



# Examiners' Report June 2012

GCSE Geography 5GA2H 01



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### Introduction

The Natural Environment paper (Higher Tier) requires the candidate to answer one question on a physical geography topic (Coastal, River, Glacial or Tectonic Landscapes) and one question on an applied topic of either Wasteful or Watery worlds.

In this series the paper was well received by centres and there were minimal enquiries on the day of the exam, which was pleasing considering the new format of the exam, without a resource booklet. The question popularity followed the pattern of previous series, with Coastal and Tectonic Landscapes proving to be the most popular options in Section A. Both River Landscapes and Glacial Landscapes saw an increase in candidates attempting them, but this may coincide with an overall increase in the numbers sitting the exam in this series. Glacial landscapes was unfortunately still the least popular Section A topic, which does not reflect the attainment of those who did attempt those questions. The popularity of Section B continues to be similar to previous series.

The overall performance on the paper showed Question 3 scoring the highest mean mark (18.74) in Section A and Watery World scoring the highest mean mark in Section B (17.02). The more popular Coasts and Tectonics scored 16.2 and 15.4 averages respectively. Overall the average scores on Section A were lower than those of Section B.

### Question 1 (a) (i)

1

Unlike the other resource based questions in Section A this question proved a challenge for some candidates. Many chose to describe the process of *slumping*, even though it was in the following question, or *explained a form* of coastal erosion. For those who addressed the question carefully it offered an accessible 3 marks.

	(i) Describe the effects of coastal erosion near Brook Green.
	You should only use evidence from Figure 1a. (3)
	Near Brook Green the cliff has stumped causing a coastal
	path to be lost and barries had to be put in at
	the cost of the courcil. Also the slumping has caused
	the nood to be reduced to one lone and the
	council has had to pay for this overall it has cost the
	consul a lot-
- 1	

**Examiner Comments** This candidate scores 3 marks by following the demands of the question and by lifting material from the resource. Too many candidates tried to overthink their answers or include effects which were not in the resource.



For resource based questions, follow the command of the question carefully. Perhaps highlight relevant parts of the resource that you may wish to use in your answer.

### Question 1 (a) (ii)

The identification of slumping as a process was recognised by the vast majority of candidates and the outline of the process was infinitely better than in previous series, with good reference to clay based surfaces, saturation of the ground and movement along a slip plane. There is a fine line between soil creep and slumping if all the candidate describes is saturation (principally the speed of movement) so candidates should be careful to fully outline the process.

(ii) A type of mass movement is shown in Figure 1a.	(1)
1. The type of mass movement is Sumping	
2. Outline the process of this type of mass movement.	(2)
*Slumping is when a sout rock gets satu water and the gravitational pull, pulls the chunks to the base of the cliff as it its weight under the pressure	cant held
<b>ResultsPlus</b> Examiner Comments This is a typical good answer which makes excellent reference to saturation, the effect of gravitational pull, bu most importantly (which sets it aside from soil creep) is t mechanism of chunks moving.	

Resultsrius

Ensure you are able to clearly differentiate between soil

**Examiner Tip** 

creep and slumping.

 $\cap$ 

#### Question 1 (a) (iii)

Although a minority of candidates referred to weathering and erosion as factors and their answers were as such self limiting, this was generally very well answered. The main difference between candidates was that the lower scoring answers tended to describe the features e.g. longer fetch leads to more recession, without giving any development suggesting why. Good answers made reference to all three factors as outlined in the specification, geology, fetch and management. For some who referred to these there was some confusion, especially with fetch i.e. the longer the fetch the less erosion. The examiners were pleased to see that relative strengths of geology are now being taught, and that limestone is no longer a softer rock.

(iii) Explain the factors which affect the rate of coastal recession. (4)(geology) The type of 1900 an effect the rate of reaction, if the rook (doy) is safter, than it will be eroded quicker than harder 1000 e q grance causing the rate or reaction to rappen posier, Atso due to the geology of linesione of K is an eome under the effects of chemical weathering meaning that The accessive help the limesone to desolve quicker. The Retch, what speed, and the time the und has been blowing for an effect the scenth and size or a wave which gives w greater energy to goole the constine quicks also stated on have or in front of a child or management techniques also stated out rate or in front of a they dissolute the universe energy. to erock the constine quicker. Having a beach



This is an excellent example scoring 4 marks. It makes detailed reference to geology and fetch, and also adds in a bit of management.



Understand the difference between explain and describe. Think of how each factor that you have named causes more or less erosion.

### Question 1 (b) (i)

Once again students struggled to *describe* a landform, as in other series they often explained its formation instead. Many students explained how longshore drift led to the spit, relatively few scored full marks, with many simply identifying the direction of the spit in a southerly orientation. It was pleasing to see that a minority of candidates used the scale to describe the length, most commonly, or the width. Candidates clearly need to practise describing landforms.

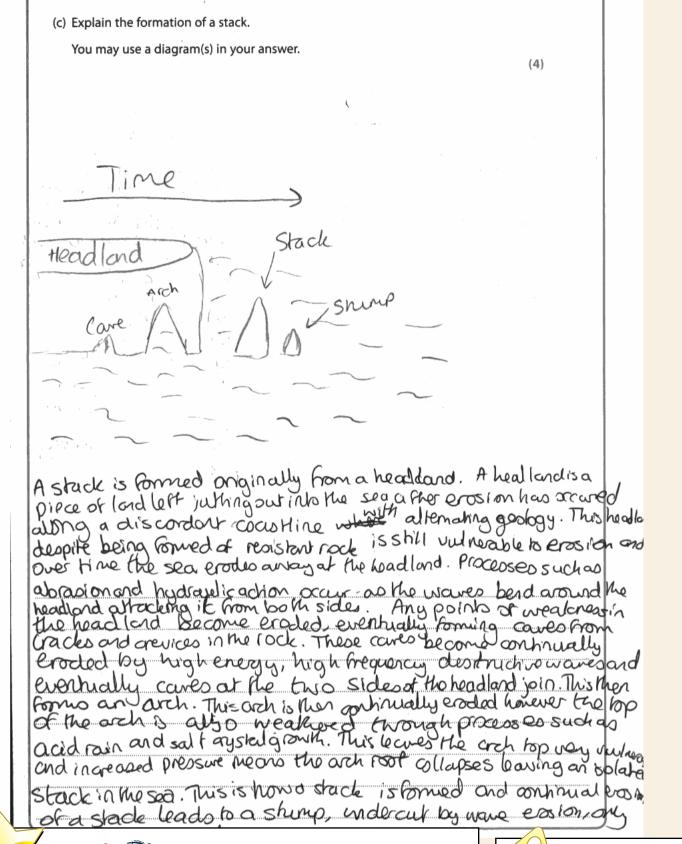
	(i) Describe the spit shown in B	ox 1.				
	You should only use evidence from Figure 1b. (2)					
	The spit is graving from the North to the south and					
	is 2.2km long stretching out to the sea It is					
	afthie too					
	Examiner Comments		Examiner Tip			
	mple but very effective answer, 3 clear descriptive statements.		Practise describing landforms. Remember that "describe" does not mean "explain the formation".			

#### Question 1 (b) (ii)

This was fairly well answered by the majority of candidates. One small issue was that although many excellent diagrams were produced, many candidates limited themselves to 2 marks for not including the direction of longshore drift. Candidates should also ensure they understand the difference between label and annotate, as some wrote unnecessarily weighty responses next to their diagrams.

#### Question 1 (c)

Candidate understanding of a stack formation was predictably good, however many responses were limited by describing the sequence of formation and not explaining. It was pleasing to see that some centres had taught candidates to explain the processes (as suggested in previous examiners' reports), and many explained the action of gravity in collapsing the arch. Many candidates used diagrams, and although they varied in quality, many helped formulate sequence. Centres must be aware, that to score full marks on a landform question, candidates must fully explain, give a full sequence, and name a process.



#### Results Plus Examiner Comments

This is an outstanding response, which perhaps belongs at A Level rather than GCSE. However it shows clear explanation, referring to refraction, the various processes and the development of the sequence. Using this as a template would be sound advice for many centres, especially for candidates who have the potential to achieve A\*.



Remember to offer explanation, the easiest way to do this is to explain process.

#### Question 1 (d)

With Walton-on-the-Naze, Holderness, Swanage and Happisburgh the main case studies used, it seemed candidates would be well armed to answer this question. However, many spent too much time outlining why the scheme was needed rather than focusing on how the area was actually being managed. Therefore many answers lacked the necessary explanation focusing on management and were held at Level 2. It is important to remember that when including specific points they should be focused on the question. Therefore in this example references to cost of defences, year of installation, dimensions of defences were all relevant, however names of roads and hotels affected by erosion were not. (d) Choose an area of coastline you have studied.Explain how this area of coastline is being managed.

(6)

	Chosen area of coastline Walten - on the Naze
	Walton on-the-Naze has a prograpopulation of 12000 and 13 being
	evoded at 15m a year. This has meant sleps have been taken
	to protect part of the coestine. In 1977 groynes preclamater and a recurred
	Sequell were installed to protect the southern part of the coostline where the
	Muprity of the population lived. The groynes weep the beach in place
	which is good for twitten and also they break up some of the oregy
	of the wave Breakmater break up the waves before they can
	eade the diff and the secure protects the easily eaded Landon Clay
	which the cliff are made from. Further steps were taken in 1998 when
	the cancil paid El67,000 for 300 tomes of Levester granite to be placed
ł	In frank of the divers at the Northurn part of the coastline to project a
	Grad II listed Tour which is only 35m from the cliff edge The following year
	sand was dregdinge dredged from Harwith Herbour and used to replenish
I	the beach to maintain the tourism in the orea-however by 2003 most
	of this had been removed as a result of construere drift.
	The cliff has also been regarded to give it a gentler slope and reduce
	the impact of Stimping Bapecial drainage channels were also
	Installed to allen water to how through the cliff. Finally,
	plants and vegetation such as netters were planted to provent
	to people from tranking the Unstrukte chief edge

#### Results Plus Examiner Comments

This answer scored full marks and covered a range of types of defence and included clear, specific data - cost of rip rap, dates of installation of defences - related to the question. The candidate also clearly explains the management.



Ensure that you do not learn a case study by rote, instead that you need to select the relevant pieces of information from the example to answer the question.

### Question 2 (a) (i)

The quality of response by candidates seemed to reflect the practice they had undertaken in describing patterns from a map. As in question 1(ai) many candidates struggled with this. Some simply described all flooded areas on the map without focusing on severely flooded regions; others found it difficult to articulate their ideas. Good answers were more focused by referring to the close proximity to the main channel (of the River Indus) or identified the confluence areas along the river. Some candidates understood that the sea, southwest of Karachi, was a severely flooded area.

(i) Describe the distribution of severely flooded areas shown in Figure 2a. (3)me domburn of swerely ported areas are in a linear puttion some nonce of Z Mouding is greators commond at the conductor a set nun nume mets me me non of the R. Thelung and Mere me liver Indus mart me chines or ndeed me confuence is me Rice Thelum and ever chenes. percan proded areas are mono common in the modelle & inver where it he couses the new as the no appear me moreases due h he hunde is (ii) State the main cause of this flood Results **Examiner Comments** This response was typical of a full answer which scored 3 marks. It identifies the linear pattern of the severe flooding, the proximity to the rivers and the confluences whilst also making clear place reference. Result **Selus Examiner Tip** Remember, when describing maps, to refer to place names and try to summarise the main patterns without giving a blow by blow account of every flooded area on the map

### Question 2 (a) (ii)

Many candidates identified 'over 200mm of rainfall in a 24hour period' as the correct answer.

#### Question 2 (a) (iii)

Although many candidates were able to achieve some credit on this question many only scored 1 mark. Many simply described a death or destruction by drowning scenario without developing their answer for the second mark. Good answers referred to how the floods could break the current crop, and then saturate the ground preventing future harvests.

#### Question 2 (a) (iv)

Although many candidates were able to identify types of soft engineering, many simply described what they did rather than explained how they reduce the effects of flooding. Common references included afforestation and flood warning systems (often citing the River Nene case study), while better answers attempted to explain floodplain zoning and washlands.

(iv) Suggest how soft engineering methods can reduce the effects of flooding. (4) soft engineering processes wore with the river to reduce the encits a prostering. For ustonce apprestation part trees as plust their root can in Flood plain zoning prombin buildings from being built as the leaves the earth pres to road up water and herease the happenand reducing the water volume that reaches the a alest people will rearly and allow there to prepare for floord usurend allows the river to poor while reducing the nermon

Results Plus

Although this response is not easy to read, the candidate makes concise reference to a number of types of soft engineering and for each makes the link to reducing the effects of flooding. The part on floodplain zoning is particularly good.



Ensure you are able to explain at least two types of hard and two types of soft engineering and be sure to describe how they reduce flooding rather than just state what they are.

#### Question 2 (b) (i)

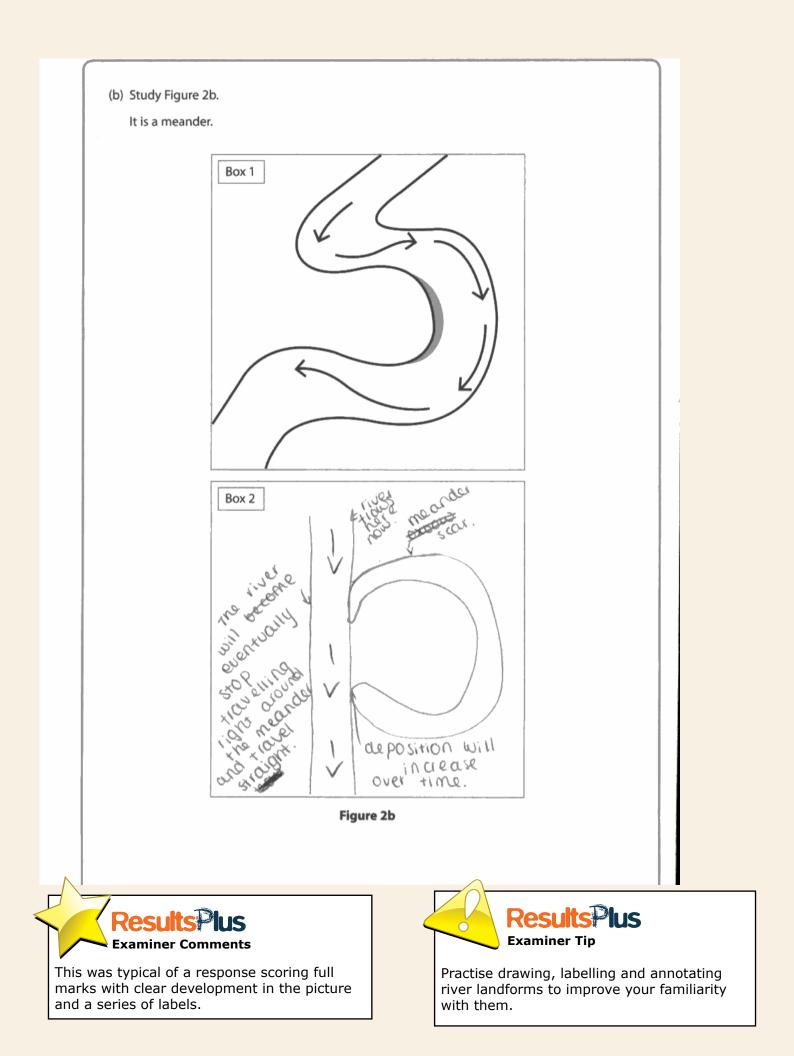
Many candidates struggled to identify the arrows as the thalweg (fastest flow), instead many simply opted for the direction of water, which was a surprise.

#### Question 2 (b) (ii)

Most candidates correctly identified deposition as the correct process on the inside of a meander bend.

#### Question 2 (b) (iii)

The majority of candidates coped well, developing the meander into a later stage in the diagram with many opting to draw an ox-bow lake formation. Some candidates limited themselves by not including labels, though this was a minority. Some candidates were confused by the question and simply redrew box 1 or took the meander to an earlier stage. Practice at drawing and labelling river landforms will clearly help candidates in the future.



### Question 2 (b) (iv)

This question produced mainly descriptive answers as many candidates struggled to develop any explanation in their answer. Higher scoring candidates were also often limited to 3 marks as they commonly only addressed the formation of levees and not floodplains (although these were often labelled onto the diagrams). Outstanding answers not only addressed all aspects but were able to explain sequential deposition, and meander migration as a form of floodplain formation.

Many candidiates used diagrams in support of their answers, though better answers often had a temporal sequencing in their diagrams.

(iv) Explain the formation of a floodplain and levees. You may use a diagram(s) in your answer. flat wea of land (4) (1)river channel 2 water level in a time of Hood DEPOSITION large fine sediment ecdment floodplain levers (3) Goodolain ver channel The river channel has flat land on either side of it (1). When the river floods, there is too much water for the river channel to hold and so some goes on to the Hat plains?" As the water spreads out, it loses energy and so deports its material, heavest first, forming high ridges on either side of the channel. The finer sediment is deposited on the flat wear of land. Over time, this sediment builds up (3) forming fertile floodplains covered in fine sediments and levels on either side of the river that are made up of the larger sedment, forming natural barriers.

Examiner Comments

This candidate achieved 4 marks. S/he describes clearly and has a good set of diagrams to show the sequence of formation. S/he also explains sequential deposition and links the series of floods to floodplains.



Ensure that, with all landforms, you are able to offer clear sequence in the formation, a named process and some clear explanation.

#### Question 2 (c)

There were a range of answers, and the most popular case studies included the River Nene, Blandford Forum and the River Mississippi. Although many responses reached level 2, some could have been improved by not simply listing the different techniques employed along the managed area. Good answers had clear focus on *how* that technique reduced flooding, e.g. embankments which increased channel capacity. It may be a good idea for candidates to learn to clearly distinguish between *what* the method is and *how* it reduces flooding.

References to the River Nene often included abundant examples and specific data, many including details of the scheme such as dimensions of the flood defence, cost of implementation and different named areas along the river where methods were employed (as shown in example). (c) Choose a river that you have studied.

Explain how this river is being managed.

(6)

Chosen river River Nene

On April 9th 1998, two people were killed in a Northampton flood and so in order to prevent future floods many tiver management schemes were developed in Weedon during 2002, a 450m flood embankment was built at 6.8 m high providing a habitat for flora and farma as well as preventing bank erosion and storing water during peak rainfall sods to reduce risk of floods. This cost t2million. In 2003 the flood Warning System was updated and tested in Far Cotton, aiming to give at least two hours notice of floads so that people can evacuate if they are at risk. A floodwate retextion reservoir was built at Billing near the aquadrome to hold excess water durin & floods so as to reduce flood damage and new housing at Upton Square was built above the ploodplain soas to reduce its nsk. In Foot Meadow, 4m flood walls were built to protect housing, industry and the Castle Inn. Debnis was also cleared from the rive's channel so water would be carried away more rapidly, meaning less risk for the settlement nearby Also in Upton, Sixfields, Eemillion was spert raising all main roads up to 6m higher on embarkments, protecting them in flood times, and floodgates holding up h 1.2 million most of water (Total for Question 2 = 25 marks) (Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)



This is a full answer with clear reference to specific detail throughout the answer. The candidate is also able to address how the methods reduce flooding, hence full marks.



Ensure that candidates are able to apply a couple of specific facts which are relevant to their answers as well as to explain. The river Nene case study is particularly effective in this respect.

#### Question 3 (a) (i)

Many candidates were able to use the resource to ascertain why Iceland was a suitable location for hydro-electric power in Iceland. Those that stuck to the resource tended to fare better than those who did not.

(	i)	How do the glaciated landscapes in Figure 3a provide a suitable location for hydro-electric power stations in Iceland?
		(3)
141111114141414	/	They Form mountainous legeon areas that are
	n	accessory to hold a body or note and have a story
	F	las or noter. They are remote for non vibunisation
11111401+2555550000000	Ah	ere is platy of snowroll, rainfull and glouid methoder to
******	P	ovide noter that is needed. There are differences in headst
	W	hach are needed for the water to turn the turbines



This candidate reaches 3 marks easily as they use the resource effectively. Link to mountainous areas, remoteness, and supply of glacial meltwater were all relevant points.



When asked to use a resource ensure that you include references to it in your answer. Try to highlight in the resource relevant sections which may help you.

### Question 3 (a) (ii)

Many candidates were able to score at least 2 marks for relevant descriptions of uses. Some mis-interpreted the question and gave further examples of energy production. However many simply did not give examples to support their uses as required by the question. Examples of glacial uses should be more specific than a country location and should look to give a region or a specific named place, for example tourism at Jokulsarlon in Iceland or hiking up Mt. Snowdon.

(ii) Energy production is one way people use glaciated areas. Suggest other ways people use glaciated areas. Use examples in your answer. (4)Valley NANT Friancon Dickched ine 13 DIRServe kimal to the burism (armino ectivitie) FOURIST A) Valler the bol 15 CASlak Mine HD ak ю  $0 \alpha$ apportunities



Albeit a simple answer, this includes a couple of located places and a series of different uses of glaciated (post-glaciated in this case) areas.



Ensure you are able to associate uses with named places. Ultimately this will improve your geographical understanding of place.

#### Question 3 (a) (iii)

Identification of moraine has certainly improved compared to previous series. The vast majority of candidates identified a relevant type and most were able to offer some outline of formation. The types of moraine best outlined were medial and lateral. Those who chose terminal often did not relate it to its location which was often the deciding factor for the second mark.

(iii) The area circled on Figure 3a is moraine. (3)1. Name one type of moraine. Mader Lateral. 2. Outline how it is formed. when rocks fall from the valley sides due to Freezeformed on the glacier and help the process of abrasion than , valles sile are evoded, these rocks the rochs From the vollay and down Why IN are locaemonts leaving lateral morraine. or 4 when mells



Clear recognition of moraine and a precise outline of how it was formed for 3 marks in total.



Ensure that candidates clearly understand the relative locations of moraine types, not just a generic description associated with deposition.

### Question 3 (b) (i)

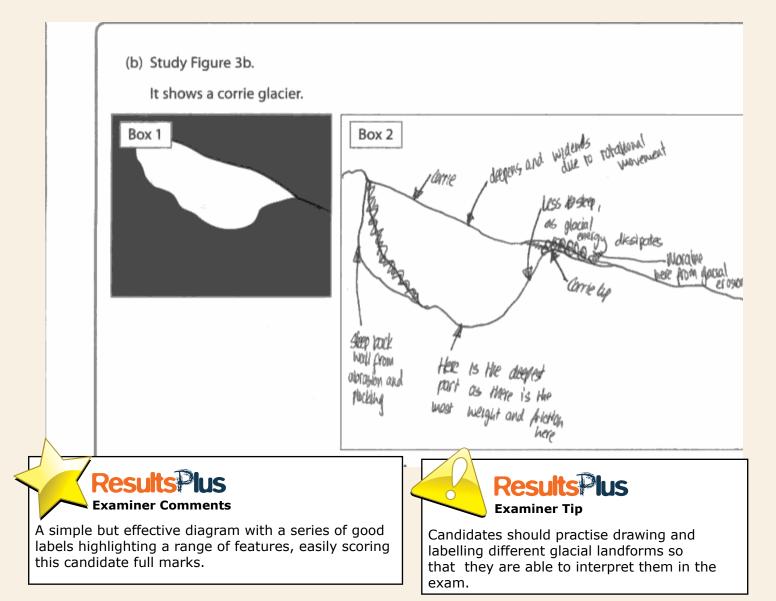
The vast majority named abrasion or plucking as a type of glacial erosion.

#### Question 3 (b) (ii)

The vast majority of candidates recognised freeze thaw weathering as a named type of weathering in glaciated areas.

#### Question 3 (b) (iii)

This was a well answered question, with many candidates scoring full marks. Scaled diagrams of the corrie and inclusion of features such as steep backwalls often set candidates off on the right track. Some excellent labelling of rotating ice, freeze thaw weathering and the movement of the glacier outside the corrie were also impressive. Some candidates also opted to take a post-glacial stance reducing the size of the glacier and including a tarn. On the whole this was better answered than the counterpart questions on Q1, Q2 and Q4.



#### Question 3 (b) (iv)

This was the worst answered question on the glaciers section with evidence of poor understanding of truncated spurs. Candidate performance could be grouped into one of three categories; those who had little knowledge of truncated spurs; those who could simplistically describe U-shaped valleys and labelled truncated spurs seemingly as an after thought; and finally those who understood the link between interlocking and truncated spurs but were unable to offer detailed explanation beyond 3 marks. A full 4 mark answer was a rarity. This is one landform that needs a higher profile in candidates' learning.

(iv) Explain the formation of truncated spurs. You may use a diagram(s) in your answer. (4)Valley V-shaped alacidi anoremen -shaped valler Direction of a lacier mover -truncated 11 A. 1. 1. As the glacier moves down-hill-due to gravity it publics nock material out by buildoging the interlacting spurs. A combination of abranion erade the interlaking spars, forming truncated spars ao V-shaped to U-shaped. By the Somation of tourcated spurg steeper valley sides are made - a u-shaped valley. Prost-shattering of the valley sides breaks off rack advances, fragments the glacier, contributing to truncated spour - production. deposited on

Results Plus Examiner Comments

This is one of the few responses which could be awarded full marks. The diagram shows a clear progression from interlocking spurs to a U-shaped valley, with labelled truncated spurs. However the explanation is very good. There is a clear link to why the glacier bulldozes through the valley, and at the end a useful explanation of process to take it to 4 marks. Results lus Examiner Tip

For all landforms ensure that you are able to give a full sequence, name a process and fully explain the landform formation. Explanation is the area on glaciers that candidates most often struggle with.

#### Question 3 (c)

This question required candidates to focus on both the causes and effects of the avalanche studied, and rarely were we let down. Many candidates referred to Galtur, and many gave a detailed account, often supported by specific facts, of both the causes and effects. Although for many there was an imbalance in their answer, good candidates referred to the anomalous weather conditions in forming a 'melt crust', while, on effects, there were often good responses to the economic impact on the areas affected. Many candidates achieved top Level 2 or Level 3 answers and the mean mark was an impressive 4.8.

(c) Choose an avalanche you have studied.

#### Explain the cause and effects of this avalanche.

Chosen avalanche Galtur, Austria.

The causes of the avalanche were NEW strong SNOW call Galltur experienced about 4 weeks of heavy leaving fresh layers of it the also weatner SMON 11/22 diastically, going from cold, to warm, then 010 DIDNOVO again. This left a special layer of snow that Was very the snow had metted, then re-froze Contral a150 hald, as strong winds which blonght over many snow experienced also spread the snow out. The effects clouds. H 10 the avalanche were huge as they had to close the ski for weeks, losing them f7, 500,000 18SOHT from the townst industry. 31 people also died, which 5 of them were locals pra 26 tourists, and 11 people were severely injured The stai village and the village where locals lived Was completley distroyed, leaving houses, possesions and cars completley crushed they also had to shut the roads off so people couldn't enter not have faiture by car. RESCUE Workers came in by helicopter, and locals also helped search for bodies. It has also had a positive effect as Galtul new set aff many more DIRCAUSIONS con the risk of avalanches such as setting controlled ones bornbs, .JU.U.



A typical Level 3 answer scoring full marks. The candidate has an explanation and a specific point in reference to both causes and effects which was necessary for maximum marks.



Ensure you learn specific points for both causes and effects when studying avalanches so that you can produce balanced answers in the exam.

(6)

#### Question 4 (a) (i)

Many candidates were able to use the resource to correctly identify at least 3 causes shown in Figure 4(a). Some candidates quoted figures, e.g. 70,000 but did not state their significance, while others did not gain credit as they generalised their responses, e.g. 'many died, others were homeless'. To get full marks here it was enough to use the material in the resource.

(i) Describe the effects of the earthquake shown in Figure 4a. (3) The earthquake caused 307 deaths. made and the damage people hondess 70'000 picture shows COSE E4billion The Mat buildings had been badly manu damageo Ctata ana cauca af tha aauthaualia /::\ **Examiner Comments** A typical response from a good candidate, who selects the appropriate facts from the resource. This response scores full marks. US Resul **Examiner Tip** Ensure that, if asked to use a resource, you quote directly from it.

#### Question 4 (a) (ii)

The majority of candidates recognised the collision of the two plates, the Eurasian and African, as the cause of the earthquake. Some candidates, who failed to score marks, gave a generic answer. Here the question related to the earthquake from the resource not earthquakes in general.

#### Question 4 (a) (iii)

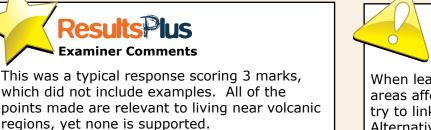
Many candidates scored only 1 mark as they noted how the Richter scale measured the magnitude of an earthquake. Many then proceeded to incorrectly outline how the Richter scale measured shaking, the job of a seismometer. Some higher scoring candidates were aware of how the scale worked, i.e. it was logarithmic.

(iii) Outline what the Richter scale measures. (2)The Richter scale measure the magnitute of that earth quarkes produced. (The magnitude is the force/ vibrations caused by the focas of the parthquarte). **Examiner Comments Examiner Tip** This was a typical 1 mark response which Ensure you can clearly distinguish between linked the Richter scale to representing what is shown by the Richter scale, the magnitude. Candidates must be able to Mercalli scale and a seismometer. distinguish between the scale and the instruments used to gather data.

#### Question 4 (b)

A range of reasons were offered by candidates, many of which contained explanation. However, many candidates only scored 3 marks as they did not use examples in their answer. At this level examples should be place orientated and should be more than just the country, i.e. the volcanic region or name of a particular volcano. There were some good answers making reference to olive and wine growing on Mt. Vesuvius and some interesting references to spiritual beliefs associated with Mt. Merapi and Mt Mayon. Some lower scoring responses were purely descriptive, though some included examples. Such answers could not usually be awarded more than 2 marks.

(b) Explain why people continue to live in areas affected by volcanoes. Use examples in your answer.  ${\bf 4}$ People continue to live in areas affected by voicances because, the howsing is cheeper and they may not be able to afford to move, there family has used there penerations so they dont want to move, Crops fertilised because of the whand, so it stay well business and toursts visit the is vonceno, so they are making meney living in the area





When learning reasons why people live near areas affected by volcanoes or earthquakes, try to link them to named regions. Alternatively, next time there is a volcanic eruption on the news research your own reasons.

#### Question 4 (c) (i)

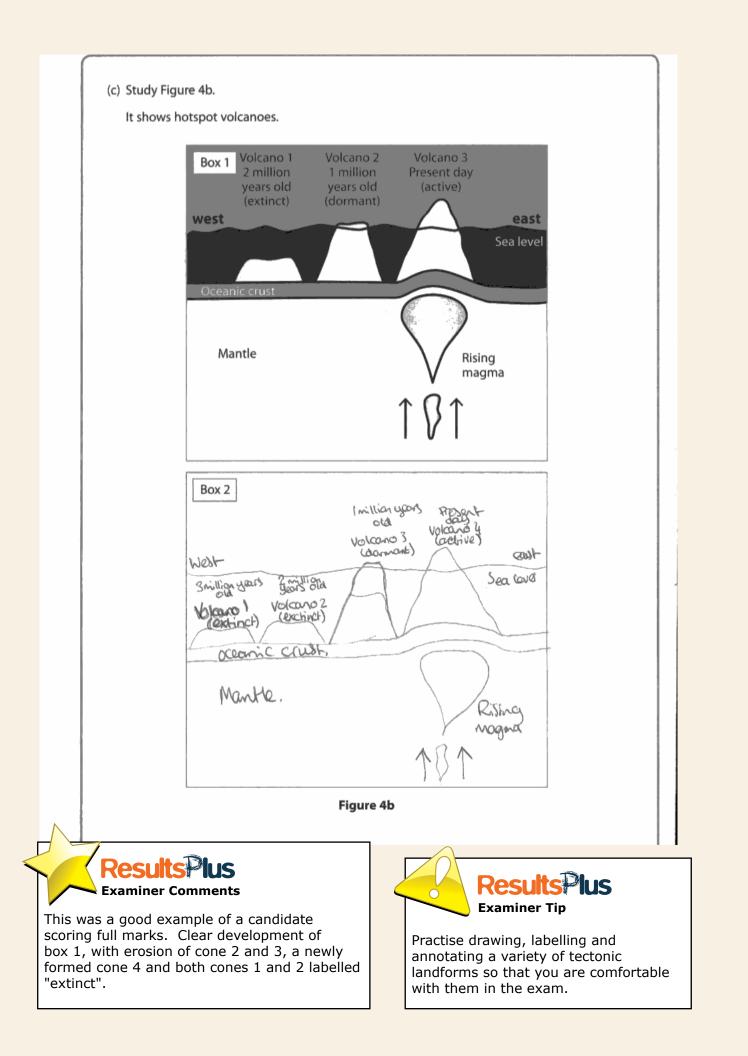
Although worth only one mark this question discriminated well, as a significant number of candidates were confused by the direction of the plate, and appeared not to have studied hotspots in great detail. The plate has to move west in this case to generate the chain of islands shown.

#### Question 4 (c) (ii)

Again a 1 mark question which was a good discriminator. Many did not read the question carefully and tried to link their answer to a plate boundary. Those who used the resource well often scored the mark.

#### Question 4 (c) (iii)

For those candidates unfamiliar with hotspots this question proved to be difficult. Some simply copied box 1, others drew a plan view of the 3 islands as a volcanic chain. Those with a clear understanding of hotspots often added extra cones, eroded the existing cones, and in the labelling changed the eruption status of cone 2 to extinct. A wide variety of responses here, a clear discriminator and evidence that candidates need to practise drawing labelled diagrams of different tectonic landforms.



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#### Question 4 (d)

It was clear from marking this question that candidates often fail to differentiate between the formation of volcanoes at different tectonic settings and the explanation of different characteristic features at the plate boundaries. With a mean mark of 2.2 it was clear that most candidates simply described the features at a divergent plate boundary and were unable to offer any explanation for their existence. Some candidates confused divergent with destructive and their response failed to score.

Many of the responses which scored higher than 2 marks achieved this by explaining the eruption of magma due to rising magma asociated with convection. Few commented on the effusive nature of the eruptions, or explained the type of volcanic cones found, nor did they comment on the shallow and low magnitude earthquakes found here. An alarming number of students felt that there was no earthquake activity found on the plate boundaries. Candidates may benefit from drawing a series of cross-sectional annotated diagrams to cover the features at each plate boundary.

(d) Explain the characteristic features of a divergent plate boundary. You may use a diagram(s) in your answer. joron Continental (4)nontrivental Ð mid-Atlantic Ridge A It a divergent or constructive, place boundary two continentie plates move surger from each other. Between the two dates volcanoes or a mid-Atlantic ridge will form. As the places move apar there may be eruphquakes. The volcences are not as apposive as get destructive at boundaries and the earchquarter we gentler there is no build up of miction between the as they are entured away.



This was a relatively rare but very good example of the type of response to reach full marks. The candidate uses the diagram to highlight some of the features and to show an understanding of plate movement. S/he then clearly describes features specifically associated at a divergent boundary, and the explanation of non explosive volcanism and low intensity earthquakes is sound.



Prepare an annotated cross sectional diagram with 3 - 4 features of each plate boundary. Ensure also that you can explain the formation of volcanoes as well as the characteristic features of each plate boundary.

#### Question 4 (e)

This was another potentially challenging question especially as candidates were unsure about what 'forecasting' earthquakes meant. The specification states that candidates must be able to explain how building design, forecasting, education and planning help reduce the impacts of tectonic activity. Although there are no successfully proven methods to forecast earthquakes (as noted by some perceptive candidates), there are a series of methods used to give short term notice. These must be differentiated from how authorities plan for tectonic events. As such we accepted answers in reference to escaping radon gas, use of seismometers to monitor stress in the crust and the behaviour of animals.

Many candidates found it relatively easy to access the top of Level 2 with very good explanations of different building designs, including counter weights, shatter-proof glass and cross-bracing which were often related to examples of buildings. However, candidates need to improve their understanding of our ability (or not) to forecast in the light of specification requirements.

(e) Explain how the effects of earthquakes can be reduced through forecasting and building design.

#### Use examples in your answer.

(6)This Building designs can reduce the effects of on earthquake. einforcing (an by building deeper poundations, nappen ROM G**GUNINGGRUU**LSLEET into the Walls and cerlings, Daving bas counter weights on the building them so they scopy a little during the earth arrake. TOOL Building deeper soundations means the buildings have secure base and are less likely to fall alwa of collapse gives buildings a strudier sa rpe FIOME walls and cerlings wont COVE In during an earthquake It Olso stay upright helps the building ....t.U..... during the QUOISE TO SUPPOIE higher levels. Oran weights on top of buildings balance out the movement from LOUNICE building steadier Also, the plates, this Makes the DUILDING so they sway a bit during an Parthquake gives them DULIAI to move withe the quake soit's not LITTLE FLEXIBILITY .O. ds 11010 this means it has a lesser chance of folling down. They've Doina the all there in ea countries like Jopan dan Predicting ear Hynakes is hard but it can be done you could 100K history of ealthquarel to see is there's a pattern the there will next be one, or you could look at the for when Looking of the plate activity will give plate activity. you a clear to when there will be an earthquake ) dea as



Although an unbalanced answer, the candidate gives clear explanatory detail on building design, and makes reference to hazard mapping as a form of forecasting. Named methods were deemed acceptable as specific examples in this question.



Ensure that the candidates can differentiate between planning and forecasting of earthquakes.

### Question 5 (a) (i)

Many candidates were able to use the resource to identify ways in which products can be recycled. Those that did not score full marks often defined recycling or gave reference to products not shown in Figure 5(a).

#### Question 5 (a) (ii)

Many responses were held at 2 marks here as they did not make explicit reference to evidence from Figure 5(a). Many were able to outline how re-using a product would lead to fewer trees being cut down, but, without reference to the resource, answers were self limiting. The most common references included 'less paper production', 'fewer items sent to landfill' and use of the 'hydrapulper' to undertake the recycling.

(ii) Suggest how recycling can reduce deforestation. pottes. Use evidence from Figure 5a. (3)and can recycle paper to Daa use it ac cut down m there will LON NO Yeoto won



Here the candidate makes clear reference to re-using paper resulting in fewer trees being cut down; but towards the end they mention less paper production, which is specifically linked to Figure 5(a) and the response scores 3 marks.



If asked to give evidence from the resource, try to make it obvious, for example 'Figure 5(a) shows....'

## Question 5 (a) (iii)

Candidates were well prepared for this question, since many were able to make reference to schemes brimming with local detail on recycling. However, many answers were purely descriptive, simply telling the story of the journey of a recycled object. Without explanation, candidates' responses were limited to 2 marks, and it is clear that candidates need to develop the explanations of their examples. Good explanations included why schemes were employed, or included part of the recycling/reprocessing process. Some lower scoring candidates made reference to national schemes.

(iii) Choose an example of a local scale recycling scheme you have studied. Explain how its waste material is recycled. (4)Chosen local recycling scheme 🥵 🗠 3 scheme Brocknell Forest council in Beneskire has teamed its deading and wokingham city couril is recepte wooste property. Paper is sent be Sorted and bailed in maideshood and then Paper mill to be made into new packaging material. Postics are recycled by the Giffa recycling group at their plant in beynastion near bristol, plastic is somed and turned into new products such as Fleece jachets or plastic bottles - lans are that first sorted then turned into more cons or even cors. Glass is recycled in Tombshine and is crushed and then mixed with a sound or linesture to make new gloss. Also there is a recycling bin service in the three Councils which collects of the was te.

Results Plus Examiner Comments

This candidate makes reference to the popular Re3 scheme and includes plenty of specific detail. They give a hint of explanation for the cause of the scheme and a thorough account of how products are reprocessed, thereby scoring 4 marks.



There is a risk of responding to this question with description only and therefore you have to make the explanation clear. You might do this by explaining the objectives of a recycling scheme or by developing your explanation of how a product is recycled.

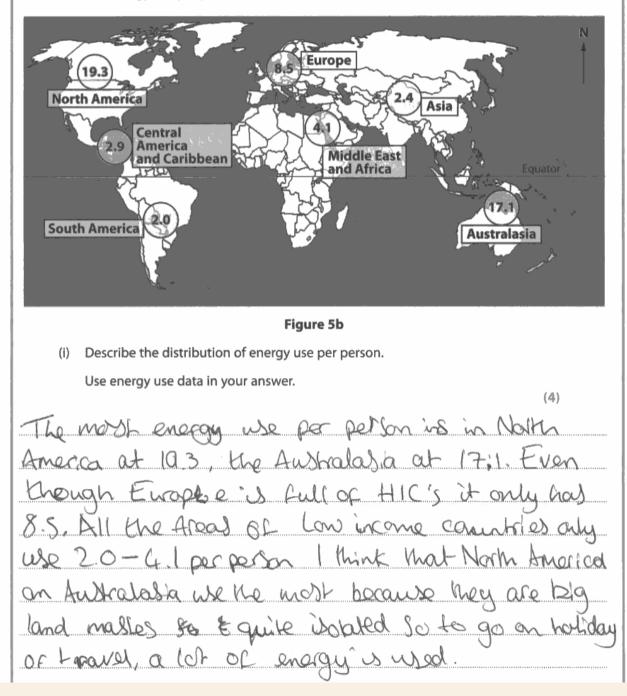
## Question 5 (b) (i)

Many candidates find the description of distribution a challenge and this question was no different. With a mean score of 2.3 candidates often told a story or gave a 'Cook's Tour' of the continents' energy use. Fewer candidates could identify a pattern/trend, then give variations and anomalies. Therefore it seems that this is an area in which candidates would benefit from further practice. This question did not give an obvious trend; however some candidates recognised that most places near to the equator had low energy use except Australasia, while others noted that all HICs had high energy use, except Europe. Some candidates did not use data and therefore their responses were self limiting; others did not recognise the areas of the world with most/least.

On an administrative note, no key was given here as the values for energy use were complicated and deemed to detract from the actual values, even though it is good geography to use a key.



It shows energy use per person in different regions.



#### Results Plus Examiner Comments

This candidate recognises a clear trend, gives the exception to it(Europe) and uses data throughout. They also recognise the highest energy user. All of this in 5 lines, and that is without crediting the explanation on the final 3 lines. A good concise response.



Ensure, when describing distribution, that you refer to data, identify the main pattern, the variations within the pattern and anomalies to it.

### Question 5 (b) (ii)

The majority of candidates were able to define non-renewable energy to score full marks. Many identified the finite nature of the resource and many referred to an example.

#### Question 5 (b) (iii)

Although fairly well answered by many, too many candidates chose to describe rather than explain and their responses were therefore limited to 2 marks. However, many had a good grasp of points and many could relate to types of renewable energy. Candidates should try to relate to specific types of renewable energy as it makes the points made more specific.

(iii) Explain the advantages and disadvantages of renewable energy. (4) The advantages of renewable energy are that it is going to lost forever, or a long to everlasting, it we never fun out and most often than not, completely unpolluting and unhamped to the environment Momener such to sources as und power mean and burbines, which are massive, on these are expensive to build, by and put lip. Also there is The case of signe pollution, For example hulls det a lot of hund, but onese are often areas of natural beauty, which causes a problem.



This candidate only focused on wind power, which was acceptable, but did not explain the advantage and therefore gained 3 marks of the 4 available.



If asked to explain advantages and disadvantages be sure to give a balanced answer with clear explanation of both aspects. Relating what you say to a named type of energy e.g. solar power, often gives the answer more focus.

#### Question 5 (c)

This was a well answered question, as candidates focused on different methods to reduce energy wastage in the home and as such were able to access at least top Level 2 with good explanation. However some candidates did not give specific data to support their answer, such as percentage of heat loss or cost of energy reduction methods. Some candidates unfortunately focused on recycling, even though it had been addressed in 5(aiii), and therefore scored 0.

\*(c) Explain how energy wastage in the home (domestic) can be reduced. (6) the home can be reduced in mony occations. nome Of Insulation the wall and 96 it drastically. reduces through the last 000 nock. insulation con out dawn That massiver. way b to have Another double Orazee) Wendows this will 800 enerow ROM also cut down noise. exaping and to reduce the energy being LON 40 intall draft exclude on which war Cares UP the ndes onound windows Creating COOD and. the washage. Neduce CON PUDJOUT Now have nomes ore en DURAGED 40 00 Heir (apt)  $\infty$ monels nave a wind Withine Water Lout SUNG 0 ng new, dean wate 01 010 207 m **Results**Plus **Examiner Comments Examiner Tip** Although this candidate makes one specific point (35% of heat When learning about reducing lost through roof) and gives some explanation there was no energy wastage in the home ensure

that you are able to quote specific

points to support your answer.

reach more than top Level 2.

credit for reference to solar panels and this response could not

## Question 6 (a) (i)

A generally well answered question by many candidates. Marks were obtained a by a very methodical interpretation of each cartoon and or by applying knowledge and understanding of the problems associated with water supply in LICs. The better answers focused their comments on the major water supply problems, clearly indicating why what was portrayed in the cartoons constituted a serious issue for those living in such countries.

### Question 6 (a) (ii)

The vast majority of candidates were able to score full marks for recognising water borne diseases. Common answers included cholera and dysentery.

### Question 6 (a) (iii)

With a mean mark of 2.48 this question was handled more effectively by candidates than in past series. Good understanding of different types of appropriate technology as well as a grasp of the cost, scale and specifics of methods helped higher scoring candidates to gain marks. However a tendency to be descriptive and not concentrate on how the method improved water supply limited some. Equally, reference to just one type of technology limited good answers to 3 marks as they failed to include a range of examples. Explain how appropriate technology can improve water supply in small communities in LICs.

Use examples in your answer.

(4)

Appropriate technology such as hand - dug wells, tubewells, gravity fed schemes and rainerables hadresting can be used in U.C. to supply water to small communities These methods are mostly all inexpensive, ennormentally sustainable, and easy to brild or maintain, which makes even perfect for small communities in UCS- LICS like Bangalore and India are also developing water Celycling Schemes to brail they don't for out of water - Barglore had announced plans to supply 600 million lares of recycled water to its CALILEAS for drinkeing.

\* Hand-dug wells and tubewells both supply water being brought up from the ground, although hand-dug wells are usually wider and shallower. Gravity-fed schemes only apply in hilly areas, where a high-up water source can be dammed, protected, then piped down to the vilage. This requires 1853 of mamfenance, as does rain water harvesting where a roof 15 deared to gather water which then rain as it palls which then runs down the gutter and is stored in tanks.



Although not a typical response, this candidate shows a clear understanding of a range of methods and gives explicit reasons for their use. A good 4 mark answer.



Ensure that when asked for examples you are able to focus on more than one type of appropriate technology. Equally, reference to specific places can often give the answer more substance.

## Question 6 (b) (i)

The vast majority of candidates identified Murcia as the city located in a high water deficit region.

## Question 6 (b) (ii)

As in Q5 candidates found this the most challenging part of Q6. The ability to describe distribution is often a good discriminator and a challenging task, and this question was once again proof that candidates benefit from regular practice of this skill. Recognising the overall trend, the variation within the trend and an exception to the trend act as a good model for tackling these questions. In addition, the use of map evidence or data will also secure a mark. In this question the East/West general trend was identified by most. Within that trend some recognised that higher surplus areas were either further north or north west, while higher deficit areas were further south east. The exceptions were often recognised as Madrid, a surplus area in the centre of the country or Barcelona, a deficit area, to the north.

Overall, candidates returned a better score than for the comparative item on question 5 but there are still lessons to be learnt.

(ii) Describe the distribution of water surplus and deficit shown in Figure 6b.
Use evidence from Figure 6b in your answer.
(4)
In the South of spain, especially the South East
coast there is high note defeat and in the East coast it
has water deficib. In Centrel and Northern Spain there
is high water surplus and water surplus except is
Borrelora in the North East coust which has water
defait. Places such as Madrid and Leon are in
high water suplis

Results Plus Examiner Comments

This candidate scored 4 marks by identifying in the first two sentences the pattern, as well as differentiating between those areas of high water surplus and those of surplus. The recognition of Barcelona as an exception and the use of named areas as map evidence helped this answer to score full marks.



Remember, when describing distribution, to give the overall pattern, variation within the pattern, anomalies to the pattern and either map evidence or data.

#### Question 6 (b) (iii)

Candidates often easily scored 2 marks for describing the demands of leisure and tourism without then explaining how they lead to water shortage. Higher scoring responses often focused on the plight of the local populations discriminated against by the local authorities in favour of the affluent tourists, or gave an account of how seasonal variability of rainfall coincided with higher summer demands. Few lower scoring candidates focused on LIC examples. Those that focused on the Spanish Costas often accessed the higher scores.

(iii) Explain how the demands of the leisure and tourism industry can lead to water shortages in HICs. (4)stra 1990 Keanin Dain mores



This candidate focuses on a couple of examples to highlight their point. They give good detail on water usage by the tourism industry and also comment on the impact of water shortages.

PUS Resul **Examiner Tip** 

Reference to specific examples can often give an answer more focus. The Spanish Costas are often referred to by candidates and constitute an excellent example.

## Question 6 (c)

A range of examples were used in reference to water management schemes including the popular 3 Gorges Dam, Kielder Water, schemes on the River Colorado, the GAP project and the Aswan Dam, among other examples. Candidates often showed excellent factual recall of their case studies, though some tended to describe the scheme rather than focus on the impacts on the people. The best answers came from those using the 3 Gorges Dam example, many of which reached Level 3. To achieve this candidates were required to explain and give specific data on both the positive and the negative impacts. Some were only limited by their inability to do this, or because they focused on environmental impacts rather than those on people. That said, this question returned a mean score of 3.95 which was impressive.

\*(c) Choose a water management scheme you have studied. Explain the positive and negative effects (impacts) of this scheme on people. (6) Chosen scheme Three Gorges Dam The Three Gorges Dan started construction in 1994 in China. It was finished in 2010 costing \$15 billion. There were many negative and positive cinpacts of the Rem, these include the extinction of the Vengtze river Identis due to the river being blocked because at the Rom they were all tilled. On the positive side the Daw is used as a hydro-electric plant and guas Sail to be able to produce 10% China's electrical needs but due to major increases in Chrise derand it only size produces about 590 now which saves loop's of toness of oil and coal. There were negative social offerts such as the fact 1.24 million people had to be relocated as the Dam's reserver needed 39.3 km3 to fill so aregone is this area was relacated. On the plus site most were moved better accomposition with some having electricity to the first time. There were positive economic reasons like such as the 20,000 ides created building the Dam and money was saved on stripping due to the better shipping lover created during the Rom's bill carry many to be seed as the

#### **ResultsPlus** Examiner Comments

This was a typical response which scored full marks. The references to positive and negative are clear and there is ample specific data used throughout.



Ensure that your answer focuses on the correct impacts, i.e. if asked for impacts on people avoid references to the environment.

## **Paper Summary**

Candidate performance on the paper was in line with that of the last two series and it is pleasing to see evidence that centres are following the advice given in previous examiners' reports.

The following comments may lead to improved performance by all candidates:

i) Candidates will benefit from regular practice in drawing labelled or indeed annotated diagrams of landforms to familiarise themselves with their appearance and to be able to show and explain their formation.

ii) Use of a sequence of diagrams in landform questions will enhance the understanding of landform development.

iii) Candidates will benefit from using places in questions asking for examples. Many candidates are unable to relate some excellent points to named areas/regions.

iv) It is useful to learn the processes outlined in the specification as a series of definitions so that candidates can apply them in the examination.

v) Candidates will benefit from regular practice of describing distribution from maps - focusing on giving an overall trend, variations within the trend and exceptions to it.

As a final administrative point, as requested in previous examiners' reports, if candidates are going to write outside the allocated area, or indeed on a different page, they should clearly signal this to the examiner with more than just an asterisk or arrow.

Overall the examiners were pleased with the candidates' performance and would like to congratulate them for their achievements in this series.

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