



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Subsidiary Examination
June 2009

General Studies (Specification B)

GENB2

Unit 2 Space

Thursday 14 May 2009 1.30 pm to 3.00 pm

For this paper you must have:

- an 8-page answer book

You may use a calculator.

Time allowed

- 1 hour 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is GENB2.
- Answer **all** questions.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

Information

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
 - use good English
 - organise information clearly
 - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

Advice

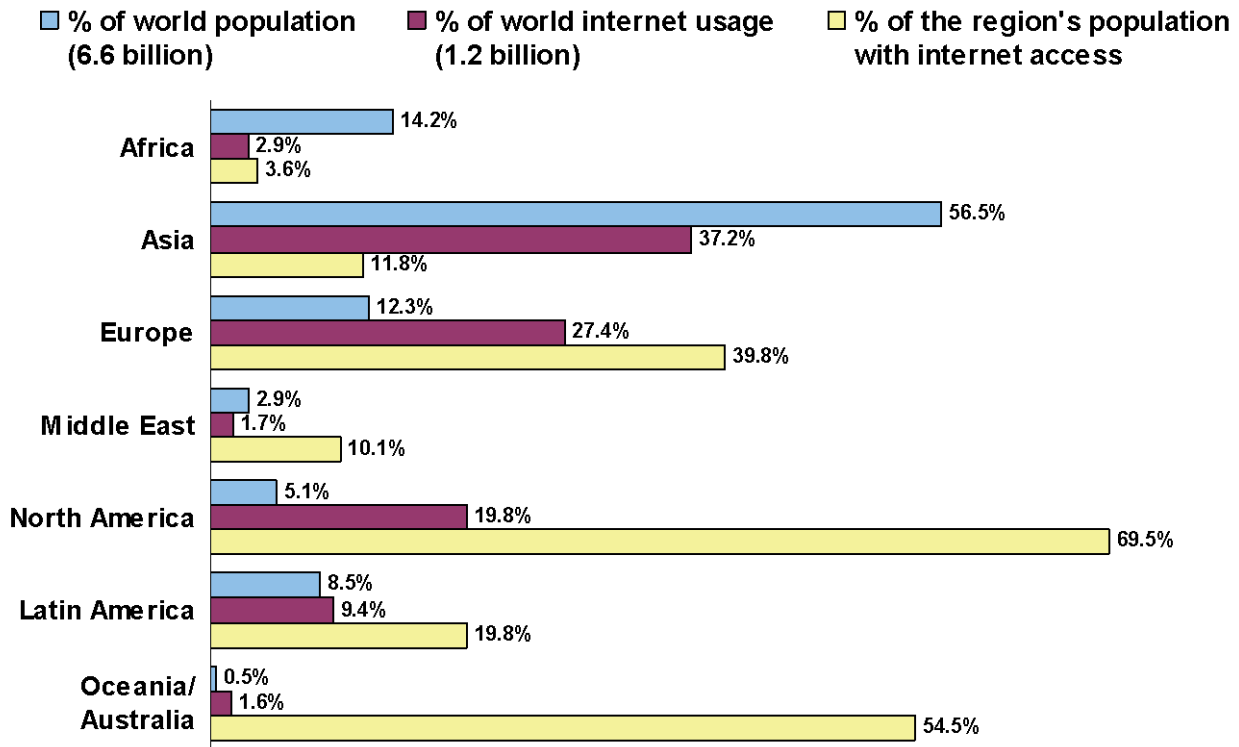
- Where appropriate use examples to illustrate your answer.

Answer **all** questions.

1 Study **Sources A** and **B** and then answer the following questions.

Source A

World population, internet usage and internet access



Source: adapted from Internet World Stats, www.internetworldstats.com, © Miniwatts Marketing Group, 2007

Source B

Top 8 Language Users on the Web
(Percentage of Web Users by Language)

Top 8 languages on the Web	% of all Web Users	% of speakers of the language with access to the Web	% language growth on the Web (2000-2007)
English	30.1	18.8	167.3
Chinese	14.7	13.6	472.4
Spanish	9.0	25.4	359.7
Japanese	6.9	68.7	85.9
French	5.1	15.6	422.7
German	4.9	64.2	123.5
Portuguese	4.0	21.4	570.9
Arabic	3.7	13.2	1575.9

Source: adapted from Internet World Stats, www.internetworldstats.com, © Miniwatts Marketing Group, 2007

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- 1 (a) Referring specifically to the data provided in **Source A**, describe and account for the differences in the use of and access to the internet across the world. *(10 marks)*
- (b) (i) Using **Source A**, calculate the actual numbers of internet users in each of Asia, Europe and North America. Show how you have reached your answer. *(6 marks)*
- (ii) Using the information in **Source B**, suggest **two** reasons for the different levels of language growth on the Web during the period 2000-2007. *(4 marks)*
- (c) Discuss how growing access to the internet might affect the lives of people in less economically developed parts of the world. *(10 marks)*

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ▶

2 Study **Sources C** and **D** and then answer the following questions.

Source C



Source: © lakedistrictviews.com

Source D



Source: FreeFoto.com

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- 2 (a) Explain why some people might want to live in a rural area like the one shown in **Source C**. (10 marks)
- (b) Explain why some people might prefer to live in an urban area like the one shown in **Source D**. (10 marks)
- (c) Over the last twenty years the cost of housing in both rural and urban areas has risen at a greater rate than incomes.

Discuss what might be done to solve the problem of the lack of affordable housing for local residents in *either* a location such as that shown in **Source C** *or* in one such as that shown in **Source D**. (10 marks)

Turn over for the next question

Turn over ▶

3 Study **Source E** and then answer the following questions.

Source E

Legal action threatened over ‘sham’ Heathrow consultation

Councils opposed to a third London runway threatened legal action yesterday after Ruth Kelly, the Transport Secretary, provoked fury by signalling a massive expansion of Heathrow. The Government’s plans were backed by all sides of the pro-expansion lobby, including unions, the CBI, chambers of commerce and the airlines.

The Wandsworth council leader, speaking on behalf of a group representing 12 local authorities in the Heathrow area, said: “The Government is asking us to trust that, by the time the runway is built, there will be an entirely new fleet of quieter aircraft flying. They are so hell-bent on expansion and are not stopping to count the environmental costs. They will not even take into account their own noise study.” The consultation covers a sixth terminal, changes to runway take-off and landing patterns, and changes to the routes that Heathrow aircraft take.

Ms Kelly said that unless the third runway was built by 2020, Heathrow’s status as a world-class airport would be eroded, jobs would be lost and the economy would suffer. The consultation document said that a third runway would bring net economic benefit of around £5bn. Steve Ridgway of Virgin Atlantic said: “Limiting growth at Heathrow wouldn’t prevent climate change because that growth would only go elsewhere.”

But Peter Lockley, the head of transport policy at the conservation group WWF, said: “The expansion of Heathrow is completely at odds with the Government’s climate-change targets, and there are alternatives – such as video conferencing and high-speed train travel.” The London Mayor said: “I am opposed to this expansion as it runs contrary to all the evidence we have on the impact of aviation on climate change.”

Mike Russell, a local resident, already experiences the unpleasant noise of aircraft from Heathrow passing near his home. If the third runway goes ahead, his house will be directly beneath the flight path. He says the noise from the airport is becoming unbearable. “When I first moved into the area there were planes going over and I remember them saying in the past that there’d be no fourth terminal, no fifth terminal, and no third runway. When we’re in the garden you can hear a plane about every 45 seconds in peak time. You get used to it but once the third runway is built it will be very noisy and it will definitely affect my sleep. It will be very intrusive, but the people who really have to move out are the unfortunate ones whose houses will need to be demolished.”

Source: adapted from ‘Legal action threatened over ‘sham’ Heathrow consultation’, COLIN BROWN, *The Independent*, 23 November 2007

- 3 (a) Discuss why some people and groups think that airport expansion, particularly in the London area, is vital for Britain. *(15 marks)*
- (b) Discuss the arguments against further airport expansion in Britain in general and in the London area in particular. *(15 marks)*

END OF QUESTIONS

There are no questions printed on this page