



General Certificate of Education
Advanced Level Examination

Geography

GEOG3

Unit 3 Contemporary Geographical Issues

Specimen paper for examinations in June 2010 onwards

This question paper uses the [new numbering system](#) and [new AQA answer book](#)

For this paper you must have:

- an AQA 12-page answer book.

Time allowed

- 2 hours 30 minutes

Instructions

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Pencil should only be used for drawing.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is GEOG3.
- Answer **three** options: **one** from each section. In **Section C**, you must **not** answer the same options as those chosen in **Sections A** and **B**.
- Use sketch maps, diagrams and specific examples, where appropriate.
- 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

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each of **Sections A** and **B** and about 60 minutes on **Section C**.

Section A

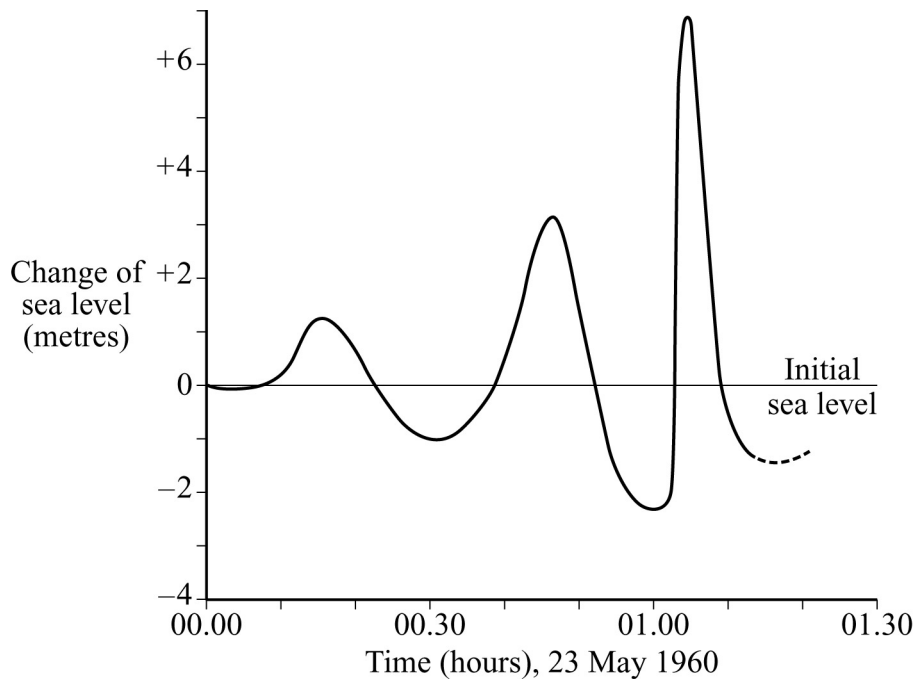
Answer **one** option from this section.

You must not answer the option that you will answer in Section C.

Option 1 Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards**Total for this option: 25 marks****01**

Study **Figure 1** which shows changes in sea level following a seismic event in the Pacific Ocean basin.

Comment on the changes in sea levels shown, and suggest why these changes illustrate the hazards associated with a tsunami. (7 marks)

Figure 1**02**

Outline the causes of earthquakes.

(8 marks)**03**

Discuss the ways in which people and organisations respond to earthquakes and their effects. (10 marks)

0 5

Explain the characteristic features of the weather associated with a **winter** anticyclone in the British Isles. *(8 marks)*

0 6

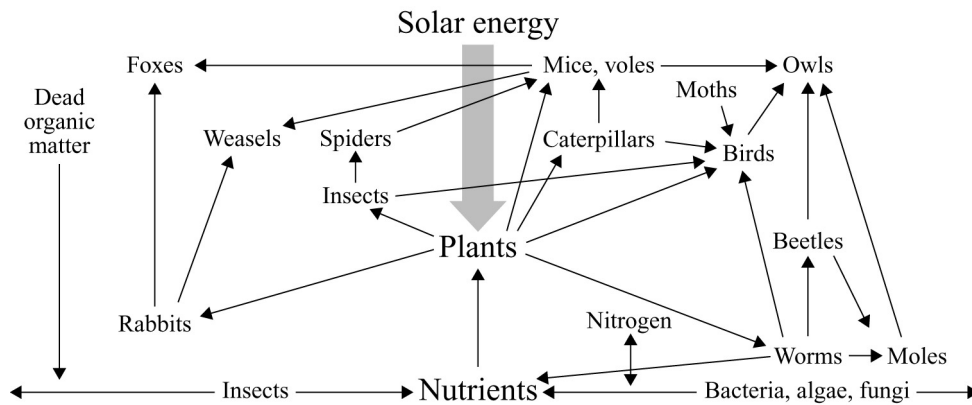
Evaluate the concept of the urban heat island. *(10 marks)*

Option 3 Ecosystems: Change and Challenge**Total for this option: 25 marks**

07

Study **Figure 3** which shows a food web.

Comment on the food web shown in **Figure 3**, including the variety of trophic levels illustrated. (7 marks)

Figure 3

08

Explain the characteristic features of a vegetation succession you have studied.

(8 marks)

09

Evaluate the concept of biodiversity, and suggest why it is an issue about which people should be concerned. (10 marks)

End of Section A

Section B

Answer **one** option from this section.

You must not answer the option that you will answer in Section C.

Option 4 World Cities

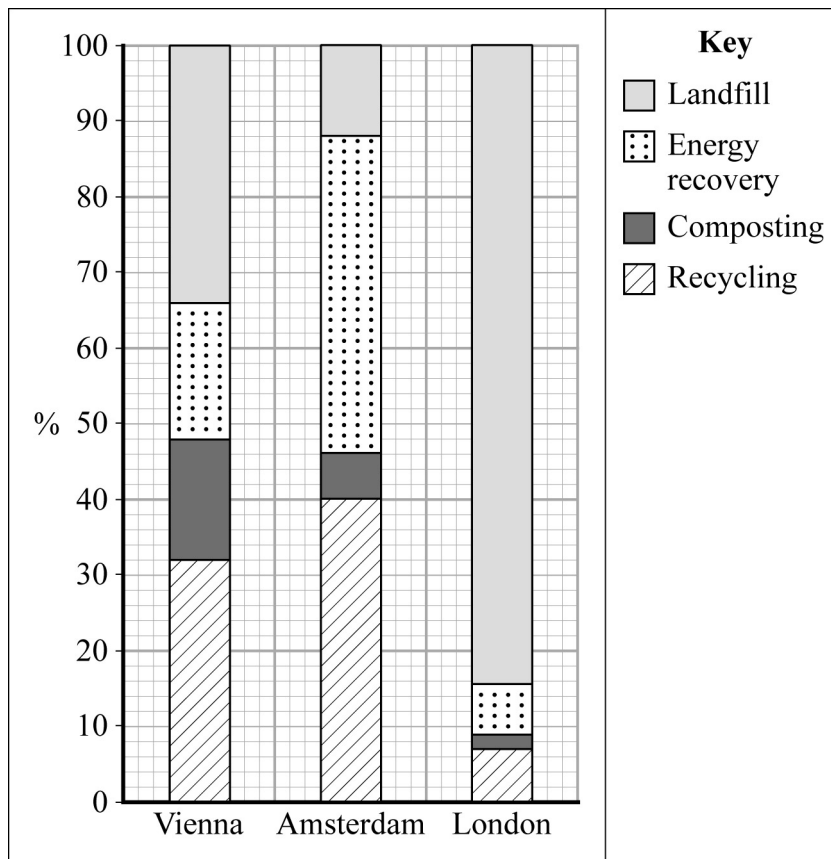
Total for this option: 25 marks

1 0

Study **Figure 4** which shows the ways in which three European cities manage their waste.

Describe the differences in the ways in which the cities manage their waste and comment on the different methods used. (7 marks)

Figure 4



1 1

Outline and illustrate the concept of 'gentrification' in an urban area. (8 marks)

1 2

Discuss the impacts of out-of-town centre retailing on urban areas. (10 marks)

Option 5 Development and Globalisation

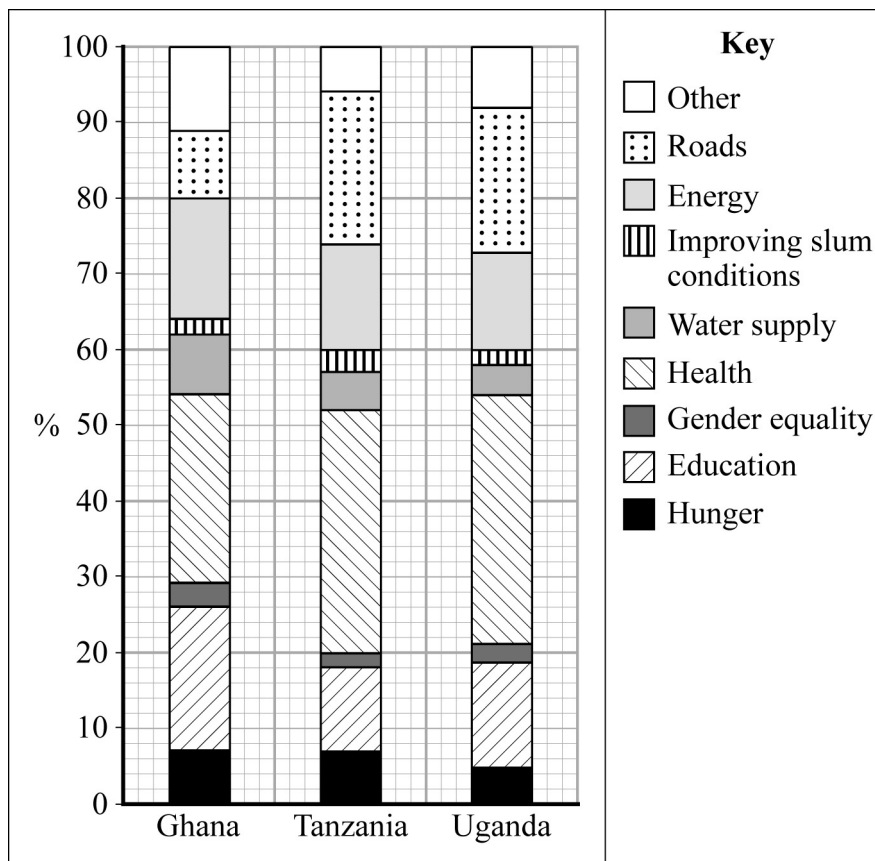
Total for this option: 25 marks

1 3

Study **Figure 5** which shows how foreign aid should be spent in three African countries in order to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development goals by 2015.

Comment on the similarities and differences in the ways in which foreign aid should be spent in the **three** countries shown. (7 marks)

Figure 5



1 4

Outline and illustrate the concept of 'the development continuum'.

(8 marks)

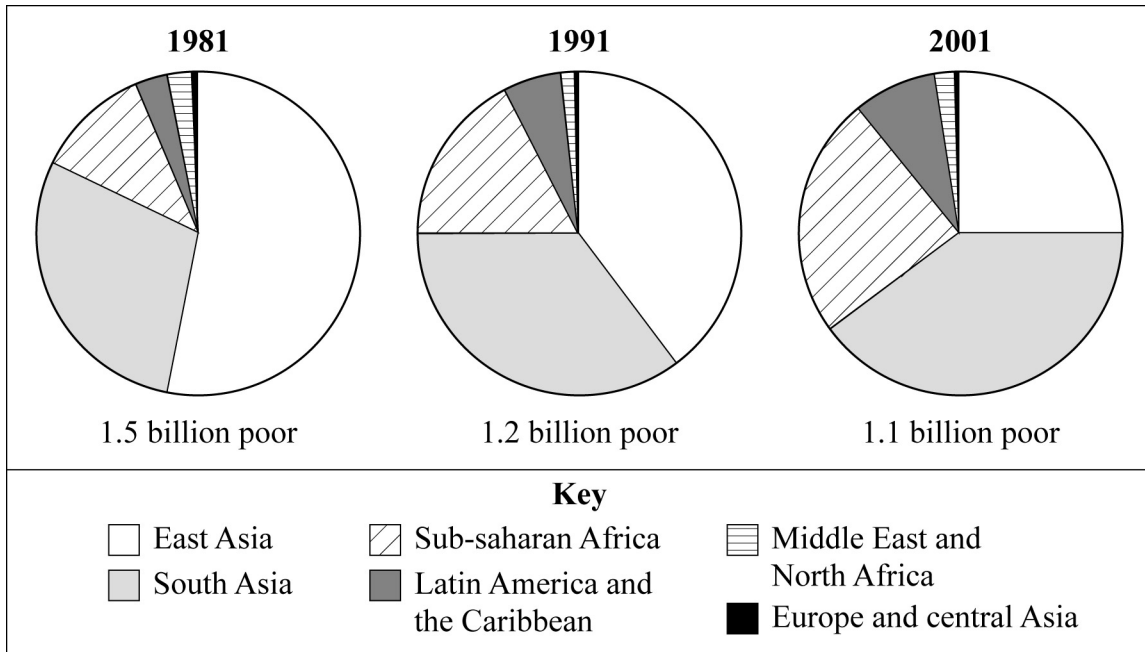
1 5

With reference to **one or more** specific examples, discuss the reasons for the groupings of nations. (10 marks)

Option 6 Contemporary Conflicts and Challenges**Total for this option: 25 marks****1 6**

Study **Figure 6** which shows the number and distribution of people living in poverty in each of 1981, 1991 and 2001.

Describe the changes illustrated in **Figure 6**.

*(7 marks)***Figure 6****1 7**

Outline the causes of poverty in the world.

*(8 marks)***1 8**

Discuss the role of international agencies such as the United Nations in addressing poverty on a global scale.

*(10 marks)***End of Section B**

Section C

Answer **one** option from this section.

You must not answer the option answered in either Section A or Section B.

Note to Candidate

You should bear in mind that the essay questions below are synoptic in nature. In your response to these questions you are required to show your knowledge and understanding of different aspects of geography, the connections between these different aspects and, where relevant, of human perspectives upon geographical themes and issues.

Option 1 Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards

- 1 9 'The extent to which tectonic processes represent hazards depends on when and where they are experienced.'

Discuss this statement. (40 marks)

Option 2 Weather and Climate and Associated Hazards

- 2 0 Critically evaluate the possible effects of the phenomenon known as 'global warming' and suggest possible responses to them. (40 marks)

Option 3 Ecosystems: Change and Challenge

- 2 1 'There has been debate over the present-day characteristics of the biome of tropical regions. For some they are viewed as a natural response to the climate of the areas, whereas for other they are regarded as a product of human interference.'

Discuss this statement in the context of the tropical biome you have studied. (40 marks)

Option 4 World Cities

- 2 2 'Urban problems are the same the world over and require the same solutions.'

To what extent do you agree with this view? (40 marks)

Option 5 Development and Globalisation

- 2 3 Discuss the roles and relative importance of transnational corporations (TNCs) and newly industrialising countries (NICs) in the changing global economy. (40 marks)

Option 6 Contemporary Conflicts and Challenges

- 2 4 For a conflict over the use of a local resource, analyse the causes of the conflict and assess the extent to which it has been/can be resolved to the satisfaction of all those concerned.

(40 marks)

END OF QUESTIONS

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