



General Certificate of Education

Geography 6036
Specification B

GGB5 The Synoptic Unit

Post-standardisation
Mark Scheme

2008 examination - June series

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.

Further copies of this Mark Scheme are available to download from the AQA Website: www.aqa.org.uk

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GGB5

GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR GCE GEOGRAPHY ASSISTANT EXAMINERS

General Instructions to Examiners on Marking

It is important that every Examiner marks the scripts to the same standard as the rest of the panel. All Examiners must operate the Marking Scheme in a similar and consistent manner, and hence, they must all participate in the application of that scheme at the Standardisation Meeting. In particular, they should take careful note of all decisions taken or changes made at the meeting. Examiners are allocated to a Team Leader for the period of examining, and any difficulties that arise should be discussed with that person.

The Marking Scheme

The Marking Scheme consists of two sections for each question or sub-question – the Notes for Answers and the Mark Scheme itself.

Notes for Answers (NFA)

These indicate the possible content for the various sections of the question paper. In some cases (for example short answer questions) the NFA may indicate the only response that is acceptable, but in many cases, they indicate either a range of suitable responses, or an exemplar of the type of response required. Therefore, in most cases the NFA do **not** provide model answers, and should not be regarded as such. More NFA may be added at the standardisation meeting if it is felt by the Principal Examiner that details of appropriate ways of answering the question have been omitted.

The Mark Scheme

This is provided in italics and provides the instructions to Examiners as to how they are to assess the work of candidates. The number of marks allocated within the mark scheme to a question should correspond to the number of marks for that question on the question paper.

There are two ways in which the Mark Scheme operates:

- (a) it indicates how the marks to short answer questions are to be allocated – usually to a maximum of 4 marks.
- (b) it indicates how Examiners should move through the Levels in a level response mark scheme – usually to all questions of 5 marks or more. Each Level has a levels descriptor, with clear statements of the “triggers” to move candidates from one level to another. Each Level contains a range of marks as shown on the Mark Scheme.

A number of features have been used to distinguish between Levels, for example:

- a number of characteristics, reasons, attitudes etc.
- the degree of specification, for example the use of specific case studies, or accurate detail
- responses to more than one command word, for example, describe and suggest reasons
- the degree of linkage between two aspects of the question
- the depth of understanding of a concept.

The Marking Process

A sample of an Examiner's marked scripts will be marked again by a Senior Examiner according to the procedures set out by the Board. Also, the scripts may be re-examined at the Awards Meeting and the subsequent Grade Review. Therefore, it is most important that Examiners mark clearly according to the procedures set out below.

- All marking should be done in red.
- The right-hand margin should be used for marks only.
- The overall mark for a question must be ringed at the end of the answer.
- The total mark for the question must be transferred to the front of the script.
- The left-hand margin is where an indication of the level achieved is written.
- Comments and codes (see below) may also be written on the left.
- Indications of the levels achieved may also occur in the body of the answer if this is easier for the Examiner to apply (e.g. in the marking of diagrams).
- Ticks should be used for short answer responses and Level I responses only, with one tick representing one mark (to the maximum allowed in a Levels scheme).
- Levels 2, 3 and 4 should be indicated on the script, and this symbol should be used each time this Level is achieved. Examiners may wish to bracket an area of text where this level of response has been achieved.
- Once a candidate has reached Level 2, additional Level I credit should be indicated using a + symbol. If these points are of sufficient quality **one additional mark** can be awarded (assuming no further Level II points are made).
- Examiners may indicate strong Level 2 or 3 material by writing "Level 2 (or 3) – good" in the left hand margin of the script. The Examiner should ensure that this is reflected in the **awarding of an appropriate number of marks** at the end of the answer.
- Level 3 is to be used only for questions of 9 marks or more, and Level 4 is to be used only for questions of 25 marks in total.

Other Mechanics of Marking

- Underline all errors and contradictions.
- Cross out irrelevant sections using a line from top-left to bottom right. (However, be careful to check that there is no valid material, however brief, in the mass of irrelevance).
- Indicate repeated material with "rep".
- Other useful marking codes can be used, for example, "va" for vague, "NQ" or "Not Qu." for failure to answer the question, "Irrel" for irrelevant material, and "SIF" for self-penalising material.
- Put a wavy line in the left-hand margin to indicate weak dubious material.
- If the rubric is contravened, mark all answers but count only the best mark towards the candidate's total mark for the script. Put the mark for the question on the front of the script in the usual way, but also write "RAM Rubric" on the front of the script.
- Large areas of text must not be left blank – use the wavy line or write "seen" alongside the text. All pages must have an indication that they have been read, especially supplementary sheets.
- Unless indicated otherwise always mark text before marking maps and diagrams – do not give double credit for the same point made in the text and a diagram.

Quality of Language Descriptors

The following descriptors concerning the quality of language must be applied to **all** questions in which candidates are required to produce extended writing. To attain full marks available at a level of response, the appropriate Quality of Language descriptor must be achieved. Use the same quality of language levels as are used in the geographical element of the mark scheme under consideration.

Three-level descriptors

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| LEVEL 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Style of writing is suitable for only simple subject matter.• Expression of only simple ideas, using a limited range of specialist terms.• Reasonable accuracy in the use of English. |
| LEVEL 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manner of dealing with subject matter is acceptable, but could be improved.• Reasonable clarity and fluency of expression of ideas, using a good range of specialist terms, when appropriate.• Considerable accuracy in the use of English. |
| LEVEL 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Style of writing is appropriate to subject matter.• Organises relevant information and ideas clearly and coherently, using a wide range of specialist vocabulary, when appropriate.• Accurate in the use of English. |

Two-level descriptors

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| LEVEL 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Manner of dealing with subject matter is acceptable, but could be improved.• Reasonable clarity and fluency of expression of ideas, using a good range of specialist terms, when appropriate.• Considerable accuracy in the use of English. |
| LEVEL 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Style of writing is appropriate to subject matter.• Organises relevant information and ideas clearly and coherently, using a wide range of specialist vocabulary, when appropriate.• Accurate in the use of English. |

Question 1

Notes for answers

Mazowieckie Voivodship has the highest average monthly salary and the highest total number of people employed out of all the voivodships. It also has the lowest percentage unemployment.

Several of the voivodships in the northeast, southeast and west have low employment, low salaries and high unemployment rates.

These statistics suggest the presence of a strong core around the capital with a weak periphery around several of the borders of the country.

There appear to be secondary cores around several of the other major towns, particularly in the Katowice region of Silesia and in Szczecin and, to a lesser extent, around the Baltic ports.

These, particularly the coal fields around Silesia, could be seen as resource frontiers.

This is illustrated in Item 1 – “Poland experiences large disparities in regional distribution of ICT production. The ICT sector is concentrated in and around large cities in Poland (Warsaw with the majority of ICT companies, Poznan) and along the so-called 'highway cluster' (cities in southern Poland linked with A4 motorway), between Krakow, Katowice and Wroclaw, and adjacent areas.” The statistics support this statement and suggest that it is not just in ICT that this is the case.

The map of migration suggests that the core/periphery affect might exist on a number of different scales. It suggests that the biggest growth in population through migration is around Warsaw. However, it also shows that the other major cities are growing – except sometimes in their inner city areas. Moreover, it shows that the greatest losses of people through migration are occurring from the peripheral areas of the country – particularly in the northeast and southeast – but that losses are also occurring around the edges of many of the voivodships. The text suggests a further core/periphery relationship - that between Poland as a whole and the core of the old EU.

Mark Scheme

Level 1 (1-5 marks)

The answer shows a basic understanding of the concept of core/periphery, with some relevant data to support the ideas.

Where the core-periphery concept is not clearly understood, the answer makes valid points about regional differences that suggest 'working towards a correct answer'.

Level 2 (6-10 marks)

The answer shows a clear understanding of the idea of the core/periphery model and this is supported by clear use of data. For instance, a level 2 answer might:

- clearly compares economic development in a core region and a peripheral region
- deal with both the movement of population and/or the movement of capital towards the core at the expense of the periphery
- discuss the different levels at which the model appears to operate in Poland
- combine statistical data and descriptive data to put together a well-argued point
- discuss one or more of the developments of the model, such as scarce labour in some regions affecting wage rates in those regions, or the backwash effect
- make use of well-researched data, from sources other than the AIB, to support an argument about the Polish situation
- refer to case studies other than Poland to make relevant comparisons

Level 3 (11-15 marks)

The answer is detailed and thorough. It might cover one of the points listed above in very thorough detail or it might deal with several of those points well. The answer shows good synoptic ability. It is logical and well argued.

Question 2

Notes for answers

The following references can be used and linked to geographical explanations for the investments.

Item 1 - By the end of 2002, Poland's largest trading partners were the EU with the country exporting nearly 70% of goods to the EU-15. Imports from these regions were a little over 60%, with Germany being the single largest partner. The largest foreign investor in Poland is France, followed by the USA and then Germany with the Netherlands fourth. Most investment has been in the sectors of manufacturing and financial services.

....During the last ten years the Polish food industry has been restructured and privatised to a large extent. Large multinational corporations were active from the very beginning of the privatisation process in Poland, e.g. Coca-Cola, Nestle, Harbin, Heineken, PepsiCo, etc.

....the ICT sector has been privatised. Only 2% of all ICT companies are state-owned or co-operatives. There are 250 companies with foreign participation, e.g. Philips, Thomson, etc.

....If Germany and Poland are taken as points of comparison, and it is assumed that gross (pre-tax) pay levels rise at an average annual rate of 10% in Poland and 1% in Germany, then gross pay levels in Poland would not catch up with those in Germany until the year 2027. This means that a significant cost advantage would exist for at least 15 to 20 years – long enough to justify a financial return on most investments in plant and equipment.

Item 2 - The survey results also show the positive impact of Poland's EU accession on the operations of companies with foreign capital. Almost 75 percent of investors say that Poland being included in European structures has improved the conditions for their companies' operations. Investors consider harmonization of Polish law with EU regulations as the greatest benefit of Poland joining the EU.

According to PAIIZ estimates, the value of foreign direct investment in Poland in 2005 will be comparable to that achieved in 2004, when it was \$7.86 billion. This was the highest value since 2000. In 2004 foreign investors created almost 15,000 new jobs. Last year, this figure may have grown to as much as 20,000.

The good investment climate will probably be maintained in Poland in the coming years. Investors' growing interest in Poland is proved by the high places Poland occupies on investment attractiveness ranking lists.

For example, 17 percent of entrepreneurs polled mentioned Poland as the most attractive location for new investments in a survey conducted by consulting firm Ernst & Young. This allowed Poland a ranking of fourth place in the world.

Item 3 – There is a high level of unemployment in all areas of Poland, ranging from 13.1% to 27.6%. This shows that there is a large workforce available for inward investors to use. The hourly wage rates are also low. Item 5 shows that they are much lower than in Western Europe – less than 20% of German rates and less than 30% of the UK's rates. This national figure hides great variations between different regions of Poland with Warminsko-Mazurskie having monthly salaries 33% lower than Mazowieckie. This suggests that there might be different areas that attract low skill industries and higher skill industries but that both might benefit from investing in Poland.

Comments on the attractiveness of Poland's geography, including physical factors, transport, etc., are valid.

Mark Scheme

Level 1 (1-4 marks)

The answer consists of points lifted from the AIB, with no comment or development beyond a basic level.

Level 2 (5-8 marks)

The answer has at least one idea from the AIB, or from the candidate's own knowledge, which has been developed enough to show clear understanding. In particular, examiners should look for clear development of one of the bullet points below:

- an understanding of the advantages for companies of investing in countries with low wage economies
- understanding of the attractions of east European economies with industrial skills
- an awareness of spatial differences within Poland and a suggestion of the reasons for this
- an awareness that, though EU membership might reduce the wage differentials, this will take time and so companies will see benefits for some years
- the advantages of a growing internal market and/or a growing market elsewhere in Eastern Europe
- a clear comparison between wage rates in Poland and other parts of the EU
- clear and realistic references to the attractions of Poland's physical geography/transport, etc
- cheap land/a lot of land if developed
- comparison with cheaper but less-skilled labour in the rest of Eastern Europe.

Level 3 (9-10 marks)

The answer is developed in detail, to show a rounded appreciation of several of the factors that influence decisions to invest in Poland.

Question 3

Notes for answers

In the classic core-periphery theory the core draws in capital and workers from the periphery. As the core grows it attracts new industries and services (banking, insurance, government offices) and so as levels of development increase it can afford services such as better schools, hospitals, entertainments, etc. This is likely to occur in the core regions of Warsaw and Silesia. Meanwhile the peripheral regions are likely to lose workers by outward migration. Wages, already low, will come under further pressure and services may also deteriorate. However, EU subsidies and regional policies might mitigate some of these effects.

Then, in later stages of the model, growth of the core starts to lead to backwash effects and development starts to spread, first to secondary cores. Some of the smaller urban regions might start to develop these secondary core characteristics, particularly as inward investment is likely to be attracted to lower wage regions in many instances. This process might also be enhanced by congestion in the core regions. It seems possible that much such development will take place along the western border regions – closer to the EU core which might start to exert a bigger influence on the Polish regions than the Polish core does.

Later still, the model suggests, the core may lose its dominance as other regions develop.

May discuss Poland with reference to the rest of Europe. E.g. Poland peripheral in the EU. Poland core within CEE.

Mark Scheme

Level 1 (1-4 marks)

The answer consists of points lifted from the AIB, with no comment or development beyond a basic level.

Or, the answer makes some basic points about the core-periphery model linked to change but does not apply these to the Polish situation with any specific detail.

Level 2 (5-8 marks)

At least one idea about the core periphery model is clearly developed with some application to the Polish case.

Some understanding of Polish regional differences.

As the number and/or clarity of references and links develops the answer moves up through the level.

Level 3 (9-10 marks)

The answer is detailed and shows a well-developed understanding of the model and links between core and periphery with an ability to apply it to Poland.

Well-developed understanding of Polish regional differences.

Question 4Notes for answers

Item 2 - According to the report, workers from the EU-10 had qualifications which were in demand.

From May 2004 to September 2005, 290,000 citizens from the EU-10 started work in the UK, constituting 0.4 percent of all employees. In the same period, Sweden took in 25,000 workers from the EU-10 (0.2 percent of the work force), and Ireland-160,000 (2 percent).

(Note that, since the references in the AIB were published almost all comment on the migration from Poland suggests that numbers have been greater, or much greater, than official estimates suggest. However, in 2008 it is suggested that some Poles are starting to return to Poland.)

Item 4 - Workers have been sucked into the UK by the rapid rate of job creation in the economy; harder times could lead them to look elsewhere. (So does this mean that the migrants will have to go home when recession hits, undoing much of the benefit that has been brought?)

...Free movement of labour is a fundamental pillar of the single market, and all EU members are expected to open their doors by 2011, when the 'transitional arrangements' blocking workers from entering Germany, Austria, Italy and others are due to expire. France has already said it will phase out its restrictions over the next three years. (Or, does this mean that the pressure to leave Poland will become greater in future, as the rest of the EU reduces its barriers?)

Attitudes might vary between skilled and unskilled workers and between older and younger workers - who either migrate or do not migrate. The attitudes will vary because of the effect that the migrations might have on wage rates in Poland and on the differing incomes of the migrants. In fact, the loss of the migrant workers might have the effect of pushing up wage rates in the long run and so might be welcomed.

They might vary between small and large entrepreneurs. Some might resent the loss of cheap labour whilst others might appreciate the stimulus that the loss of workers gives to capitalise the economy.

Some might resent the loss of trained labour – labour that has been trained by the 'Polish taxpayer' and the Polish state and which is now being lost because of the self-seeking of the migrants.

Parents and spouses, etc. of the migrants might regret the loss of their loved ones, however temporarily but, at the same time they might appreciate the remittances that are sent back.

Views might vary according to whether people take a short-term or long-term view of the situation.

In the UK some people appreciate the influx – in that it meets some skill shortages as well as providing cheap labour to stimulate the economy. Others resent the immigration as it reduces choice of jobs for native workers and might depress wage rates.

Mark Scheme

Level 1 (1-5 marks)

At least one issue is raised. This might be an issue for the UK or for Poland and East Europe or for individuals involved. However, discussion is mainly based on assertion and is not supported by basic arguments and/or facts.

Or, figures and points are quoted from the AIB with minimum comment and with little or no discussion of the issues.

Level 2 (6-10 marks)

The answer develops beyond what is provided in Item 4.

At least one issue is discussed clearly, with some logical development of the ideas and some factual support. As more issues are discussed at a similar level or the depth of the discussion of one issue increases the mark will move up through the level.

Level 3 (11-15 marks)

The answer is detailed, and discusses a variety of issues clearly, logically, and with factual support **and** ideas developed which were not included in Item 4.