



# Geography

**GCSE 2012**

## **Geography A**

Candidate Style Answers  
A731/01 Contemporary  
Themes in Geography  
(Foundation Tier)

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# INTRODUCTION

These support materials are intended to support teachers in their marking. There are five candidate style responses with accompanying commentary. These exemplars are based on the published Specimen Assessment Materials (SAMs), which can be downloaded from the relevant OCR webpage for the specification.

The exemplars and commentaries should be read alongside the specification which is available from the website.

OCR will update these materials as appropriate.

Centres may wish to use these support materials in a number of ways:

- teacher training in interpretation of the marking criteria
- departmental standardisation meetings
- exemplars for candidates to review.



## EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

### ANSWER 1

Japan has so many earthquakes because it is located near the boundary of three tectonic plates. This is where the plates converge creating friction. When the plates suddenly move the earth shakes.

### COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 1

According to the mark scheme this response would gain the full three marks.

The first mark for 'near the boundary of three tectonic plates'. Second mark for 'where plates converge'. Third mark for 'creating friction' - at this point maximum marks are reached so the rest of the response does not gain any further credit. However, if only 2 marks had been reached previously then a further mark could have been awarded for 'plates suddenly move'.

## EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

### ANSWER 2

Japan is next to a plate boundary. This is where the plates move and then pressure builds up. This causes the earth to shake.

### COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 2

This response is worth 2 out of a possible 3 marks.

The first mark is awarded for 'next to a plate boundary'. 'Where the plates move' does not get a mark as more detail/further development is needed e.g. plates suddenly move or jerk free. The second mark is awarded for 'pressure builds up'. A third mark has not been awarded for 'causes the earth to shake' as again this needs further explanation as 'pressure building up' does not cause the earth to shake.



## EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

### ANSWER 1

People disagree with globalisation because of child labour in countries such as China and India. Companies such as Primark use children who work for long hours in factories (known as sweat shops) for very little money (maybe less than 50p a day). Conditions in these factories are not very safe because there are few health and safety laws. The factories also pollute the air and the water around the factory where the workers often live. This can cause disease and illness. Some organisations campaign against child labour, such as Save the Children. People in countries such as the UK may also disagree with globalisation because when companies set up factories abroad, factories in this country may close down and lead to unemployment. This happened when Marks and Spencer closed a textile factory in Cardigan Bay.

### COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 1

This response contains three ideas – child labour, environmental issues and unemployment in MEDCs.

There is sufficient detail in the place names, a named organisation and one piece of factual information which, for Foundation Level, should be sufficient for a high band answer. It would not be expected that a response should include every aspect/reason for disagreement as identified in the mark scheme and similarly the mark scheme is not exhaustive. The work is legible and spelling, grammar and punctuation is used accurately and a range of geographical terminology is used adeptly which helps to communicate meaning clearly.

Therefore, this response would be awarded Level 3, 6 marks and a further 3 marks for SPaG.



## EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

### ANSWER 2

Some people disagree with globalisation as they may lose there jobs if a company moves abroad to a LEDC like china to find cheap labour. factories in countries like china don't care about the environment as they just dump there waste into nearby rivers killing fish and plant life. Some companies use child labour to make there clothes even cheaper and sell them in MEDC's for high prices and the children are treated badly as they are not allowed to talk or go to the toilet whenever they want to

### COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 2

This response is a lot less detailed than the previous one and spelling, grammar and punctuation are not as accurate and has some errors e.g. capital letters missing for place name and start of a sentence, 'there' instead of 'their' and full stops missing. The response is also not structured into paragraphs.

However, the response still raises some valid points and explains them in limited detail. The response would therefore gain Level 2, 4 marks and a further 2 marks for SPaG.

If this answer was correctly written, structured and included a bit more detail it could become a top band answer, for example:

- the name of a company which had closed down in the UK and opened a factory abroad and/or a clothes company which uses child labour
- a statement about another group e.g. Save the Children

A good answer to give to pupils with the mark scheme to see if they can improve it further.

## EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

### ANSWER 3

People don't like globalisation because it can cause people to work in sweatshops, chemicals pollute rivers. Unemployment in MEDC's. Cheap labour in LEDC's.

### COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 3

This response consists of simple statements that are not well developed, explained or justified with examples. The response although legible is not well structured into sentences but reads as more of a list of ideas.

Therefore, this response would gain Level 1, 2 marks and a further 1 mark for SPaG.

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