

# Candidate Style Answers

## **GCSE Geography A**

OCR GCSE in Geography: J380

Unit: A671 Foundation Tier

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

# GCSE Geography A

## Unit A671 Extreme Environments (Foundation tier)

OCR has produced these candidate style answers to support teachers in interpreting the assessment criteria for the new GSCE 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.

<b>3b) Explain why your extreme environment is challenging for local people and visitors. (6)</b>	
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>
<p><i>My mountain environment is challenging because of its climate. Local people need to survive the long winters and visitors cannot get to the area because roads are blocked by snow. For local people it is hard to make a living, especially when tourists cannot get there.</i></p>	<p><b>Medium level answer.</b></p> <p>Two challenges are mentioned, the climate and the difficulty of making a living, and these challenges relate to people and visitors. The answer could be improved by including greater explanatory detail/statistics about the climate, and the challenges posed by it. Similarly details could be included explaining why making a living in such areas is so difficult.</p>

<b>4bii) Give THREE reasons why it is important to look after your chosen extreme environment. (6)</b>	
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>
<p><i>Reason 1 The landscape is beautiful and it is important to look after it because there are not many areas in the world left which are unspoilt.</i></p> <p><i>Reason 2 The living things in the area must be conserved so they are not wiped out.</i></p> <p><i>Reason 3 It is the home of tribes of people</i></p>	<p><b>Medium level answer.</b></p> <p>Three valid reasons are given and the candidate demonstrates understanding of the issue.</p> <p>The answer could be improved by fully developing the points made, especially reasons 2 and 3. In reason 2 the fragile nature of ecosystems in the area could have been mentioned, and in reason 3 the candidate could have considered the significance of the fact that indigenous people are living there.</p>