Examiners' Report
June 2013

GCSE Geography B 5GB2H 01

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Introduction

This was the second appearance of spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG) on this paper following the January 2013 series. The specification content that was assessed remained the same as in previous series; however, centres are reminded that from June 2014, the revised linear specification will be assessed (see Edexcel's website for further details).

Candidates were required to answer all questions from Section A (each worth 8 marks), one question from Section B (worth 9 marks) and one question from Section C (worth 12 marks). The SPaG is assessed as an additional element of the final extended writing question that has been chosen from Section C.

The size of the cohort sitting this paper was approximately 13 586, which is a similar quantity to that of June 2011 and slightly lower than in June 2012. The mean mark for the paper was slightly lower than the January 2013 series, when SPaG was first introduced.

Question 1 (a)

Most candidates had a very good understanding on what population structures were and were able to discuss the changes of these with ease. The majority of candidates attained full marks for this item as they discussed each age group and gave data also. Some candidates lost marks for giving changes in the population but not addressing changes in population structure. In some cases candidates did not discuss the changes in the age structure. Whilst they grasped that comparisons needed to be made between different ages, the changes were ignored and comparison in each year was made rather than giving descriptions of the trends. This did not happen often, but was the reason why some candidates lost marks. Generally candidates overwrote for this question.

The idea of 'change' and/or comparative language was required - not just a description/ explanation of the resource.

Question 1 (b)

This question was generally answered well with full marks often awarded. More successful candidates were able to provide a valid example of a country to support their reason. Most candidates referred to jobs and economy – which gave them 1 mark, failing to give an extension of this. Zero marks were often given when candidates didn't actually state a clear reason for increasing population but simply stated that the country wanted to increase the population.

Question 1 (c)

Many candidates demonstrated that they have a good knowledge of different migration policies around the world, but some struggled to explain concisely why they might be controversial. The most common answers included the strain on resources/jobs/uneven application of rules. The fact that policies varied and controlled what humans did was also commonly given as an example of controversy. Some stated that migration might cause a brain drain or a severe reduction of the birth rate on the country of origin. The EU and migration to the US from Mexico were the main located examples provided by candidates to support their ideas.

This response scores 3 marks.

(c) Explain why migration policies are often controversial.

(3)

One reason why they're often controversal is because they can sometimes lead to a loss of inteligent people (Brain drain) as they move away to more secure and wellpaid jobs however they can also lead to a large amount of people coming to this country and overpopulating it and causing a lack of jobs and resources

**ResultsPlus**
Examiner Comments

The candidate makes the point about a brain drain for the country of origin and a developed point about overpopulation in the host country.

Question 2 (a)

Responses from candidates to this question were usually excellent, with many scoring full marks. Many candidates went beyond what was required to gain the 2 marks and they recognised many different effects, often mentioning up to four in one response. The effect on habitats and deforestation were popular ones and a qualified reference to pollution was also well used. Some candidates didn't qualify their reference to 'pollution', however many tied this point in with deforestation and the effects of an increased amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere/less oxygen.

This response scores 2 marks.

2   Study Figure 2.
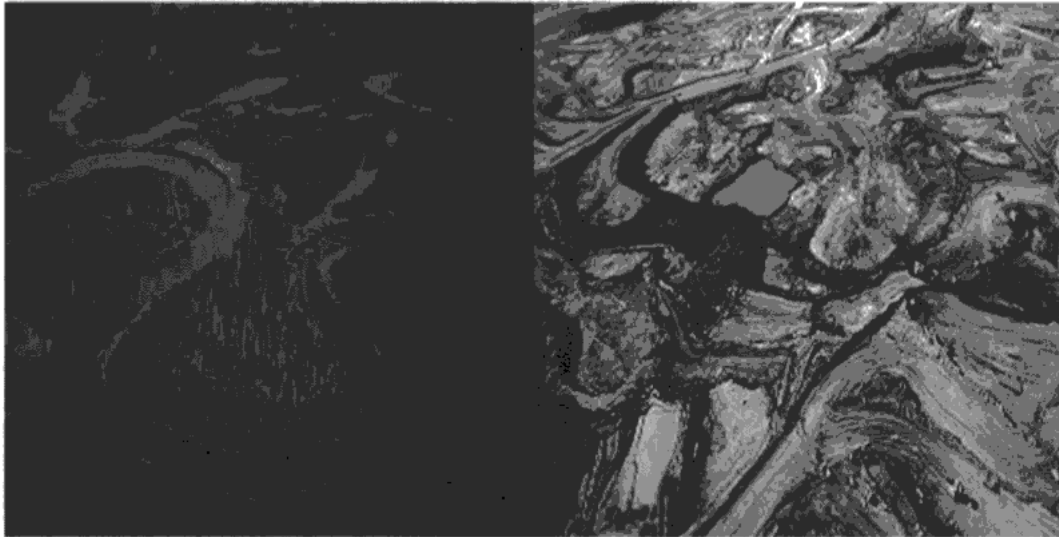
Before mining – 1990   After mining – 2012

Figure 2 – The impact of mining (extracting oil from sands) in Canada

(a) Describe the possible impacts of this mining on the environment.

(2)

They do destroy animal habitats and also cut down trees which means there isn't enough oxygen made in the air. They also destroy the water supply/ lakes so this means animals want Series.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

The candidate has clearly identified two possible impacts of mining shown on the resource.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Don't just write 'pollution' - be more specific (eg air pollution, water pollution, visual pollution).

Question 2 (b)

This question was answered quite well by most candidates. The majority of candidates recognised that sustainability and/or the idea that some resources are renewable was the key. A significant majority of candidates scored 2 marks for stating that some resources are renewable and providing a legitimate example. A smaller proportion of candidates linked the idea of new inventions/techniques to Boserup.

This response scored 2 marks.

(b) Explain why some resources may never run out.

(3)

Some resources are manged properly such as wood, when a tree is cut down it is later replaced to be used for the future. ~~Some resources~~ ~~resources~~ some resources are being ~~grow~~

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

There is 1 mark here for the idea of sustainability and 1 mark for the example of a resource.

This answer scored full marks (3/3).

(b) Explain why some resources may never run out.

(3)

Some resources may never ~~run~~ run out because they are renewable. They are able to sustain themselves without needing to be re-supplied. For example - the sun is always there. It doesn't run out - so we can use it for energy. This also applies to wind. They may never run out as they cannot be 'used up'. ~~Then~~ Other resources may be in huge supply - or can be ~~farmed~~ replanted up like trees.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response was awarded 3 marks: 2 marks for the developed point about 'renewable' and one further mark for the idea of sustainability.

Question 2 (c)

Most successful candidates discussed substitutes such as a change to dual-fuel, biogas or hydrogen technology for cars to reduce the demand for oil. Oil was the most popular choice, followed by coal and (natural) gas. A few candidates chose food as their resource, but often explained how more could be made, not how demand could be reduced. Some candidates struggled to gain the third mark. Specific examples and schemes helped candidates on this question.

2 marks were awarded for this response.

(c) Describe how the **demand** for a named resource might be reduced.

(3)

Named resource .... ~~people~~ Oil

People could switch to an alternate resource to produce energy for example wind/solar rather than using oil. Also when being used in things like cars for fuel, switch to an alternate fuel or car e.g the hydrogen powered cars or electric cars. This will save the use of non renewable or finite resources so they can be retained and used in the future.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This answer scores 2 marks: 1 mark for the idea of finding a substitute and 1 mark for the example (wind/solar).

Question 3 (a)

There were some very mixed responses to this question. Many candidates could outline one point, without really developing the point for a second mark. Many indicated the increase in jobs, but few gave an example of the type of job. Excellent responses did exist though, with such candidates writing about the move from primary to secondary and tertiary jobs and jobs in the construction of the city. Candidates, who were referencing the services, often talked about the proximity of the services as opposed to the availability in terms of there being more and improved services.

This answer was awarded 1 mark.

3 Study Figure 3.

Figure 3 – A cartoon showing some aspects of urban growth

(a) Suggest **one positive** impact of rapid urban growth on surrounding rural areas.

(2)

If creates jobs for the people who live in rural areas. This means they have a chance to earn money and even live in the city.

ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This response scores 1 mark for the idea that more jobs will be available for those living in the rural area.

ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Learn key terms! Many candidates confused rapid urban growth with counter-urbanisation and/or suburbanisation of rural areas.

Question 3 (b)

The majority of candidates were able to focus their answer upon the inner-city, although some did solely focus upon events in the city centre. Many candidates were able to recognise the rise in house prices and some developed this by referring to the lack of space. Some answers were a combination of points, none of which were developed for the second mark. Good answers included reference to Japan and their issue with lack of space. Many who referenced this gave examples of the cost of space there per square metre and offered examples of their solutions. Succinct answers were those which referred to the higher resident population which leads to congestion or crime or more inner-city pollution due to more cars.

This is an example of an answer which scored 1 mark.

(b) Describe **one** impact of a growing demand for space in some inner-city areas.

(2)

It means houses/land will be more expensive and less people will be able to afford to live there.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 1 mark for the idea that house/land prices are going up.

Question 3 (c)

Candidates generally attained 3 or 4 marks for their answers to this question, demonstrating a good understanding of how preferred living spaces change with age. The majority of answers discussed the preference of the retired/elderly and explained how they do not like the fast pace of city life but equally don't need it – ie proximity to jobs etc. Candidates were able to support this by giving examples of where retired people may move, such as Devon, Cornwall and Spain. The use of geographical terminology was very good to explain migration. A lot of answers discussed 2 or 3 different age groups to demonstrate how the preferences changed with age. There were differences in the views of where elderly people settled – countryside for peace etc or urban areas for ease of access to shops and services.

Question 4 (a) (i)

Most candidates were able to identify the correct time span for 1 mark, although a number failed to score on this one due to the omission of the correct year(s).

Question 4 (a) (ii)

Candidates responded well to this question with a common response being the 'need' for people to make money and survive. Candidates included some excellent examples, often giving more than one. Some candidates, who answered the question less well, focused on the lack of skills needed to do an informal job, unemployed people putting more money into the informal sector because they have less to spend and the idea that no tax is being paid so therefore people will move over to the informal economy to make some extra cash.

Question 4 (b)

Candidates tended to focus their answers on what diversification would bring to the rural area, rather than identify **why** the rural area needed the diversification in the first place. The majority of successful candidates could identify that farming was declining, but could not explain why for a second/developed mark. A number of candidates realised that young people would move out of the area, but again, could not explain what impact this would have on the rural area they were leaving behind.

This answer scored 1 mark.

(b) Outline **one** reason why the economy needs to be diversified in some rural areas.

(2)

AS farmers lace less income treefor need to diversify to attract tourses e.g. campsites.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 1 mark for the reason for the need to diversify (declining incomes).

Question 4 (c)

Overall, candidates answered this question well. The scale of the brownfield site did seem to affect how easy it was for candidates to gain the marks: Fort Dunlop and the Olympic Park were popular choices and gave many aspects to discuss; however, where candidates chose a small-scale brownfield site close to them, it was often only one thing that was being developed there (eg a new supermarket) which frequently led to marks being limited.

This answer scored full marks.

(c) For a named brownfield site describe the plans for its regeneration.

(3)

Named site _The fort dunlop (birmingham)_

This site used to be a rundown factory which were not longer in use and runing. So they knocked them down to create a place where here was Entetainment places, a place where people could shop (services). This also provided jobs and helped boost the economy in birmingham. There will also be new factorys nearby built to create more jobs.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response was awarded 3 marks - there are two plans for regeneration mentioned within the context of a legitimate case study.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

When choosing a case study, ensure that you know enough specific detail about it to help you achieve full marks!

Question 5 (a)

Many candidates identified that there was a consistent year-on-year increase in the percentage of people who used reusable shopping bags. Some candidates noticed that the others fluctuated, although vocabulary was often less clear. Many noticed that between 2009 and 2012 percentages for the first three answers decrease, but again the language used to describe the various trends was often poor.

Full marks were awarded for this answer.

5 Study Figure 5.

In American cities between 2000 and 2012, people were asked the following question in surveys.

'Have you done any of the following in the past year?'

Type of environmental action	Survey year				
	2000	2003	2006	2009	2012
Recycled paper, glass and other items	90	89	87	90	86
Reduced household energy use	83	80	85	85	82
Bought 'green' products	73	72	70	76	70
Used reusable shopping bags	52	55	59	65	72

Figure 5 – A table showing the percentage of people who answered
'Yes' for each environmental action

(a) Describes the trends in environmental actions.

(3)

Recycling paper, glass and other items have ~~fluctuated~~ decreased over the years. 90% of people recycled in 2000, but this decreased during 2003 and 2006. The percentage rose in 2009 back to 90% only to drop to it's lowest percentage of 86 in 2012. Reduced household energy use stayed between 80-85% within the 12 years. 2009 was the year people bought the most 'green' products. only 52% of people used re-usable shopping bags in 2000 but this increased to 72% in 2012. The main form of environmental action was recycling. The least used form was 'used reusable shopping bags.'

ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

This response scores 3 marks as the candidate has made three valid points about the trends shown on the resource.

ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Do not be tempted to 'explain' when the command word is 'describe'.

Question 5 (b)

The majority of candidates demonstrated a good understanding on how changing transport systems can make a city more sustainable. Many answers discussed the use of public transport (in particular, buses), bikes, congestion charges and LEZs. Whilst nearly all answers demonstrated they understood this process, the quality of answers varied immensely due to weak locational detail. Some answers failed to give 'example schemes/ named cities'. Answers that did give examples often failed to give the 'colour' required to achieve the highest marks. At times, even though candidates could explain how a scheme can make the city more sustainable (eg by making the link between reducing congestion and reducing air pollution etc); the lack of schemes given and lack of locational colour prevented them from achieving a Level 3 mark.

This sound response scored full marks.

*(b) Using examples, explain how changes in transport systems can make cities more sustainable.

(6)

In Curitiba the local council and government has focused on making transport more sustainable. They have introduced an integrated and very efficient public transport system, which 75% of the local people use. This heavily reduces the amount of cars on the road and therefore pollutants released.

Also, in London the local council have created bikes stops around the city.* There are over 2000 bikes and 400 stops, which not only helps people get around the city but as they emit zero carbon dioxide or any other pollutants they are a very sustainable method of transport.

(Total for Question 5 = 9 marks)

Finally, in York there has been a scheme issued by the local council focused on 'Park and ride'. This involves parking outside the city and taking a bus in. This reduces congestion and CO₂ in the city.

✱ These are known as Boris bikes.

Question 6 (a)

Many candidates failed to refer to the resource provided for this question and often talked about the importance of the countryside in general. In many cases this failed to achieve any marks. Overall, a large number of candidates managed to spot that the natural environment made up the top 3 responses and some included data to support this, but several failed to contrast this with the human environment further down the list.

Question 6 (b)

Many responses focused on the Lake District as the candidate's case study of choice. Many candidates were able to describe at least 2 or 3 challenges, especially affordability of housing due to second homes and out-migration of the young. Candidates sometimes managed to link challenges, successfully pointing out cause and effect, thus explaining why tackling the decline is challenging. Very few candidates provided detail about the location. Some candidates chose a developing country (Malawi was a popular choice) which usually limited the answer to Level 1.

This response scored 3 marks.

*(b) For a named rural area in a **developed** country, explain why tackling rural decline is so challenging.

(6)

Named rural area ..... Lake District .....

Lake District has alot of tourism but the council went to make sure that they preserve the rural idyll and dont urbanik it too much. This is challenging because of the vast amount of people each year, it is also expensive to keep the countryside and the buildings in good condition. Because of the tourism many people are buying second homes in the lake district which is leading to a smaller community and forcing people away. Its also challenging because the footpaths are being eroded along the hillside which is scarring the landscape. This brings more expense in redoing the paths. It is so difficult because of the number of people showing an interest as they bring money to the district but then they want **(Total for Question 6 = 9 marks)**

to keep it the same and use their resources sustainably.

TOTAL FOR SECTION B = 9 MARKS

ResultsPlus Examiner Comments

A legitimate case study is used (Lake District), but the explanation of why tackling the decline is a challenge is weak.
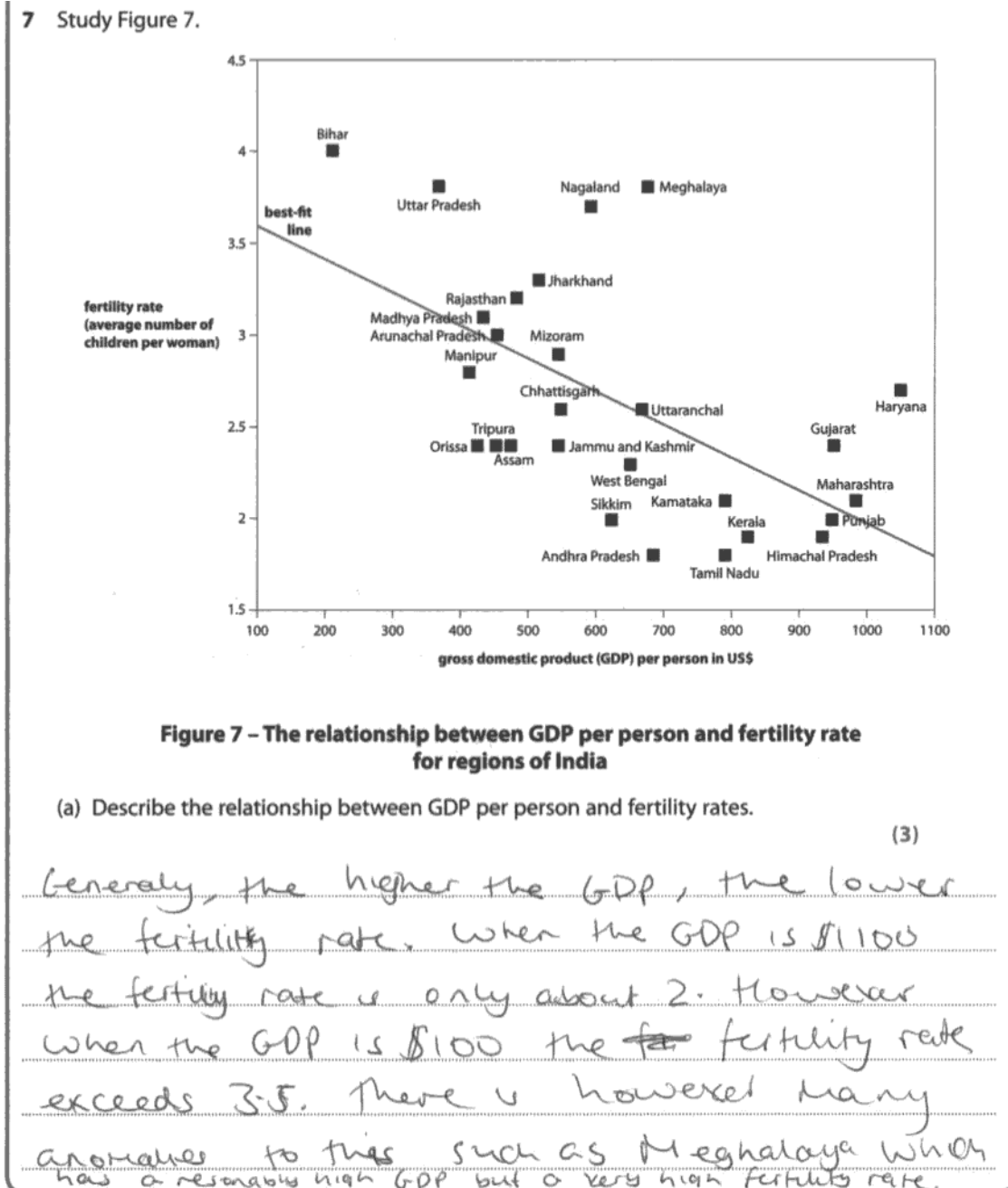
ResultsPlus Examiner Tip

Focus on understanding what the question is asking, and how marks are likely to be allocated.

Question 7 (a)

Most candidates gave the overall trend shown by the resource and used data to support this to secure 2 marks. To achieve the 3rd mark, some candidates identified an anomaly, but this was not common. Candidates used the data very well and made reference to it throughout their answers, however this was not needed. Few candidates picked up that the correlation had many variations. Candidates in many cases tried to get their 3rd mark by comparing countries at either end of the correlation rather than giving an anomaly. In some responses, candidates stated there is a negative trend and then went on to give reasons for this therefore achieving no further marks.

This response gained all 3 marks.

7 Study Figure 7.

Figure 7 – The relationship between GDP per person and fertility rate for regions of India

(a) Describe the relationship between GDP per person and fertility rates.

(3)

Generally, the higher the GDP, the lower the fertility rate. When the GDP is $1100 the fertility rate is only about 2. However when the GDP is $100 the fertility rate exceeds 3·5. There is however many anomalies to this such as Meghalaya which has a resonably high GDP but a very high fertility rate.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This answer scores 3 marks. The candidate has identified the negative correlation, used supporting data and drawn attention to the fact that there are also anomalies.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Tip

Come up with your own checklist for answering data analysis questions – eg trend, high, low, data figures, anomalies, etc.

Question 7 (b)

In general, candidates answered this question very well and made many comparisons between different development schemes (eg Narmada River Dam, Three Gorges Dam, biogas in India). The vast majority of candidates had a good understanding of what 'sustainability' means, however some failed to develop this further. Also, some candidates failed to compare development schemes and so just talked about how one scheme was sustainable, therefore limiting their marks. Many candidates also failed to include specific details to achieve full marks.

This response scored 9 marks in total.

*(b) Using examples, explain why some rural development schemes are more sustainable than others.

(6)

In Kenya a rural development scheme is FARM Africa this is where local people are given tools and fertilisers for farming and also canals are dug in order to irrigate farmland. This is sustainable because it uses simple technology that the locals can run and repair themselves, it can be passed on for generations, it doesn't harm the environment and it helps the local people as it allows them to grow and get a higher yield of crops meaning they have a larger income. Another rural development scheme is the Sardar Sarovar dam this will develop rural areas as it will provide drinking water for many people, water can be used to irrigate farmland and it is also used to create hydroelectric power meaning it is more sustainable as fossil fuels or wood do not have to be used for energy so it is not producing greenhouse gases or contributing to deforestation. However this scheme

(Total for spelling, punctuation and grammar = 3 marks)

(Total for Question 7 = 12 marks)

is not as sustainable because by building the dam it meant 234 villages were flooded forcing 320,000 people to move out. It flooded historical and religious sites, there's not many of the villages would be able to afford the hydroelectric power it produces and ~~could not create many jobs in the building of it becar~~ seismologists believe the size of the dam may trigger earthquakes. This scheme is also less sustainable because it didn't create many jobs for local people because it needed highly skilled workers ~~they are~~ showing it is not sustainable as cannot be run and mended by local people. The scheme may not be sustainable as it may not work for a long time as silt will built up reducing the volume of water the dam can hold.

![ResultsPlus logo] **Examiner Comments**

This is a very detailed and comprehensive answer scoring 6 marks for content + 3 marks for SPaG. The candidate successfully focuses their answer on the demands of the question and uses well-selected case studies with clear detail to explain why some rural development schemes are more sustainable than others.

Question 8 (a)

This question was answered reasonably well and the majority of candidates secured 2 of the 3 marks available. There was recognition of global production by most candidates, and that this was dominated by MEDCs, with the stronger candidates using examples as illustration. Many candidates failed to secure the third mark, for example by failing to recognise variations in manufacturing.

This answer scored 3 marks.

8 Study Figure 8.
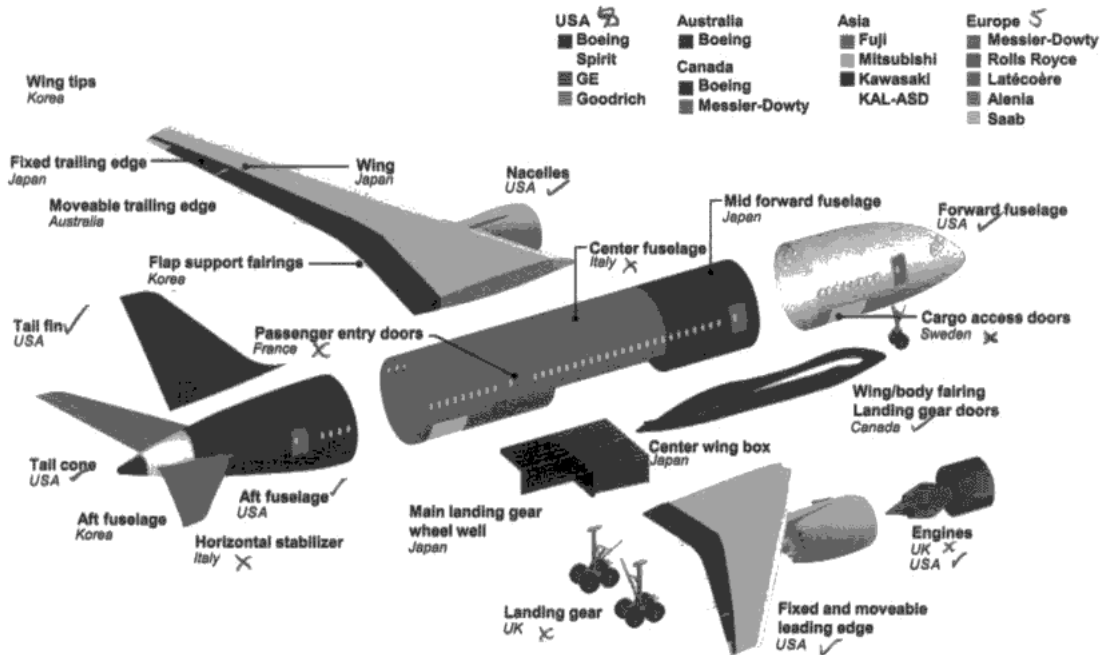
Figure 8 – The globalisation of production – where the parts for the Boeing 787 'Dreamliner' are made.

(a) Compare European and US contributions to the manufacture of the Dreamliner.

(3)

> Both Europe and the US have significant contributions to the dreamliner. The US has made a greater number of contributions however compared to the UK. There are 8 assets made from the US compared to 5 contributions from Europe. However, both Europe and the US do also share contributions in the production of the engines.

ResultsPlus
Examiner Comments

This response scores 3 marks as the candidate has identified an overall pattern, used data and identified variations in the European and US contributions.

Question 8 (b)

Most candidates approached this well, realising what the demands of the question were and so discussing job losses in MEDCs and poor conditions in new LEDC locations. Far fewer discussed environmental issues or transportation changes, and hardly any discussed loss of local culture. The 'explain why' aspect of the question was not tackled by some candidates as they just stated disadvantages for differing groups of people (ie offering a predominantly descriptive answer).

This answer scored 9 marks in total.

*(b) Using examples, explain why global shifts in production may bring **disadvantages** to some groups of people.

(6)

One example in Blue Ridge, USA, the moving of the Levi-Strauss textile factory caused the loss of over 400 jobs. Comparing that to the size of the town (2000 inhabitants) it had a substancial effect on the local economy. It caused large numbers of unemployment, especially in women, and a decline in the local economy.

However, it is not just the company losing the factories that suffer disadvantages. In some developing countries such as China, the global shift of production (especially manufacturing) has caused a large rise in pollution. This is due to the industrial activity. This pollution can cause negative health effects such as asthma.

(Total for spelling, punctuation and grammar = 3 marks)

(Total for Question 8 = 12 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION C = 12 MARKS
TOTAL FOR PAPER = 53 MARKS

Also, outsourcing parts of companies in developed countries can cause a decrease in employment. This is mainly focused on the low-skilled workers aspect but they still cause a rise in unemployment. Finally, these countries that gain jobs from outsourcing may begin to hold resentment towards developed countries due to the hard working conditions and possible exploitation.

Paper Summary

In order to improve their performance, candidates should:

- Read each question carefully, highlighting the key terms and command words to help them understand the demands of the question.

- Qualify 'pollution' – eg air pollution, water pollution, visual pollution, noise pollution and so on.

- Incorporate case study information, for example specific facts and figures, if the question asks the candidate to 'use examples in your answer'.

- Be clear whether the question is asking for reasons **why** or an explanation **how**.

- On 6 mark 'levelled' questions, include at least two explained points which are clearly centred on the demands of the question and offer both depth and balance.

- On 'outline **one**….' questions, make the initial point as succinctly as possible and then offer development in terms of an extension of this idea, for example by exemplification using facts/figures.

- If the command word is 'describe', do not be tempted to offer an explanation.

- Practice data interpretation questions from past papers – this will help improve answers addressing AO3.

- Learn the definitions for each of the key terms in each unit and be able to incorporate these into answers that require more extended writing.

Grade Boundaries

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

http://www.edexcel.com/iwantto/Pages/grade-boundaries.aspx