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Examiners' Report January 2011

GCSE Geography 5GA3F 01

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Introduction

Once again, it was good to see a high standard of responses from candidates in this second session of the new modular examination.

The vast majority of candidates successfully attempted to complete a variety of questions on their two chosen topics within the permitted time of one hour.

The approach to individual questions is considered in this report, including examples of good practice that may be shared with students.

Question 1(a)(i)

This question was well received by most candidates.


Question 1(a)(iv)

(iv) Suggest other reasons for the location of the steel works.

Use only evidence from Figure 1 in your answer.

(3)

The steel works in 1980 were built near the coal mine and they had coal supplies. There was a railway, so they could travel to the coal mine quickly and easily get the supplies for steel works by railway, they had a good accessibility. They were built near the sea in urban area.



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Examiner Comments

This question was well received, with most candidates scoring two or three marks.

Question 1(a)(v)

(v) Describe how the area shown in Figure 1 has changed between 1980 and 2010.

(4)

In 1980 there was a coal mine, now in 2010 it has been changed to a nature reserve. Also in 2010 there is no railway, there was one in 1980. There is another supermarket and less farms in 2010. 1980 had a timber yard this has been replaced by a car center in 2010. There is also less workers at the car plant in 2010 there were 1,800 in 1980, and in 2010 there are 600 workers. 2010 have also developed a health club.



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Examiner Comments

This question was well received by most candidates. Many candidates scored full marks on this question.



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Examiner Tip

Be specific - use data from the resource to make a better answer.

Question 1(a)(vi)(1)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 1(a)(vi)(2)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 1(a)(vi)(3)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 1(a)(vi)(4)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 1(a)(vi)(5)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 1(b)(i)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 1(b)(ii)

Not very well received by candidates - many able to give two different reasons (e.g. more expensive to mine coal) but unable to develop a reason.

The term **primary industry** was not fully understood by a number of candidates.

Question 1(c)

The Eden Project (Cornwall) was the most common case study used in this question. However, many candidates failed to include a specific case study in their answer and were therefore restricted to maximum of three marks.

Question 2(a)(i)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 2(a)(iv)

(iv) Diversification is one way this rural area has changed.

Describe **other** ways in which the area in Figure 2 has changed.

Use evidence from Figure 2 in your answer.

(4)

- Three of the farms have returned to diversification to get more money.
- The Post Office has closed down.
- Three farms have gone out of business and closed or have become houses.
- The village shop has closed and turned into a house.
- They have built a National Nature Reserve.



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Examiner Comments

This question was generally well answered, with many candidates making four or more points worthy of credit. Some candidates incorrectly described methods of diversification (e.g. pony trekking) in their answer.



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Examiner Tip

You must use evidence from a resource if asked in the question. If you don't do this, the number of marks available will be restricted.

Question 2(b)(i)(1)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 2(b)(i)(2)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 2(b)(i)(3)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 2(b)(i)(4)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 2(b)(i)(5)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 2(b)(ii)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 2(c)

Well received by some candidates. Good answers included details about workforce and farm and business closures.

Question 2(d)

The word 'chemicals' was required for candidates to be awarded a mark when talking about no fertilisers / pesticides being used on organic farms.

Credit was given for the idea about organic farming being 'safer / more humane for animals'.

Question 2(e)

Many responses were vague, lacking specificity and discussing countryside management in general.

A large proportion of candidates incorrectly wrote about the causes of conflict rather than management. This was a similar problem on the higher tier.

The Lake District was a common case study used by candidates.

Question 3(a)(i)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 3(a)(iv)

The 'river' was not credited as a reason why the settlement has grown as this is a site factor.

The most common reasons given by candidates were associated with the road and provision of services including the secondary school.

(iv) Suggest reasons why Settlement Y has grown.

(3)

Y has grown because It is near the main road and the river. so this means there will more things like shops, post offices etc.. as it is on the main road. there wasn't a high school there before and now there is and have also made more public houses and shops



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Examiner Comments

This response has three separate reasons for three marks. Some students gained three marks by having two points, one of which is 'developed'.

Question 3(a)(v)

- (v) Describe the changes to Settlements **X** and **Z** shown in Figure 3 between 1980 and 2010.

Use evidence from Figure 3 in your answer.

(4)

In 1980 Settlements X has got smaller buildings such as a post office, a shop and a primary school have been knocked down, the population ~~has~~ ^{has} decreased to 740. In Settlements Z, it has grown because a shop has been built and the population has gone up from 16 000 to 17 200 people.



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Examiner Comments

It was not enough just to say 'settlement X is smaller' - more detail is required. Some candidates mixed up the different settlements or mis-read the question, describing the changes in Y.

Question 3(b)(i)(1)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 3(b)(i)(2)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 3(b)(i)3

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 3(b)(i)(4)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 3(b)(i)(5)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 3(b)(ii)

This question was well received by most candidates. Many candidates understood what a brownfield site is identify the advantages of existing utilities, less pressure on greenfield sites and land values.

Question 3(b)(iii)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 3(c)

Not very well received by candidates - very few candidates appeared to understand what is meant by the term **de-industrialisation** and most of those that did, were unable to use an example in their answer.

Common responses described falling employment and growing crime, dereliction and out-migration.

Question 4(a)(ii)(1)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 4(a)(ii)(2)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 4(a)(ii)(3)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 4(a)(ii)(4)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 4(a)(ii)(5)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 4(a)(iii)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 4(a)(iv)

Many candidates were able to identify the link between mountains / high relief and a sparse population and use examples from the figure.

A number of candidates misunderstood the term **relief** used in this context.

Few candidates scored more than two marks on this question.

Question 4(b)(iii)

Many candidates were able to give two different reasons to explain why death rates have fallen, but few were able to develop these reasons for full marks.

Good answers talked about cures for specific diseases and access to improved health care and supplies of clean drinking water.

Question 4(c)

Not very well received by candidates - it was clear that many candidates did not understand the term **youthful population**.

Few candidates scored more than two marks. It was common for candidates to write about an increased workforce, competition for jobs and increased demand for school / other services.

Question 4(d)

This question was fairly well received by candidates - with many scoring at least three marks through some good explanations.

Most marks given for ideas about increased levels of care, reduced workforce and costs of pension provision.

Some candidates were sidetracked by China's and Singapore's population policies.

Use of case studies / specifics was patchy, but there were some good ones using Japan as the case study.

Question 5(b)(i)

This question was well received by most candidates.

(b) Look at Figure 5b below.

It shows the change in the number of foreign footballers who have played for an English team.

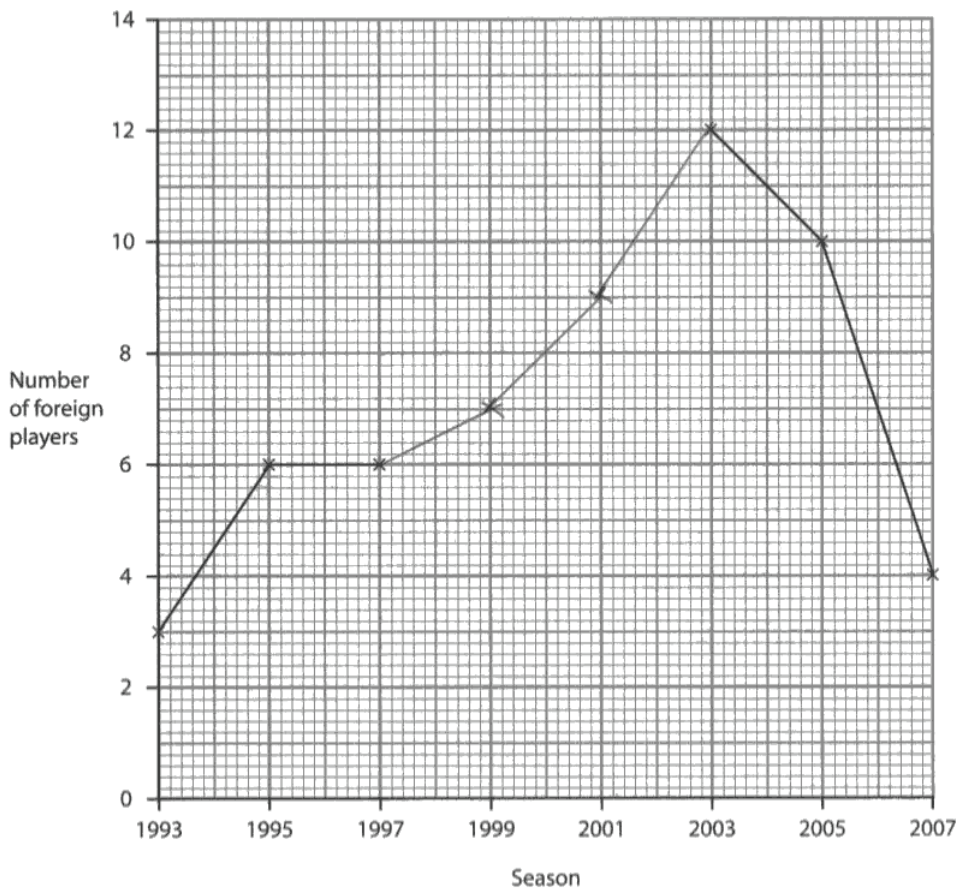


Figure 5b

(i) Complete the graph (Figure 5b).

Use the data in the table below.

(2)

Season	Number of players
1999	7
2001	9



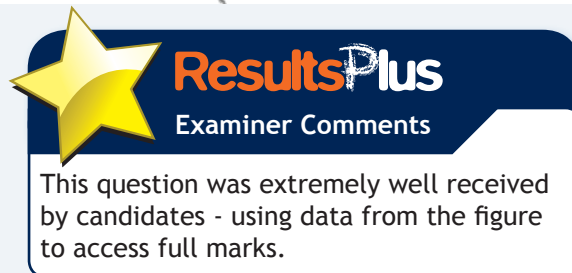
An example of a correctly completed graph for 2 marks.

Question 5(b)(ii)

(ii) Describe the changes shown in Figure 5b.

Use foreign player data in your answer.

The changes over time on the graph are that from 1993⁽³⁾ to 1995 there was a 3 player rise, but from 1995 to 1997 there was a steady line with no change. From 1997 to 2003 there was a dramatic increase with a 6 player increase! but from 2003 to 2007 there was a dramatic decrease of 8 players.

**Question 5(b)(iii)**

This question was well received by candidates. Many candidates were able to identify a reason and develop it for full marks.

However, there was a number of candidates who had given two *undeveloped reasons* and therefore only scored one mark.

Few examples were used.

Question 5(c)(i)

Few candidates were awarded full marks on this question. Answers were lacking in detail about specific flows from country to country.

Question 5(c)(ii)(1)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 5(c)(ii)(2)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 5(c)(ii)(3)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 5(c)(ii)(4)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 5(c)(ii)(5)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 5(d)

Many candidates were awarded a Level 3 without specifics, but with some explanation of the consequences.

Some candidates misunderstood the question and did not score any marks as they wrote about the push and pull factors of the **host country** rather than the **country of origin**.

The best answers used Poland as a case study.

Question 6(b)(i)

(b) Look at Figure 6b below.

It shows the growth in global tourism since 1994.

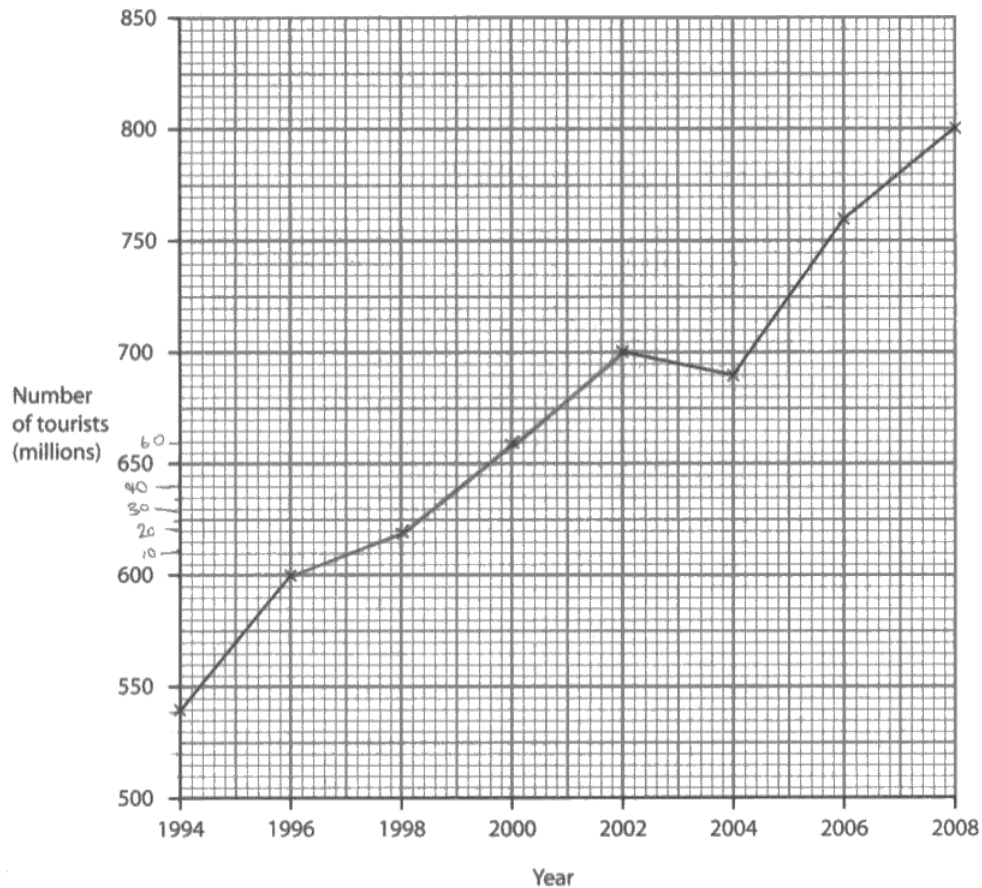


Figure 6b

(i) Complete the graph (Figure 6b).

Use the data in the table below.

(2)

Year	Number of tourists (millions)
1998	620
2000	660



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Examiner Comments

Despite this graph using a different scale to the one in Q5, this question was well received by most candidates.

Question 6(b)(ii)

(ii) Describe the changes shown in Figure 6b.

Use tourist data in your answer.

(3)

From 1994 the number of tourists has increased from 540 to 700 million. Then it decreased in 2002 to 2004 680 million. Then it increased again from 2004 to 2008 from 680 to 800 million.



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Examiner Comments

A good answer, using data from the figure to help reach full marks.



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Examiner Tip

Don't forget to include UNITS for your data.

Question 6(c)(i)

(c) Look at Figure 6c in the Resource Booklet.

(i) Describe the attractions of the ski resort shown in Figure 6c.

(3)

There are High Mountains with snow which tourists will find attractive.

There are Hotels so it will attract people to stay and ski over nights of stay.

Also the setting of the ski resort will encourage people to come and have fun.



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Examiner Comments

Candidates were more successful identifying physical rather than human attractions. They need to be able to both on the higher tier. Many candidates went off on a tangent, suggesting different types of holiday that may take place at the location shown in the figure.

Question 6(c)(ii)(1)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 6(c)(ii)(2)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 6(c)(ii)(3)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 6(c)(ii)(4)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 6(c)(ii)(5)

This question was well received by most candidates.

Question 6(d)

(d) Outline **one** negative impact (effect) that tourism can have on an area.

(2)

tourism can sometimes damage the environment of an area because they sometimes disrupt the wildlife like turtles and also drop litter which leaves the place looking a mess.



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Examiner Comments

A good answer - a developed point for two marks. Many candidates successfully used a valid example to develop their negative impact.

Question 6(e)

This question was well received by most candidates. Level 2 or 3 answers were common.

As with the higher tier, the case study that was written about well was The Gambia (Footsteps). Good specifics were included, for example about the number of people employed, in what capacity and how the accommodation is eco-friendly.

Paper Summary

On the whole, the candidates response to the paper was extremely positive. There were very few candidates attempting the wrong number of questions and few pages were left blank. The majority of candidates were able to complete both of their chosen topics within the time permitted.

As with the higher tier, questions 4 and 6 proved to be the most popular with candidates.

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