

## GCSE Geography Specification A 40301F

Question 1	
1 (a) (i)	Only two correct – the first statement is false and the fourth statement is true.
1 (a) (ii)	All gaps in the cloze exercise are correct.
1 (a) (iii)	The candidate only receives two marks, as the differences between a volcano and a supervolcano are not expressed clearly. The difference in the shape of the supervolcano is expressed as a direct opposite. In order to gain the mark a specific feature of the shape of a supervolcano such as it being flat or being surrounded by higher mountains has to be given. The statement that a supervolcano is bigger is too vague. The products of such an eruption gains a mark but the second mark should have referred to the global rather than more localised impact of a volcanic eruption.
1 (b) (i)	Good use is made of Figure 2, in that appropriate earthquakes are quoted, along with supporting statistical evidence to support the hypothesis.
1 (b) (ii)	The question asks for reasons, so more than one is required. It is important that candidates recognise when more than one is required. In this question it is therefore not possible to give one developed reason. There has to be two separate distinct reasons. This candidate has attempted to do this, but the vague statement that the country is poor is too vague. The reference to the dense population gains one mark.
1 (c)	This candidate has a clear understanding of the main features of the Mercalli Scale. The first sentence is enough to move the answer into level 2, as there is a linked statement describing what the Mercalli scale is and the possible range of values. The description of a number of different points on the scale is more than enough to ensure that this candidate gains full marks. Full marks would have been achieved if the candidate had not written the final sentence.
1 (d)	The candidate named a specific earthquake in the poor world so could be considered for level 2. This candidate however has confused effects with responses, which means that even though there is evidence of specific case study exemplification, the quality of the answer does not justify a level 2 mark. Furthermore there is no real evidence that the candidate appreciates the difference between immediate and long-term responses. The section, which gives evidence of some responses in the final five lines, does not indicate whether the responses from the Spanish Government and the United Nations are immediate or long-term. This candidate therefore remains in level 1. The tapering of the marks, in order to achieve a greater spread and to give the opportunity of 80% of the marks being utilised by a Grade C candidate, means that there are four marks available at level 1. The quality of this answer however is not sufficient for this candidate to even reach the top of level 1.
Question 5	
5 (a) (i)	The technical term, ie confluence, is not required but would gain credit.
5 (a) (ii)	The candidate has failed to recognise that this is a skills question testing map interpretation. The answer is a description of a waterfall rather than a description of the Ordnance Survey map evidence. The skills component of the specification is as significant as the subject content. Candidates should be able to recognise landforms from their contour patterns. The new specification will see the use of O.S. map extracts more closely integrated with the specific topics rather than as a geographical skill in its own right. The closeness together of the contour lines and hence the steepness of the slope was what the examiner was looking for in this question.
5 (a) (iii)	The candidate has recognised that the question refers to both the channel and the valley of the River Valency and reference has to be made to both. The winding nature of the river channel is noted, as well as the narrowness of the valley and its steep sides. Full marks are achieved.

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5 (b)	This candidate has managed to get the sequence in the formation of the ox-bow lake correct but it is not until the last diagrams is there evidence of any clarity shown by the use of linked and elaborated statements. The first two sentences are basically simple listed points. There is a failure to indicate the significance of the fastest flow being towards the developing bend. In the second sentence there is no indication of the relationship between the different speeds of flow on the inside and outside of the bend with erosion and deposition. This is noted in the third diagram but the candidate has failed to recognise the fact that the two outside bends are getting closer together. The final sentence could have benefited from more clarity by some indication of the river taking the shortest and easiest course leading to the cut off across the neck of the meander. The last two sentences are sufficient for the candidate to just reach level 2 but not to reach full marks, as greater accuracy is required.
5 (c) (i)	The definition has only explained the meaning of flooding. There is no indication of the appreciation of the shortness of the time scale involved in a flash flood. The answer therefore is restricted to only one of the two marks available.
5 (c) (ii)	Here the candidate recognises the nature of the valley but has failed to show how it contributed to the flooding of Boscastle. The second point however, does this as the link between the built up area of the village and its impact on infiltration rates are clearly shown. It is important that candidates deconstruct a question to ensure that they answer all parts.
5 (c) (iii)	In questions testing photo interpretation it is important that candidates examine the evidence as closely as possible. This candidate has indicated that rubbish was deposited. This is too vague to gain credit. There is sufficient clarity on the photograph to recognise that it is trees, wood or branches that have been brought down by the river and deposited. In the same way, much of the building at Y is still standing so to state that it has been destroyed is too imprecise. There is still the majority of the building left standing so a correct answer would suggest that it has only partly collapsed, or been damaged.
5 (d)	The candidate has recognised the plural in the question and hence the need to discuss at least two hard engineering flood control methods. The mark scheme allows some imbalance in the discussion of the two methods and obviously the dam is considered in much greater depth than the raising of the river's banks. There is sufficient clarity about both methods for the candidate to reach level 2, but a little more could have been written about the second method. Reference to the increase in the river's capacity and so its ability to cope with excess floodwater would have helped raise this answer to the top of the level.

### Question 7

7 (a)	The candidate shows a clear understanding of the mechanics involved in freeze thaw weathering.
7 (b) (i)	This candidate shows good photo interpretation. All the features are correctly recognised, except the bay. The candidate has labelled this as sea – which would not be considered as a coastal landform.
7 (b) (ii)	Questions requiring a definition, especially those worth two marks, require preciseness in the answer. This candidate understands that movement takes place down a slope but failed to indicate that it is loose material that is involved.
7 (c) (i)	Too inaccurate for any credit.
7 (c) (ii)	This candidate has not totally understood the command word 'describe'. This answer is largely a list of human and physical factors. The candidate has not developed any of the points made. The benefit of the doubt has been given in that the first sentence refers to both the beach and the cliffs. A better answer would have indicated that it is a sandy beach and the fact that the cliffs are found behind the beach. The existence of toilets might suggest that Mappleton is a tourist centre.
7 (c) (iii)	This candidate has fully answered this question. There is recognition that the question has to cover the effect of coastal erosion on both settlement and the residents of Mappleton. There are two linked statements, one concerned with the effect of the possible destruction of the B1242 and the other the impact on tourist businesses.

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7 (c) (iv)	Although this question did not ask for a diagram, candidates should be encouraged to use an annotated one if possible. It is possible to gain full marks, as in this case. Many candidates make the mistake of writing all the information out as a text and then repeat it in the form of a diagram; in this case the examiner would mark the text first and then look if there is anything creditworthy in the diagram. If a diagram is used it is important that annotations, as opposed to labels, are used in order to show the candidate's knowledge and/or understanding.
7 (d)	This levelled marked question is an example of one where there is a real need for it to be deconstructed into its different parts. There are two different command words requiring description and explanation. As well as a need to cover details of the environment and the reasons why it provides a suitable habitat for different species. This question only goes up to level 2 so there is not the requirement for the detail expected on a higher tier level 3 answer. The first sentence is a description of the environment of a sand dune. The marram grass' long roots allow it to survive in a hostile environment. The final sentence refers to the habitat. There is more than enough here for full marks.

