



Teacher Resource Bank

GCSE Economics

Unit 12 – Investigating Economic Issues

- Specimen Question

Global Warming

Total for this question: 22 marks

1 Read **Item A** and then answer the questions that follow.

Item A

Global warming

In November 2012, nearly 200 governments from developed and developing countries met in Qatar to agree ways to reduce their emissions of greenhouse gases so as to avoid the dangers of global warming.

Most scientists across the world agree that greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide (CO₂), are causing many problems to do with climate change. Scientists warn that increasing levels of CO₂ in the atmosphere are causing the world to warm up and sea levels to rise. It is believed that global warming has been responsible for making weather more extreme and has led to destructive storms like Hurricane Sandy, which hit the northeast of the US in October 2012 and caused over \$2.5bn of damage. These problems are likely to get worse in the future unless emissions of greenhouse gases are reduced.

The November 2012 meeting in Qatar recognised that the developed, richer countries are the ones who have caused most of today's high levels of greenhouse gas emissions. This is because they have had more than 150 years of high industrial activity. Increasing pressure is being placed on the developed countries to provide money for the developing countries so that they can develop new forms of energy to reduce their CO₂ emissions.

1 (a) Explain **one** way in which industrial activity can cause global warming.

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(2 marks)

1 (b) Explain why developed rich countries should provide money to poorer, developing countries so that they can reduce their CO₂ emissions.

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Question 1 continues on the next page

- 1 (c) Governments have identified several solutions to reduce CO₂ emissions. Two of the solutions available to governments are:
- Reduce the use of fossil fuels by increasing taxes on them (eg putting higher taxes on petrol, oil and diesel)
 - Encourage the use of alternative energy by subsidising the development and use of green energy (eg solar energy and wind power)

Which solution do you think is the better one for governments to use? Use **Item B** and what you have learnt from your investigation of this topic to give reasons for your answer.

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