

Activity 1c Spec B

- (f) 'The causes of past climate change and current global warming are different.'
Assess this statement.

(8)

In a way the statement is true as in ~~the past~~ ^{before the industrial revolution} the past causes of climate change may have been due to natural causes such as changes in volcanic activity which may have expelled various gases which had changed the earth's air composition, or it may have been due to ~~variations~~ solar output and other natural external factors. Whereas today, the causes of climate change are based on human activity. For instance the increasing number of fossil fuels burnt for growing energy demands, has led to the expulsion of greenhouse gases such as sulphur dioxide and carbon dioxide which cause global warming thus changing the climate as ^{global} temperatures begin to rise.

SPEC B Examples

Examiner commentary and mark

Logical connections between concepts throughout (AO3). Addresses the question, mentions the past and the influence that past actions have had (Industrial revolution etc). There is some evidence of the impacts of past events. AO2 needs more emphasis on inter-relationships between processes and environment. To reach the next level, the student needs to acknowledge that climate change is still occurring and demonstrate more accurate understanding of concepts and their inter-relationship.

Mark – 5 marks/ Level 2

*f) For a named emerging country, assess how far economic growth has had a positive impact on its population.

(12)

An example of an emerging country is China, and has rapidly developed over the years. For instance, Special Economic Zones in China, especially Shenzhen has led to economic growth as these areas have low tax, which attract foreign direct investment and FDI. Transnational corporations, which would then lead to China getting more profit. ~~Moreover, the influx of FDI~~ This would have a positive impact on the population as the country's economy would increase and the GNI per capita would be greater. Furthermore, a more wealthier economy could lead to further economic growth as well as development in hospitals and schools. Better education systems supported by the growth would lead to an increase in literacy rate as well as school life expectancy, and moreover would give children more advanced skills which offer them a wider opportunities in the future, which is sustainable as the younger generation would be better skilled and work for the tertiary industries in China instead of lower payed jobs such as factories. ~~As~~ In addition, the influx of FDI's and other companies could lead to more people getting jobs, thus reducing unemployment rates and again boosts the economy as money made by the workers would be then spent within the country or through tax, and this money would again be spent on developing the country. ~~As~~ Economic growth from this may also lead to ~~the~~ improving the infrastructure or transport around China, and this would positively affect people as journeys would be much less congested,

Improving infrastructure

more efficient and quieter, and would reduce stress levels of the people and increase connectivity (power lines, fibre optics) thus leading to ~~the~~ a better standard of living which is an important social factor. However, economic growth to an extent may also have negative such as global warming. ~~proposes~~ The increasing demand for energy to satisfy the population would be very high, so the country would have to rely on fossil fuels, however this leads to the release of greenhouse gases, consequently global warming. Moreover, the growing amount of factories may mean new quotas set are high and this may lead to concerns in human rights due to the country's prohibition of strikes and labour safety regulations which would ensure the labour or may be poorly paid. (Total for Question 2 = 34 marks)

Examiner commentary and mark

Lots of impacts on the population. Identifies China and gives examples. Covered a wide range of different impacts, some of the linkages are not developed as well as they could be. Some elements are more generic, though the last part of the response brings it back to China. Good analysis and evidence used.

Mark 8 and 4 for SPAG