

Candidate Style Answers

GCSE Geography A

OCR GCSE in Geography: J380

Unit: A673 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 A673 Similarities and Differences (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.

1b) Describe the main features of the landscape and economy of `your place`. (8)	
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner’s commentary</i>
<p><i>Whitby grew up in the valley and on the steep slopes where the River Esk. Meets the sea The abbey is on top of the cliff and the port is next to the mouth of the river. It used to be an important port but now many people are employed in the tourist industry.</i></p>	<p>This answer is of medium quality.</p> <p>The candidate has identified basic features relating to the natural and built landscape and made accurate, though brief, statements about the economy.</p> <p>The answer could be improved by including greater detail in each section. In particular the references to the economy could be elaborated and supported with appropriate statistics.</p>

<p>2c) Some places may be linked because people migrate between them. A migrant is considering moving from your non UK location to `your place`. Suggest the likely benefits and problems of this for `your place` and your non UK location.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">(8)</p>	
<i>Candidate style answer</i>	<i>Examiner's commentary</i>
<p><i>The likely benefits to Boston of people migrating from Gdansk is that many people will move into the area with skills. Lots of Polish builders are now living in the area so it is not difficult to find a skilled tradesman. Many unskilled workers are also available and many of them work on local farms. They are hard working and will work for cheaper wages than local people so the farmers benefit. There are now Polish restaurants and grocers shops so people who are interested in trying out new foods have more choice than they used to. However some local people are not pleased as it is harder for them to find a job, and house prices have increased as more people move into the area. Teachers in local schools are finding it difficult when there are so many children of Polish families who do not speak good English.</i></p> <p><i>Gdansk also is affected by the many people who move to other countries. There is a smaller workforce and the large shipyard is now finding it difficult to fill job vacancies. Local people are now finding it difficult to hire a builder, plumber or decorator because so many are working abroad. However the airport has grown in size and there are many more flights to the UK as the Polish people like to visit their relatives back home regularly. This benefits the local economy and has improved communications between Gdansk and other parts of Europe.</i></p>	<p>This answer is of high quality.</p> <p>The candidate has clearly addressed all aspects of the question, considering a range of benefits and problems for each of Boston and Gdansk. Explanations are detailed and a thorough understanding is shown.</p>