



General Certificate of Education

**Geography 2030
Specification**

GEOG2 Geographical Skills

Specimen Mark Scheme

2009 examination

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the candidates' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of candidates' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

It must be stressed that a mark scheme is a working document, in many cases further developed and expanded on the basis of candidates' reactions to a particular paper. Assumptions about future mark schemes on the basis of one year's document should be avoided; whilst the guiding principles of assessment remain constant, details will change, depending on the content of a particular examination paper.

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General Guidance for A Level Geography Assistant Examiners

Quality of Written Communication

As required by QCA, the marking scheme for this unit includes an overall assessment of quality of written communication. There are no discrete marks for the assessment of written communications but where questions are "Levels" marked, written communication will be assessed as one of the criteria within each level.

Level 1: Language is basic, descriptions and explanations are over simplified and lack clarity.

Level 2: Generally accurate use of language; descriptions and explanations can be easily followed, but are not clearly expressed throughout.

Level 3: Accurate and appropriate use of language; descriptions and explanations are expressed with clarity throughout.

Levels Marking - General Criteria

The following general criteria relate to knowledge, understanding and their critical application and the quality of written communication as outlined in the AQA Geography subject specification. They are designed to assist examiners in determining into which band the quality of response should be placed, and should be used when assessing the level of response an answer has achieved. It is anticipated that candidates' performances under the various dimensions will be broadly inter-related and the general guidelines for each level are as follows:

Level 1: An answer at this level is likely to:

- display a basic understanding of the topic;
- make one of two points without support of appropriate exemplification or application of principle;
- demonstrate a simplistic style of writing perhaps lacking close relation to the term of the question and unlikely to communicate complexity of subject matter;
- lack organisation, relevance and specialist vocabulary;
- demonstrate deficiencies in legibility, spelling, grammar and punctuation which detract from the clarity of meaning.

Level 2: An answer at this level is likely to:

- display a clear understanding of the topic;
- make one or two points with support of appropriate exemplification and/or application of principle;
- demonstrate a style of writing which matches the requirements of the question and acknowledges the potential complexity of the subject matter;
- demonstrate relevance and coherence with appropriate use of specialist vocabulary;
- demonstrate legibility of text, and qualities of spelling, grammar and punctuation which do not detract from the clarity of meaning.

Level 3: An answer at this level is likely to:

- display a detailed understanding of the topic;
- make several points with support of appropriate exemplification and/or application of principle;
- demonstrate a sophisticated style of writing incorporating measured and qualified explanation and comment as required by the question and reflecting awareness of the complexity of subject matter and incompleteness/tentativeness of explanation;
- demonstrate a clear sense of purpose so that the responses are seen to closely relate to the requirements of the question with confident use of specialist vocabulary;
- demonstrate legibility of text, and qualities of spelling, grammar and punctuation which contribute to complete clarity of meaning.

NB A perfect answer is not usually required for full marks. Clearly it will be possible for an individual candidate to demonstrate variable performance between the levels. In such cases the principle of best-fit should be applied. Experience suggests that the use of exemplars within this mark scheme and the discussion which takes place during the Standardisation Meeting normally provides sufficient guidance on the use of levels in marking.

Annotation of Scripts

- Where an answer is marked using a levels of response scheme the examiner should annotate the script with 'L1', 'L2' or 'L3' at the point where that level is thought to have been reached. The consequent mark should appear in the right hand column. Where an answer fails to achieve Level 1, zero marks should be given.
- Where answers do not require levels of response marking, each script should be annotated to show that one tick equals one mark. It is helpful if the tick can be positioned in the part of the answer which is thought to be credit-worthy. For points marked questions, where no credit-worthy points are made, zero marks should be given.

General Advice

It is important to recognise that many of the answers shown within this marking scheme are only exemplars. Where possible, the range of accepted responses is indicated, but because many questions are open-ended in their nature, alternative answers may be equally credit-worthy. The degree of acceptability is clarified through the Standardisation Meeting and subsequently by telephone with the Team Leader as necessary.

Question 1

AO1 - 2, AO2 - 3, AO3 - 1

(a)(i) Valley (v) – interlocking spurs; V shaped cross profile; relatively steeply sloping sides.

Channel (c) – steep, stepped long profile; small waterfall; rapids; Large bedload visible; channel occupies al valley floor; Areas of turbulent flow.

Any valid label. 6 x 1

Maximum 4, minimum 2 on each component.

(6 marks)

AO2 - 4, AO3 - 2

(a)(ii) Channel – Golden Clough is narrower than River Noe as indicated by thickness of line (1 + 1 if evidence is specific); Golden Clough is straighter – there is evidence of meanders on the River Noe at 130852 (1+1 for evidence)

Valley – Golden Clough is narrow, steep sided and V – shaped whilst River Noe is much broader; there is evidence of flat land in the valley floor – flood plain and the lower slopes of the valley are relatively gentle. Reference to any contrasting aspect.

1 mark +1 for reference to map evidence.

(6 marks)

AO3 - 2

(b)(i) 2 x 1 for accurately plotting rainfall and discharge figures.

(2 marks)

AO1 - 2, AO2 - 1

(b)(ii) The shape reflects the pattern of rainfall – a mini peak at 2200 representing the rainfall between 1400 and 1700 (1). There is a delay before the discharge increases – this is due to the time taken for the water to flow to the river (1). This is clear to see again when the peak discharge at 0100 on 11th February is 3 hours after the peak rainfall – 1000 on 10th February (1). The plateau type peak between midnight and 0500 reflects the relatively high rainfall of the previous evening, (1) but not the reduction during the night – water being fed in from stores (1). It takes a significant period for the hydrograph to return following the rain stopping - this is due to water flowing in from stores (1), e.g. soil and groundwater (1). May suggest the symmetrical shape relates to a circular drainage basin; the relatively quick response being due to the presence of impermeable rock in drainage basin.

3 x1 or 1 x (1 + 1) +1

(3 marks)

AO1 - 2, AO2 - 4, AO3 - 2

(c) Issues refer to the large number of people affected;
 the increasing frequency of floods – with evidence clear from the table;
 the debate regarding hard versus soft engineering;
 the need for sustainable management;
 conflicts of interest e.g. between farmers whose land may be used for flood management and others;
 whether a flood risk should be accepted; whether we should build on flood plains.
 There are a variety of issues touched upon.
 Comment likely to refer to increased difficulty of managing floods given climate change, building on flood plains; the need to be aware of environmental impact and effects elsewhere, etc.

Level 1	Describes some issues. Heavy reliance on Figure 5.	1 – 3 marks
Level 2	Clear outline of different issues. Uses Figure 5. Tentative/implicit comment.	4 – 6 marks
Level 3	– Outline shows awareness of issues. Figure 5 is used to make relevant points and offers support from this. Explicit, clear comment.	7 – 8 marks (8 marks)

Question 2

AO3 - 3

- (a)(i) Access via minor roads within area of Edale (1); actual sites are all accessed by footpath (1). Can refer to advantages of these e.g. getting equipment relatively near (1) ease of carrying relatively shorter distances – given size of some items needed e.g. ranging poles (1). Sites show 3 different stages along the rivers (1) – map shows contrasting width/size of rivers (1) and the first two sites are of tributaries of the River Noe – the third site – thus changes would be expected to be present downstream (1). (3 marks)

AO3 - 3

- (a)(ii) Likely to consider systematic sampling (1) but random also valid (1)
Then need to elaborate regarding method e.g. every 1km on O.S. map, or using random number tables.
Reason likely to relate to coverage of all river or removing bias.
Maximum 2 on method or reasons.
3 x 1 or 1 x (1 + 1) +1 (3 marks)

AO3- 4

- (b)(i) Aim – basic aim – 1 mark, if developed – 1 + 1
E.g. To see if A is a suburbanised village (1) – does it reflect the morphology of the suburbanised village model? (1)
Hypothesis – basic/open ended – 1, if very clear or directional – 1 + 1
E.g. Place A will match the suburbanised village model (1)
Place A will have a central core, ribbon development and adjuncts and will match the suburbanised village model to some extent (2)
Allow up to 3 on either section. (4 marks)

AO3 - 5

- (b)(ii) Risks will depend on field study undertaken. Traffic hazards on narrow lanes – need to face on-coming traffic and walk in single file. Facing on-coming traffic meant hazard could be anticipated and action taken in advance (1) such as standing to one side of verge (1). Risk of offending people and being victim of verbal/physical abuse (1) – need to ensure polite at all times/asking questions with appropriate introduction/opportunity for refusal. Being polite meant that problems were few, but on one occasion one person was rude and called names (1). Thus, strategy was only partially successful (1).
- If rivers, likely to relate to water and drowning hazard; slipping on wet rocks, etc.
Hazards can be minimised by not going in deep (above knee), fast flowing water; ensuring rocks are stable, not moss covered before stepping on them.
1 x (1 + 1)
Care taken meant that whilst somebody fell on slippery rocks (1), this was relatively minor (1) as water was shallow and slow flowing, so a real problem was averted (1). (5 marks)

AO3 - 5

(b)(iii) E.g. land use survey.

On base map that showed the streets/buildings (1), all of the settlement/transects/stratified sample (1 + 1 if detailed) were considered and categorised (1) according to e.g. shops, schools, pre 20th century housing (up to 2 for categories) and abbreviations were used to mark the function on the map (1 + 1 for example). (5 marks)

AO3 - 5

(b)(iv) Application – Use of internet – this allowed maps at a variety of scales to be identified prior to the visit (1) and enabled the area to be put in context (1) and provided base maps of streets (1). The website www.multimap.co.uk was visited (1) and place A was searched for (1). Maps at 1:100000 scale, 1:25000 scale and 1:10000 scale were downloaded (1) and printed off (1).

Maximum 3, minimum 2 on either component. (5 marks)