London Examinations
GCE Ordinary Level

Mark Scheme and Examiners' Report for Geography 7209

May/June 2000

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May/June 2000

Order Code: UO010832

Mark Scheme and Chief Examiner's Report
May/June 2000

GEOGRAPHY 7209

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GEOGRAPHY 7209, MARK SCHEME

PAPER 1

Question 1

(a) (i) Dust from the eruption carried round the Earth by winds in the stratosphere reflected sunlight back, so temperatures were lower and skies cloudier.

(3 marks)

(ii) Carbon Dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, etc. **(2 marks)**

(b) Rise in sea level caused by increased polar ice melt, causing flooding of lowland coasts, and island, e.g……
Climatic disturbances – increased winds (France Xmas 1999), hurricanes etc, droughts (India 2000), heavy rains (Mozambique)
Any other valid comments
Credit examples **(6 marks)**

(c) 4 + 4. Diagrams should also show clear understanding and labelling of process.
Ignore separate text. **(8 marks)**

(d) Volcanoes generally show signs of disturbances some time before eruption.
These signs can be monitored and action taken to evacuate the area at risk.
Apart form pyroclastic flows, there is usually time to get people out.
Earthquakes come with little warning – minor tremors are common in all areas at risk and do not necessarily forecast major quakes. Many areas are densely populated
– destruction of buildings is main cause of death.
Any other valid points
Look for comments on **both** hazards, reserving 2 for earthquakes. **(6 marks)**

Question 2

(a) (i) Difference between maximum and minimum temperatures (either annual or diurnal). **(1 mark)**

(ii) 1. mainly chemical
2. mainly mechanical
3. mechanical and chemical **(3 marks)**

(Total: 4 marks)

(b) (i) Mechanical – caused by temperature variations exerting physical force on rocks;
Chemical – action of chemicals (mainly acid in rainwater) in dissolving rocks. **(4 marks)**

(ii) 3 + 3, reserving 1 for each diagram
Accept stalagmites/stalactites if clearly linked to chemical action.
(6 marks)

(iii) Industrial emissions (CO^2, SO^2 etc) increase acids in atmosphere, creating acid rain which attacks rocks leeward of prevailing wind.
Credit examples e.g. Scandinavia suffering from British power stations.
(4 marks)

(c) N.B **erosion** only Reserve 2 marks for diagrams **(7 marks)**

Question 3

(a) (i) ground is completely unable to absorb any more water;
(ii) water flowing over surface, often as result of saturation;
(iii) water taken up by vegetation, mostly by trees which not only absorb more water but also interrupt direct fall of rain.

Award 2 marks each if statement is clear; 1 if idea is correct but poorly stated. **(6 marks)**

(b) - moors already saturated
- very heavy rain…
- concentrated in short time e.g. 40/193 mm in 24 hours
- so very heavy run-off down steep slopes
- little vegetation (few trees) to intercept
- water poured down valleys causing floods
- in Halifax, narrowed channel unable to contain floodwater
any other valid comments. **(7 marks)**

(c) A large amount of water pouring into a reservoir will, because of its size, cause only a small increase in level, easily contained by the dam / barrage; the same amount pouring unchecked down a valley will cause dramatic rise in river level, causing floods. **(4 marks)**

(d) (i) Reserve 3 marks for locational features.
(ii) Accept annotations of reasons / effects on map or written description (5 marks) **(8 marks)**

Question 4

(a) (i) 1½ km (± ¼ km) **(1 mark)**

(ii) to check longshore drift from W;
to prevent growth of a spit across estuary;
to keep ferry route free of sand banks

Any 2 points **(2 marks)**

(iii) to protect buildings at Seaford
to maintain beach
to check erosion
- any other valid points **(2 marks)**

(iv) Reserve 1 for diagram
Accept good annotation of diagrams to maximum **(4 marks)**

(Total: 9 marks)

(b) For:- colossal cost – often wasted effort
protection rarely lasts more than a few years
protection of one area often causes problems in another

Against:- danger to property, farmland, life
Political pressures
2 + 2, plus 1 for any amplification

N.B If candidate confuses for/against, do **not** penalise **(5 marks)**

(c) The cages interrupt the approach of waves to the reef, absorbing some of the energy and therefore the erosive power. Movement of the balls within the cages further reduces the energy. **(3 marks)**

(d) Either:-
Reserve 1 for aim; + 7
or:-
Any 8 appropriate points on map – location,
Source of problems; solutions etc.

Do not accept written text. **(8 marks)**

Question 5

(a) (i) 300km (± 25 km) **(1 mark)**

(ii) Rapid shrinkage of surface area, particularly fast since 1985; towns which were on shoreline now inland; islands larger; water level dropping equally fast. Area now (2000) half that of 1960.
Reserve 1 mark for reference to water level **(5 marks)**

(iii) Town is now 20-25 km from sea, Loss of fishing means loss of income – extreme poverty. **(2 marks)**

(Total Marks: 8)

(b) (i) Caused by constant irrigation in high temperatures; dissolved salts drawn upwards by capillary action; waterlogging brings them to the surface; evaporation leaves salts in topsoil.

(ii) Lower the water table by pumping from tube wells; flush out salts with fresh water, then pump this away. Reduce level / frequency of irrigation.
Reserve 1 for diagram (but credit annotation not in text)
Award remaining 8 as 3 + 3, with other 2 where merited. **(9 marks)**

(c) (i) Appropriate named area – 1 mark

(ii) 7 marks. Reserve 1 for solutions. **(8 marks)**

Question 6

(a) (i) X 1012 mb; Y 1024 mb
½ + ½, but deduct ½ if mb not quoted at least once **(1 mark)**

(ii) 22°C; rain; 2 oktas of cloud; wind S.E/SSE, force 3, 13-17 knots
Any 4 points @ ½ **(2 marks)**

(iii) A lies ahead of approaching warm front -2° C
B is in warm sector (and a long way S) -22° C
D is in cold sector behind cold front and more continental. -2.8°C
(3 marks)

(iv) Temperature will rise as warm front arrives, stay fairly high for some hours, then drop as cold front passes into much colder air of cold sector.
(2 marks)

(v) C is in anticyclonic area with very low-pressure gradient so winds are very light; D is relatively close to centre of low pressure with steep pressure gradient therefore strong winds. **(2 marks)**

(Total: 10 marks)

(b) (i) P is on the flood plain, probably with few buildings, so an open space, therefore night temperatures are low **(2 marks)**

(ii) Q is a built-up area
- radiation of heat stored by buildings during day
- heat from street lights/ traffic
- lack of vegetation to absorb heat

Any other valid point **(2 marks)**

(iii) Cold air (from R etc) drains down slopes and is trapped at S, lowering temperature. (In winter this would be a frost pocket) **(2 marks)**

(Total: 6 marks)

(c) Either: Accept fully annotated diagrams but reserve 2 if no diagrams.
Two separate accounts are acceptable but reward attempts to Explain the differences.
or, Look for methods, recording, analysis **(9 marks)**

Question 7

(a) (i)
1. St Louis
2. St Louis
3. St Louis
4. San Francisco **(½ each – 2 marks)**

(ii) San Francisco has marked winter maximum with a very dry (May-Sept) summer while St Louis has a more even distribution with no dry season but a slight summer maximum.

(iii) Cold offshore current reduces San Francisco's temperatures in summer; hot air from land chilled over current – condensation results in fog.

(iv) St Louis is far from any maritime influences, therefore has a more extreme, continental range of temperatures. San Francisco's winters are tempered by the presence of the sea and summers by the cold current.

Reserve 2 for each of (ii) (iii) and (iv) and award remaining 2 where merited.

(8 marks)

(b) No alternative to Mediterranean
Any 7 points of description / explanation **(7 marks)**

(c) Heavier rainfall from April to June causes leaching of minerals downwards; high summer temperatures draw moisture back upwards by capillary action. Warm temperatures and moisture causes good breakdown of organic matter – hence high humus level.
Look for at least 2 comments / amplification **(4 marks)**

(d) Temperate grasslands are rich in humus (see (c) above) while the long winter drought and summer concentration of rain in tropical area causes more severe leaching – few minerals in upper levels, and sparser vegetation – less humus.

(4 marks)

Question 8

(a) (i) land left uncultivated **(1 mark)**

(ii) 1. 6 tonnes per hectare
2. 18 tonnes per hectare
3. 9/10 tonnes per hectare

(3 marks but deduct ½ mark if units not given in full at least once)

(iii) Crops planted on slopes allow easy downwash of soil. Especially after ploughing and sowing, hence high loss of soil.
Contour ploughing reduces soil loss since every furrow acts as a check to downward movement, but some soil is always lost when unprotected by a growing crop. Reserve 2 for explanation. **(4 marks)**

(Total: 8 marks)

(b) (i) Costa Rica /Belize **(1 mark)**

(ii) El Salvador **(1 mark)**

(iii) In 1950 over 2/3 of land area was forested; by 1970 less than 1/3 was still covered and by 1985 only about 1/10 still had original forest.
El Salvador has no natural forest left, while Panama, Honduras and Costa Rica have very little. **(5 marks)**

(Total: 7 marks)

(c) Without transpiration from dense rainforest, convection rainfall is reduced in quantity so ground water levels drop. Moreover, without trees to intercept the heavy downpours, there is rapid erosion and most of the rain runs off the surface, with little sinking into the water table. **(4 marks)**

(d) (i) Appropriate named area: 1 mark
(ii) 5 marks, reserving 1 for assessment
Do not accept 'Amazon' or Brazil' unless specific area/scheme is specified.
2 marks maximum for general points in (ii). **(6 marks)**

PAPER 2

Question 1

(a) (i) System B – 1 mark
Credit any reference suggesting no commercial basis/profit for 1 mark. **(2 marks)**

(ii) Inputs eg soil, fertilisers, capital. **(2 marks)**
Outputs eg. Animal products or crops. **(2 marks)**

(b) Reserve 2 marks for 1. Reserve 4 marks for 2/3.
Award 3 marks where deserved. **(9 marks)**

1. 'Natural food'; health; taste; fashion.
2/3. Unertia; availability artificial fertilisers; possible initial drop in yield; profit fall; await research results; await possible financial incentives; need to convince of environmental merits; other valid comments; allow transfer.

(c) Named area of appropriate scale, any part of the world. **(1 mark)**

(i) Map, Locational features. **(3x1 mark)**

(ii) Reserve 2 marks for each of physical and economic factors.
Award 2 marks where deserved. **(6 marks)**

Question 2

(a) (i) GNP, money value of all goods and services. **(1 mark)**

(ii) International currency **(1 mark)**
Valid comparisons **(1 mark)**

(iii) E.g. life expectancy; adult literacy; provided statistics implied. **(2x1 mark)**

(iv) 5% unlikely; supervision often lacking; not reach appropriate people; not always increase output; possible corruption; poor infrastructure; other valid points.
1 mark available for example. **(4 marks)**

(b) Credit any valid reference suggesting it is appropriate for needs, resources, expertise. **(4 marks)**

(c) Examples of trade blocs allow 2x ½ marks. Credit references to allowing goods to pass more easily and cheaply/downside.
Reserve 2 marks. Tariff's; protectionism/retaliation/justified on occasions?
Reserve 2 marks. Award 3 where deserved. **(7 marks)**

(d) Credit valid arguments, e.g. trade – access foreign exchange; encourage industrial development; develop Infrastructure; availability of raw materials; price volatility.
Aid – strings attached; political agenda; not always appropriate; respond to emergencies; multi-nationals.
References to aid and trade for maximum marks. **(5 marks)**

Question 3

(a) (i) 1200-1400 km **(1 mark)**
SW or SSW **(1 mark)**
(ii) Reserve 1 mark for each of advantage and disadvantage.
e.g. clarity; ease of reading; distort distance/direction. **(3 marks)**

(b) Reserve 4 marks for description and 4 marks for accounting.
Award 2 marks where deserved.

Breakwater/shelter. Artificial harbour. Flat area. Warehousing/ Passenger terminals. Communications. Parking/trucks. Loading facilities. Credit roll on/roll off. Allied industrial/ commercial development. Other valid comments.

(c) Named airport, not just city name. **(1 mark)**

Map, 3 x1mark for locational features.
Reserve 2marks for each of advantages and disadvantages.
Award 2marks where deserved.
e.g. noise, congestion, hub function, international links.

Question 4

(a) (i) 1. 1900 78-85% **(1 mark)**
2. 23-27% **(1 mark)**

(ii) 6 marks for reasons but for maximum need some reference to 1975.
e.g. environment; aspect; relative prices; changing demand; alternative sources; technical improvements.

(b) (i) Installed = operational **(1 mark)**
Potential = available with future development **(1 mark)**

(ii) 1. 53/ 55 m Kw **(1 mark)**
2. 24/ 25 % **(1 mark)**

(iii) Greater potential in C/D; greater proportion installed in A/B.
Not significant is the difference between installed capacities.
Credit supporting statistical evidence.
Allow 2 marks for statistics. **(5 marks)**

(c) (i) Named station in Low Income Country **(1 mark)**

(ii) Locational features/factors marked on map of appropriate.
Scale 3 x1 mark. Annotation on/marginal to map 5 marks.
Reserve 2 marks for location and 2 marks for factors.

Question 5

(a) (i) 2 marks for each. Additional mark where deserved,
e.g. industrial areas along river – transport; new developments on margins – green fields sites.

(b) (i) Divide population by area **(1 mark)**
(ii) 1. 10 - 15000 1 mark 2. 30-35000 **(1 mark)**
(iii) Description 2 marks. Account 3 marks. Outward migration from CBD and inner city.
(iv) 3 marks for each part, 2 marks where deserved. Arrest decay; reduce traffic congestion; generate funds; perception; inertia; cost; nature of accommodation; limited space.

Question 6

(a) (i) 19-21 years **(1 mark)**
(ii) Dramatic/unusual/unexpected/progressive/decline. **(1 mark)**
(iii) Impact on workforce; early retirement? Consequences on health service; fear factor.
Reserve 2 marks for each of the above. Award 3 marks where deserved.

(b) Reserve 3 marks for each part. Award 2 marks where deserved. Award 1 mark for example in (ii).

(c) (i) Reserve 2 marks for map but award up to 4 marks.

(ii) Reserve 2 marks for each of physical and human factors.
Award remaining marks where deserved. **(9 marks)**

Question 7

(a) (i) HIC to LIC. North to south. Across Atlantic and Pacific.
HIC's wish to unload/ cost effective; public pressure;
permit transport. **(6 marks)**

(ii) Assist development; foreign exchanges; fewer controls;
lack of public awareness; risks not known.
4 marks Permit transport.
If 8 marks or more must be reference to pattern of movement.

(b) Finite resources; environmental awareness; education; technology;
cost effective; government/public pressures; accepted practice. **(7 marks)**

(c) Named resources 2x1 mark. Must be arguments on both sides for
maximum marks. Otherwise to 5 marks maximum.

Question 8

(a) (i) 1. City A 25-26% **(1 mark)**
2. City B 14-18% **(1 mark)**

(ii) Accept examples, e.g. shipbuilding/electronics, or simple
explanation **(2 marks)**

(iii) 4 marks, e.g. more administration in B; less technology/
less efficient. More services in A, more developed
economy; more resources for education, etc.
4 marks for differences. **(4 marks)**

(b) (i) Sketch map. 3 marks for locational features of one centre in MIC.
No marks if not MIC, but candidate gets benefit of any doubt.
Accept Singapore. **(3 marks)**

(ii) 5 marks for factors **(5 marks)**

(c) 9 marks. Accept references to any type of industry, e.g. infrastructure;
policy; decentralisation; funding; trade links.
Reserve 3 marks for examples of place/industry. **(9 marks)**

GEOGRAPHY 7209, CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT

Paper 1

General Comments

A commendable feature of this year's examination was the greatly improved use of the resource material. However, many candidates were unable to demonstrate understanding of basic geographical processes and, many case studies lacked accuracy and detail. Many candidates seem to lack a background of geographic discipline without which no amount of skill in the use of data will be adequate to achieve good marks.

There were fewer rubric offences and fewer candidates choosing to answer only parts of questions.

Comments on individual questions

Question 1

Sound answers to (a) were common, though few candidates referred to the dust being carried round the world in the stratosphere and many failed to point out why the reflection of the sunlight caused cooling. In (b), examples were few and not always accurate; answers rarely commented on the variations in climate already becoming evident, some commenting on drought but rarely on floods. Separate text in (c) was not credited; only annotations on the diagrams merited marks. While many of these diagrams were excellent, others showed little understanding and some equated plate margins to rift valleys and horsts. Answers to (d) often showed ignorance of the potential scale of a volcanic eruption, and of the fact that ash and gases can travel far in a very short time; many appear to think that only lava is erupted.

Question 2

A surprising number of candidates were unable to define 'range of temperature' while some failed to realise that the answers to (ii) could be reasoned from the diagram. In (b) many showed confusion between weathering and erosion, while in (c) they failed to restrict their answers to erosion features or to explain, for example, why erosion is greatest close to the ground.

Question 3

Answers to (a) generally showed an improved understanding of hydrology and many made excellent use of the data in (b) to give a comprehensive explanation. Answers to (c), however, were often restricted to the idea of storage, few appreciated that a large quantity of water has less impact on the level of a reservoir than on a restricted river channel; many perpetuate the idea that dams simply overflow. In (d), the most common example was the Aswan dam. Unfortunately, most of the maps were grossly inaccurate (the dam south of L. Nasser; the lake with no contact with the dam or to the east or west of it, etc), while statements about the relationship of Egypt and the Nile floods before the building of the dam were misconceived. Other examples often failed to establish where or what the scheme was, or provided a diagram rather than a map.

Question 4

Measurement of the groyne was often over-estimated, and most answers to (a) (ii) ignored the need to protect the mouth of the Ouse from deposition. Few candidates could explain the wave-cut platform adequately, merely outlining cliff recession.
The candidate who began "A wave-cut platform is a ledge of fairly smooth rock extending seawards from the base of a cliff "and then continued to explain cliff erosion was clearly outstanding. Arguments for and against coastal protection measures were generally sound, if somewhat simplistic, while answers to (c) were usually restricted to the checking of wave energy. Good answers considered the role of the loose plastic balls within the cages. The fieldwork alternative in (d) attracted few; some answers showed little realism: build groynes, measure pebbles every minute, etc. It was clear that candidates had little idea of the time-scales and system needed for such an investigation. For the alternative, only annotations on a map were credited; many candidates chose too large an area or wrote lengthy separate text.

Question 5

This was the least popular question, possibly because few could answer (b) well. Many referred to irrigation by seawater, while those who did know the cause of salinity rarely knew enough about the treatment, often suggesting the application of lime. Examples in (c) were often vague, a common style being to state the cause of the pollution and then just to stop it, with little detail of how this is achieved.

Question 6

It is expected that candidates should be able to state the units of any measurements. Many failed to indicate that their answers to (a) (i) were in millibars. The required answer to (iii) was to recognise that A lay just ahead of the warm front, B was in the warm sector and D in the cold sector. Lengthy answers were often irrelevant. Very few candidates can relate wind speed to pressure gradient, so answers to (v) were often nonsensical. In (b) few identified that the graph showed night temperatures. The statement that P is on the flood plain needs amplification if it is to explain the lower temperature; similarly, it is not enough simply to say that Q is an urban area or that global warming is the explanation. A surprising number of candidates insisted that temperatures increase with increasing altitude to explain both Q and R. Few understood the colder air sinking into the valley at S. Answers to (c) (either) revealed a sloppy approach to the understanding of hydrological processes. "Air" does not condense; winds do not 'hit' mountains. It is expected that such processes should be explained in accurate terms. The fieldwork alternative was answered by few, as in Question 4, there was little understanding of the methods needed to collect the data (a Stevenson screen on every corner!) or to assess it.

Question 7

The analysis of climatic data appears to be a lost art, yet a systematic approach to it is very easy to acquire. Many answers to (a) (ii) compared the two stations month by month, a time-wasting and ineffectual procedure, while the presence of the cold current off San Francisco was either ignored or used in a garbled explanation of fog formation and its effects. Many candidates showed a lack of understanding of extreme temperatures referring only to St Louis being hotter than San Francisco. It was expected that the winter rainfall of San Francisco was clearly the clue to the

Mediterranean vegetation, and no other type was acceptable. Few candidates made full use of the climatic data to explain the soil characteristics, many had clearly not studied soils, and answers to (d) were often, inaccurately, restricted to "temperate areas have more rain". There were, however, a few candidates who gave outstanding answers to (c) and (d).

Question 8

Many of the answers to (a) (iii) suggested a lack of knowledge about contour ploughing. Certainly most explanations of the lower soil losses lacked substance. In (b), many candidates appeared unable to write a systematic description (not explanation) of the changes shown on the maps. Some good answers, however, noted the faster clearances on the Pacific side of the isthmus and even the apparent reforestation of some inland areas of Belize. Good answers to (c) covered not only the loss of transpiration, but also of protection, soil erosion, increased run-off, less infiltration. Many candidates glibly quoted the Amazon forests in (d) but were unable to quote a specific scheme of reforestation, and therefore earned few marks. General accounts are not the case studies required by the syllabus.

Concluding remarks

The performance of candidates on this paper could be considerably enhanced by more thorough and careful learning of basic principles and processes, by learning the difference between diagrams and maps, and by ensuring that they can deal with case studies in detail.

Paper 2

General Comments

In general, the examiners felt that a greater proportion of candidates were able to tackle four questions with some degree of success than had been the case in former years. While it remains the case that the paper seems too challenging for a minority, who frequently write at great length, it must also be reported that some candidates demonstrate a significant insight into some of the contemporary issues featured on the paper and express their view with confidence, maturity and clarity. In some instances there is a good command of geographical vocabulary, though candidates should note that a technical term, appropriately used, does not require a definition.

It is clearly the case that many candidates fail to do justice to preparation and planning; it seems that most chose to disregard the advice to spend the first fifteen minutes reading through the paper. A consequence is that many write at far greater length than is often necessary, frequently incorporating irrelevant material and repetition, and sometimes forfeiting the opportunity to do justice to their fourth answer.

A particularly pleasing aspect of candidates' responses this session was a greater willingness to include sketch maps in answers. Some were well used to illustrate distributions which might otherwise have been difficult to convey. While there remains scope for the technical aspects of such maps to be improved, (for example the key was sometimes overlooked), this trend is commended. Additionally, it must be remembered that it is crucial to produce a map of appropriate scale. The availability to candidates of a few coloured pens/pencils might also enhance the quality of such maps.

However, the most pleasing aspect of many scripts submitted this session was an increased awareness by candidates of basic examination techniques. More candidates are reading the questions with care and thought and responding specifically to what is required of them. There were very few rubric offences. Answers, in the main, were structured in keeping with the format of the questions. The examiners would be particularly grateful if all candidates could mark on the front of their scripts which questions have been attempted.

Comments on individual questions

Question 1

This proved a popular question. Many candidates had a good grasp of the concepts of 'subsistence farming', 'a farming system' and 'organic farming'. Some candidates pointed out that inertia often gets in the way of change and that any type of farming which becomes more labour intensive has significant cost implications.

Unfortunately, part (c) was not well answered by many candidates; frequently, the reference to significant change of the physical environment was completely overlooked. The best answers had a focus on the likes of the Netherlands or an area of tropical rain forest.

Question 2

In general this question was well answered. There were some particularly perceptive responses to (a)(iv), often related to named examples. There was detailed knowledge of how 'corruption' adversely affects the distribution of resources. Surprisingly, there was rarely a comment on Advanced Industrial Countries spending up to 5% of GNP on aid; indeed, on the occasions this was mentioned, opinion was frequently that this figure was lower than reality.

In (b), there was a tendency for weaker candidates to simply quote from the text and not address the question. The best answers pointed out that the mobile plant was well suited to the needs, resources and skills of the people for whom it was intended.

A significant number of candidates failed to differentiate between trade blocs and tariffs in (c); moreover, a common weakness was a failure to comment on the impact of such on international trade. There were some excellent answers to part (d). Credit was given for a reasoned response, whether it supported the assertion or not.

Question 3

It seems that part (a) prompted some candidates to make observations on the qualities of the railway rather than the map. Direction defeated many in (i).

There were many comprehensive responses to the question linked to the photograph; detailed observations were frequently made. Some candidates commented on ports in general; while some credit was given for such, a failure to respond to the particular port in question resulted with a loss of marks.

Part (c) was often a weak part of this answer. Many candidates reported at length about advantages and disadvantages of air transport; this was not required. Moreover,

geographical advantages and disadvantages of a named airport were sought. Hence comments on security, retailing and the like were redundant, whereas observations such as access to the airport and related issues of pollution were credited.

Question 4

This was a popular question which was generally well answered apart from (b)(ii)(2) where the calculation defeated many. It was the only question on the paper where a large proportion of candidates who attempted the question were able to do justice to all parts. This was the result of many candidates being well equipped to draw upon an appropriate case study. There were some excellent annotated sketch maps produced in part (c); in many such cases the examiners were able to award maximum marks.

Question 5

Marks were often lost in part (a) as some candidates failed to give attention to urban structure, preferring to comment on the quality of land use types. In part (b) many candidates had a good knowledge of the reasons leading to urban-rural migration but the description of the change was sometimes overlooked and consequently marks were lost. Some candidates insisted that the diagrams showed rural-urban migration.

Part (iv) proved a difficult proposition for weaker candidates but nonetheless there were some perceptive responses to the question where candidates explained the inherent problems of neglecting the urban core and the difficulties of enticing people back when they considered it to be an area of pollution, congestion and crime. Considerable attention was also given by many candidates to the impact of commuting.

Question 6

While there was no mention of the reason for the forecast change in life expectancy in South Africa, many candidates quickly reasoned that it was mainly a result of the devastating impact of AIDS. Unfortunately, some got carried away with this and lost sight of the question, though equally there were many considered and measured responses. A small number of candidates ignored the data and insisted that life expectancy invariably improves.

Again in part (c) the examiners were encouraged by the willingness of many candidates to attempt to draw a sketch map to illustrate the distribution of population. Sometimes it was sufficient to mark on areas of dense population, sparse population and those areas in between the two extremes, perhaps adding key urban centres. It was of course critical to select an area of appropriate scale, as the question required a named country or region.

Question 7

This was the least popular question on the paper and produced some very good and some very poor answers. In the best answers there was a keen sense of the injustice of countries in the highly developed world 'dumping' waste materials on countries in the developing world. Weaker answers in part (a) simply quoted the countries between which materials were moved; better answers reflected on 'patterns' of movement, such as those from north to south and across major oceans.

Question 8

This was a question in which a significant number of candidates lost marks owing to a failure to read the question carefully. In (a)(iii) many failed to suggest reasons for the differences, sticking solely to description which was not required and yielded no marks.

Only a small proportion of candidates selected an example of a Middle Income Country in part (b), though candidates were always given the benefit of the doubt where marginal examples were employed. Even then, there was sometimes a failure to attend to the factors which favour production there.

Part (c) showed many candidates to be knowledgeable about the influence of government action on industrial activity. However, this part of the question related specifically to location which was often overlooked.

GEOGRAPHY 7209, GRADE BOUNDARIES

Grade	A	B	C	D	E
Lowest mark for award of grade	56	46	37	32	26

Note: Grade boundaries may vary from year to year and from subject to subject, depending on the demands of the question paper.

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