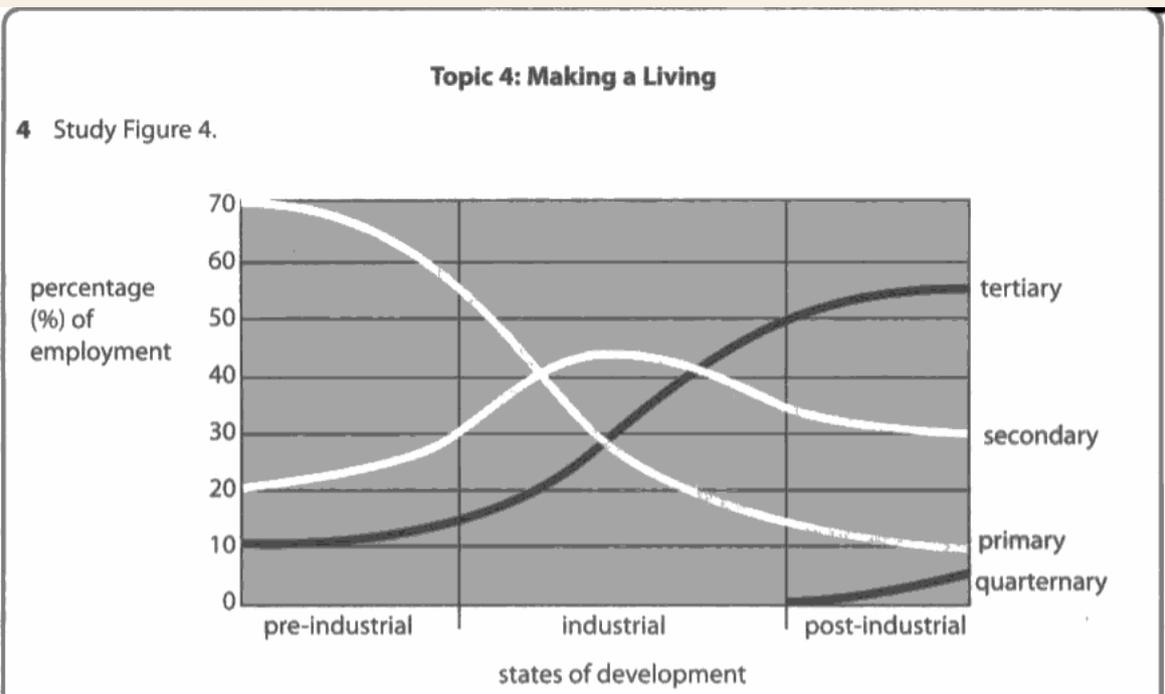


Figure 4 – The Clarke Fisher model of employment structure of countries in different stages of development

(a) Describe the changes in employment structure during the **industrial** stage. (3)

During the industry stage tertiary employment rises which is factory work for example union don't require much skill. The secondary employment peaks which is services eg police, doctors and bus drivers ~~unions~~ while the primary stage decreases which is farming as it wouldn't be as popular.

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Examiner Comments
This response was messy and got distracted by explanation but had 3 legitimate points therefore 3 marks were awarded.

Question 4(b)

For those who understood 'deindustrialisation' this was answered well. The most common error was to ignore environmental effects and discuss economic effects only.

(b) Outline **two** environmental effects of economic changes in developed countries, such as de-industrialisation.

(2)

1. New technologies were invented and that made people get more money.
2. People started providing services and that made migrants have more jobs.



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Examiner Comments

This response missed environmental focus on both so 0 mark was awarded.

Question 4(c)

The high level of variation in the answers gave the impression of a lack of understanding of 'green employment'; many did not give an example of jobs involved and very few recognised the significance of Government policies.

As a general comment candidates need to keep informed about the role of the state whether it is in directing population policies, regenerating urban areas or planning in the countryside.

(c) Explain why **green employment** has become more important in recent years. ^{The environment:}

(3)

Green employment has recently become more ~~and~~ important because with global warming ~~the~~ people are realizing the need to be sustainable. Green employment is becoming more popular as well so it's more in demand. With lots of new buildings being sustainable, green Architecture is needed.



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Examiner Comments

Basic idea gained (1) plus green architecture (1), therefore 2 marks were awarded.

Question 5(a)

Many candidates were awarded 3 marks for this question whereas some just gave the reverse relationship and much data. The regularity of the conclusion that increased population caused increased temperature was an interesting and worryingly common response taking the idea of urban heat islands into wholly different territory.

(a) Describe the relationship between average summer temperature and population change.

(3)

in general as population has increased the summer temperature has increased. However ~~any~~ the temperature has not increased at the same rate as the population has increased. If this were true the Las Vegas would be hottest as its population has increased by 1843%. As you would expect states that ~~are~~ have a better climate? Such ~~are~~ have increase more with population than states with colder climates such as Cleveland.



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Examiner Comments

There was a basic idea of the link between temperature and population change (1), with an understanding that it was not a perfect relationship (1). There was data to support the answer (1), so 3 marks were awarded.

Question 5(b)

This was a very accessible question with the mark scheme being 'flexible' and making no assumptions at all about where candidates lived and allowing a wide range of 'local areas' from Singapore to Curitiba.

Those who understood the demands managed very well although not always efficiently linking their knowledge to eco-footprints.

* (b) With reference to your local area, explain how changes in transport could help to reduce its eco-footprint.

(6)

Named local area ~~London~~ Brent

The redevelopment of ~~the~~ bus and train stations would see the eco-footprint shrink as more people would be inclined to use public transport and therefore less likely to use cars. Also, cheaper public transport prices would increase use and therefore decrease the eco footprint because less fuel will be used. If ~~they were to~~ Brent ~~the~~ council were to introduce more cycle lanes, people ~~would~~ would prefer taking their bikes on the road and therefore be more likely to use them. Finally, if they introduced a congestion charging zone in the busier areas, less people would drive.

(Total for Question 5 = 9 marks)



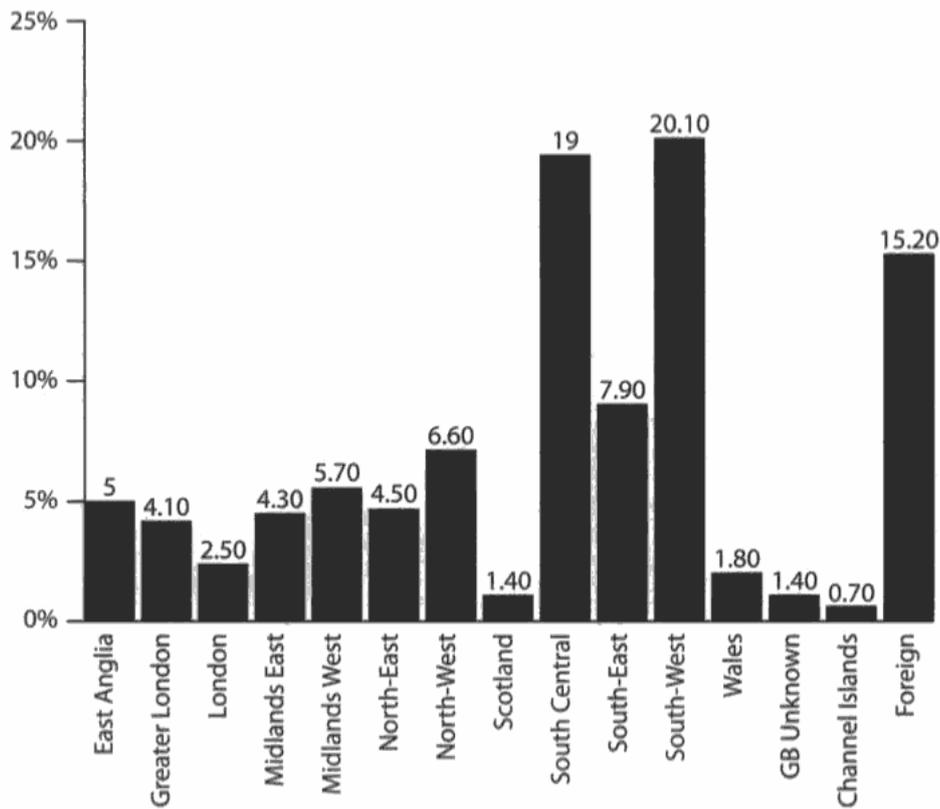
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Examiner Comments

This response offered a range and link to 'eco-footprints'.

Question 6(a)

There was a need to know about the geography of the UK to make this question meaningful but despite the low level of demand far too many candidates missed the connection between proximity and visitor numbers. Those who 'got it' had no trouble reaching 3 marks.

6 Study Figure 6.



(Source: Dartmoor Partnership visitor survey 2002)

Figure 6 – The origin of visitors to Dartmoor National Park (Dartmoor NP)

Dartmoor NP is in the South-West.

(a) Describe how numbers of visitors changes with distance from Dartmoor NP.

(3)

In the United Kingdom, there are a higher number of visitors the closer they are to the place. For example in the South-West 20.10% of visitors. In further ~~far~~ places e.g. Scotland there are only 1.4% of visitors. However there are 15.20% of foreign visitors which is high and they are



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Examiner Comments

This response gave a description of data but 'why it is as it is' was not relevant.



ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

This type of question requires candidates to describe the data and add a little knowledge to interpret the pattern.

Question 6(b)

Candidates were able to offer a few ideas about challenges in the rural areas of the developing world. A minority misread developing which was a shame but many others stayed in Level 2 because they were not able to explain why their challenges were 'issues' – what made them so?

* (b) With reference to a named rural area in a developing country, explain the issues that it is facing. ★

Named rural area Bihar, India

(6)

- Low wages, high Poverty rate, the average income is 5 times lower than Indian Average.
- Farmers only ~~farm~~ ^{farm} subsistently, to feed their family's this means that they have no income from selling ^{surplus} food eg. Corn, Wheat.
- The best land is being taken up by TNC's (Transnational Corporations) for food production, which is then exported to MEDCs such as the UK.
- There is a high death rate as there are many diseases such as HIV and Aids.
- Bihar's population is decreasing as many people of working age are moving to the cities / core regions of India.



ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This was a good answer but lost a mark because of the chosen method of presentation.



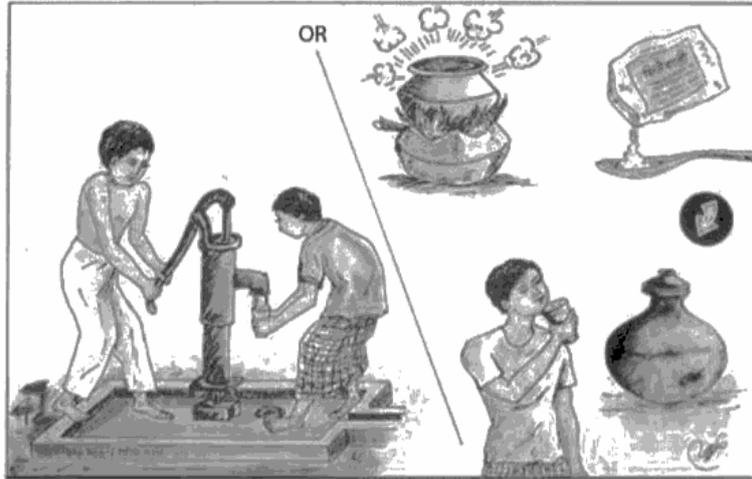
ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Best not to use bullet points because they serve no purpose here and suggest a summary which extended writing does not promote.

Question 7(a)

Figure 7 gave a few hints about health and welfare which many followed up effectively. To gather a third mark knowledge and understanding was required and most found links to welfare and development.

7 Study Figure 7.



'We will drink water from wells. If it is not available, we will boil water or treat it with chemicals.'

Figure 7 – One of the promises made by villagers borrowing from a bank specialising in bottom-up development

(a) Suggest reasons why clean water is important for rural development.

Clean water is important for rural development⁽³⁾ because it means that people will be more healthy meaning they can do more jobs to try and make their area better. Clean water is also important because with dirty water people can become ill meaning they can't work but also meaning money needs to be spent on medicines to treat them.



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Examiner Comments

This response offered healthier (1) so more productive (1) saving in medicine (1) and so gained 3 marks.

Question 7(b)

There were many good descriptions on urban cores and rural peripheries but too many candidates lost marks through lack of knowledge and the inability to give detailed reasons why there are such disparities – descriptions rather than explanations so stayed in Level 2. India was a very popular case study but could have been more effective if Mumbai rather than its region had been the focus. The relationship between core and periphery needed addressing – the regions don't just sit adjacent to one another without some interaction.

*(b) For a named developing country, explain the differences between the urban core and the rural periphery.

(6)

Named developing country Brazil

The urban core of Brazil is Sao Paulo whereby many large businesses and the central financial core is located in this area. It is highly populated with people who want or are looking for employment and produces a significant amount of money for the country. The Amazon rainforest is an area of the rural periphery whereby it is less developed and more agricultural aspects occur here. This produces little or no money for the nation and is underdeveloped.



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Examiner Comments

This was a typical Level 2 answer with no developed detail or explanatory points.

Question 8(a)

A generally well understood and well answered question with specific references to TNC motivation. The most common errors was repetitiveness about saving money, more profit, less to spend without identifying exactly how this might be done. Many could have scored more than 3 marks.

8 Study Figure 8.



'Sorry Elves. I'm closing this old workshop down, and moving production to China.'

Figure 8 – A cartoon about outsourcing

(a) Suggest how TNCs (transnational companies) reduce costs by moving production overseas.

(3)

TNC reduce cost, by opening the works overseas, a much smaller pay. This reduces the costs. Also, the land is also cheaper in LEDC's so the cost to buy the land will be much smaller. Nestle, has done this, and now have reduced their costs.



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Examiner Comments

This response offered labour costs (1), cheap land (1) and Nestle as an example (1) and so gained 3 marks.

Question 8(b)

A variety of answers were given, but those who understood the new economy, and did not interpret it as the current recession, scored well giving examples to justify their answers. The most able candidates could move well beyond out-sourcing and the (largely negative) impact of TNCs. Others failed to identify different groups and the impacts that would be experienced, being vague and therefore not scoring well.

*(b) Using examples, explain why the 'new economy' has different impacts on different groups of people.

(6)

The 'new economy' can have both good and bad effects on people. It benefits rich people, and anyone who lives in an MEAC, as they can buy products for less, but for working-class people in MEACs, it is also bad as if they used to work in a factory, they've lost their jobs, like car manufacturers in Coventry.

It is bad for ~~the~~ ^{the average} person in MEACs and NICs, as they have poor working conditions and poor pay, but also good as it provides jobs for them. It also benefits the government as they get more money from taxes.

Places like the Grantham Quays in Portsmouth benefit people in MEACs as it was transformed from a torpedo training and manufacturing facility into a shopping centre, with shops, leisure centres, hotels and supermarkets. It was

transformed by the Berkeley Group, and it benefits people living there as it has shops for them to buy products, has facilities they can use, and creates jobs mostly in the tertiary sector, e.g. retail. It is also good as it has good access with main roads and railway lines nearby.

Overall, the 'new economy' has many impacts on different people, some good and some bad, but overall I think it's mostly good.



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Examiner Comments

This response gave a clear recognition of groups with an idea of good and bad impacts. Clear use of examples with some well identified points of explanation were given.

Paper Summary

For the immediate future Year 11 students in 2012/13 can draw some significant lessons from the performance of this paper. Knowing case studies is obviously one element but it would help if that case study information was a little more detailed with at least two pieces of data, preferably numeric data to add a sense of scale.

Elsewhere there remain too many errors of question interpretation that can be readily addressed by sensible revision to distinguish between different question structures and different command words. Too many miss keywords in questions, eg 'explaining why' etc. It is all about focus.

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