

# Candidate Style Answers

## **GCSE Geography A**

OCR GCSE in Geography: J380

Unit: A674 Higher Tier

These candidate style answers are designed to accompany the OCR GCSE Geography A specification for teaching from September 2009.

# GCSE Geography A

## Unit A674 Issues in our fast changing world (Higher tier)

OCR has produced these candidate style answers to support teachers in interpreting the assessment criteria for the new GCSE specifications and to bridge the gap between new specification release and availability of exemplar candidate work.

This content has been produced by senior OCR examiners, with the support of the Qualification Manager, to illustrate how the sample assessment questions might be answered and provide some commentary on what factors contribute to an overall grading. The candidate style answers are not written in a way that is intended to replicate student work but to demonstrate what a “good” or “excellent” response might include, supported by examiner commentary and conclusions.

As these responses have not been through full moderation and do not replicate student work, they have not been graded and are instead, banded “medium” or “high” to give an indication of the level of each response.

Please note that this resource is provided for advice and guidance only and does not in any way constitute an indication of grade boundaries or endorsed answers.

**10) You are working for an aid agency and are planning to allocate money to reduce the impact of future cyclones in Bangladesh. Study the list of options on which the money can be spent.**

**OPTION A Helicopters, satellites and temporary shelters.**

**OPTION B Food aid, medical aid and survival education.**

**OPTION C Sandbags, warning systems and pumps.**

**Which option would you choose? Write a letter to the Head of the Aid Agency explaining and justifying your choice.** (8)

Candidate style answer	Examiners commentary
<i>I am writing to advise you to choose Option A and spend the money on helicopters, satellites and temporary shelters. Cyclones cannot be prevented as they are natural events which occur annually in Bangladesh. However, with the use of satellites, where and when they will occur can be accurately predicted and local people can be moved to safe areas to protect their lives. Investing money in temporary shelters will enable the evacuees to survive the cyclones. It is</i>	<p><b>High level answer.</b></p> <p>The candidate has made, explained and justified a choice in a comprehensive and convincing way by referring to the advantages of that choice and the drawbacks of the other two choices.</p> <p>The candidate draws a clear conclusion, which adds further recommendations.</p>

important to provide safe and hygienic conditions for evacuees as many lives are lost after natural disasters to diseases which are made worse by exposure to harsh weather and disease caused by a lack of clean water and sanitation.. The use of helicopters, to evacuate people and to rescue survivors is important in the delta area where land based communications are virtually impossible, especially during floods. I would not choose Option B as it is better to evacuate people rather than leaving people to suffer. Even with food aid and medical aid many lives will be lost if they have to cope with the cyclones in their flimsy homes.

I would not choose Option C, what is the point of having warning systems if the people are not given help to evacuate and temporary shelters in which to live? Sandbags will be little use in the area as the cyclones are so devastating. Even if the sandbags help to prevent flooding the strong winds will destroy many of the flimsy homes. Crops will also be destroyed by the floods, sandbags will not prevent this, and even if they have pumps to remove the water they will suffer starvation and diseases like cholera which are caused by polluted water. local people. In any case how will the pumps operate? Electrically driven pumps would not work as the whole infrastructure would be destroyed by the cyclone and many people living there would not be able to afford electricity anyway. Diesel pumps would be better but from where would they get the fuel?

In conclusion my advice is to choose Option A, a long term solution. In addition educating people to survive cyclones would be useful and as a contingency plan ensure that a small amount of aid money is retained for emergency relief if necessary.