

Edexcel GCE

Geography

Advanced

Unit 4: Geographical Research

Advance Information: Research Focus

January 2013

Paper Reference

6GE04/01

Instructions

- Select **one option**, based on the research you have carried out for Unit 4.
- You should use information contained in the research focus to prepare for the Unit 4 examination.
- The **research focus** will give you an idea of the sort of question you will need to answer in the examination for Unit 4.
- To help you narrow down your last minute research, the focus is divided into:
 - **Explore**, meaning the background concepts, processes, theories and models involved where relevant.
 - **Research**, meaning the geographical places, case studies and examples illustrating these.
- You will be expected to produce a **report**, with clear sub-sections and referencing.
- Please consult the accompanying generic mark scheme, also to be found on the Edexcel website.

Information

- Edexcel website (www.edexcel.com).

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OPTION 1: Tectonic Activity and Hazards

- **Explore** the physical causes of tectonic hazards, including the significance of differing plate boundaries and other factors.
 - **Research** the spatial pattern of tectonic hazards and their causes in contrasting tectonic locations.
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OPTION 2: Cold Environments – Landscapes and Change

- **Explore** the factors determining the use of cold environments, including the attitudes and values of a range of interest groups.
 - **Research** a range of high altitude and high latitude cold environments which demonstrate different opportunities and uses.
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OPTION 3: Life on the Margins – the Food Supply Problem

- **Explore** the physical and human factors that contribute to some areas being more vulnerable to food insecurity than others.
 - **Research** contrasting locations which are experiencing food insecurity, with particular reference to drylands.
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OPTION 4: The World of Cultural Diversity

- **Explore** the factors affecting the characteristics of cultural landscapes, and why those landscapes develop similarities and / or differences.
 - **Research** the degree of diversity in contrasting urban and rural cultural landscapes.
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OPTION 5: Pollution and Human Health at Risk

- **Explore** the factors which contribute to human health risk, including the level of economic development.
 - **Research** both pollution related and other types of health risk in areas at different levels of economic development.
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OPTION 6: Consuming the Rural Landscape – Leisure and Tourism

- **Explore** why, in rural areas, a range of management strategies for leisure and tourism are used.
 - **Research** a range of rural landscapes experiencing pressure from leisure and tourism, and the contrasting strategies used to manage them.
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