Examiners' Report

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GCSE Geography 5GA3F

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Introduction

It was pleasing to see a good standard of responses from candidates in this first session of the new modular examination.

The paper requires candidates to answer a variety of questions on their two chosen topics in 60 minutes. The majority of candidates successfully completed the required number of questions within the permitted time.

The approach to individual questions is considered in this report, including an examples of good practice for questions requiring a degree of extended writing. It is these questions that provided the greatest range of responses of candidates, with the best answers providing the necessary level of description, explanation and / or specific points as required.

Question 1(a) (i)

this question was generally answered well but some candidates became confused over the correct order that the bars needed to be drawn. Others were unable to understand the value of each bar square.

Question 1(a) (iii)

most candidates were successful in understanding the broad trends taking place on Figure 1a. However, many only achieved 2 marks because no employment data (%'s) was used. Some failed to interpret the question correctly and described the changes in primary or secondary employment.

Question 1(a) (vi)

this question was not understood by many candidates and poorly answered on the whole. Most candidates attempted to explain the decline in secondary employment rather than the decline in secondary industry.

Question 1(a) (vii)

'Demographic' was a term not clearly understood by many candidates. This consequently led to many candidates incorrectly writing about changes in technology, the economy, transport etc. rather than change in population structure.

Question 1(c) (i)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 1(c) (ii)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 1(c) (iii)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 1(c) (iv)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 1(c) (v)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 1(d)

Most answers emphasised the positive eg more jobs, better pay etc. Many candidates only achieved 3 marks due to unspecific comments - valid comments about the effects of growth, but could be about any LIC or MIC experiencing growth in the secondary sector. Some candidates misread the question and outlined the reasons for the growth of the secondary sector.

Question 2(a) (i)

Many candidates answered this question incorrectly, failing to work out the value of each square (in this case, each square is worth 4 000 visitors). Candidates must be prepared to describe and interpret graphs using different scales.

Question 2(a) (ii)

Most candidates were able to describe the overall increase in visitor numbers and some the initial drop/rise. Some focussed on the data they had to add – but not many. Many candidates incorrectly read the value of each square, failing to gain the mark reserved for the use of visitor data.

Question 2(b) (iii)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 2(c) (i)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 2(c) (ii)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 2(c) (iii)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 2(c) (iv)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 2(c) (v)

Well answered by the majority of candidates.

Question 2(d)

Well answered by the majority of candidates. Common responses included advantages such as organic produce being healthier and no chemicals bing used; common disadtantages used outlined the increased cost for the consumer and the reduction in yield for the farmer.

The example below shows a response scoring full marks. It successfully outlines both an advantage and disadvantage of organic farming.

(d) There has been a rise in organic farming in the UK.

Outline **one** advantage and **one** disadvantage of organic farming.

(4)

Advantage

Organic farming is healthier because it does not use any chemicals in the process. They do not produce as much pollution as Imported goods because they are produced locally.

Disadvantage

Twice as much methane is given off by the animals causing a rise in temperatures leading to Global Warming. Organic farming is much more expensive and uses up too much land which

Question 2(e)

Well answered and interesting to read with 3 or 4 marks widely attained as good use was made of case studies. The example below demonstrates what examiners are looking for, for full marks. This example has specific points about a particular farm (e.g. how much the farmer charges people to store their caravans rather than just saying that the farmer 'stores caravans').

(e) Choose a UK farm that has diversified.

Outline the ways in which this farm has diversified.

(4)

Chosen farm ......Home....farm..

Home farm has diversified by turning their cow sheds into bed and breakfast. Where people can stay overnight. They also rent their fields out for pony grazing and if they want a shed it costs £100 a month. They also have a field where they store peoples caravans for £300 a year. A Home farm is located ~~near town~~ in Birmingham, When people go on holiday they store their cars in his field for £5 a day. as it is close to the airport

(Total for Question 2 = 25 marks)

Question 3(a) (i)

Well answered by candidates

Question 3(a) (ii)

This question provided a very broad range of responses by candidates, with some struggling because of a lack of an overall trend in the data. Furthermore, some candidates thought these remote rural areas were villages.

Question 3(b) (i)

Well answered by candidates, with most candidates identifying at least two factors affectting the site of West Tanfield.

Question 3(b) (iv)

Many candidates successfully gave two reasons for the need for more housing in the UK, but did not offer much in the way of an elaboration. Examiners are looking for a development of a point when there are four marks for two reasons.

Question 3(b) (v) 1

Well answered by candidates

Question 3(b) (v) 2

Well answered by candidates

Question 3(b) (v) 3

Well answered by candidates

Question 3(b) (v) 4

Well answered by candidates

Question 3(b) (v) 5

Well answered by candidates

Question 3(c)

There was some misunderstanding about what was demanded by this question, with some candidates outlining the effects effects rather than causes of rapid urban growth. There were some excellent answers relating to Rio de Janiero and Cairo which had clear, specific points linked to the chosen case study.

Question 4(a) (i)

Most popular question in section A

Well answered, with the majority of candidates correctly adding the missing bars to the population pyramid.

Question 4(a) (v) 1

Well answered by candidates

Question 4(a) (v) 2

Well answered by candidates

Question 4(a) (v) 3

Well answered by candidates

Question 4(a) (v) 4

Well answered by candidates

Question 4(a) (v) 5

Well answered by candidates

Question 4(a) (vi)

Generally well answered. Candidates outlined the disadvantages (eg pensions, care homes, demands on health services etc.) more clearly than the advatages. Example 3 (below) demonstrates what the examiners were looking for - one advantage, one disadvantage and a development of each.

(4)

Advantage

The more care homes they will need which could provide a job or second job for the ~~economically~~ economically active ~~people~~

Disadvantage

The more older people there is there will be more need for pensions and tax will go up for the people that work which could change lifestyles.

Question 4(b) (i)-(ii)

Candidates made good use of the map with a number achieving maximum marks as per mark scheme.

Question 4(c)

Some candidates mis-interpreted the demands of the question and outlined the methods used in China to reduce the birth rate.

Many candidates successfully used the Singapore case study to outline methods of increasing the birth rate. A few candidates used France as their case study, again with good results.

The example below demonstrates what examiners were looking for - specific details about a particular country.

(4)

Chosen country Sigapore.

Singapore are trying to boost its birth rate by giving £3600 for the first two children and £6000 for the 3rd and 4th. Every child gets a savers account when they are born, and what ever amount of money you put in the government match it.

Question 5(a) (ii)

Well answered, with the majority of candidates able to describe push and pull factors affecting migration.

Question 5(a) (iii) 1

Well answered by candidates

Question 5(a) (iii) 2

Well answered by candidates

Question 5(a) (iii) 3

Well answered by candidates

Question 5(a) (iii) 4

Well answered by candidates

Question 5(a) (iii) 5

Well answered by candidates

Question 5(a) (iv)

Generally well answered, with candidates describing the positive social and economic impacts of migration on the host country (example 5).

Common pitfalls were when some candidates ignored 'host country' and when some candidates described push and pull factors.

Include an example in your answer.

(4)

Social

people can learn about different cultures, for example children from poland can teach children in the uk about there culture.

Economic

They fill in the jobs no one else wants to do like fruit picking. which means more money is made

Question 5(b) (i)

this question was not as well recieved as with the higher tier as candidates found it hard to work out the scale of the graph and the value of each square.

Question 5(c) (ii)

well answered, with the majority candidates using the resource to help them with their answers.

Question 5(c) (iii)

The majority of candidates answerd this well. However, some candidates misunderstood the questions and attempted to explain why elderly people retired to destinations, such as Spain.

Many responses achieved 3 marks rather than 4 as they were lacking an explanation and / or specifics about the chosen case study. An example of a 3 mark response is shown below.

For full marks, examiners were looking for both an explanation and specific points about the chosen case study.

> destination.
>
> Chosen study Australia
>
> (4)
>
> The consequences of retirement migration on Australia is that they will have an ageing population, which will mean there will be less crime, low populated work force, but will have to build more retirement homes. This will cost them money.

Question 6(a) (i)

Extremely well answered, with candidates offereing a wide range of reasons to explain hy tourism has increased in the last 50 years. The most common responses focussed on cheaper and more accessible transportation, a ride in disposable income / paid holidays and cheaper package holidays.

Question 6(a) (ii) 1

Well answered by candidates

Question 6(a) (ii) 2

Well answered by candidates

Question 6(a) (ii) 3

Well answered by candidates

Question 6(a) (ii) 4

Well answered by candidates

Question 6(a) (ii) 5

Well answered by candidates

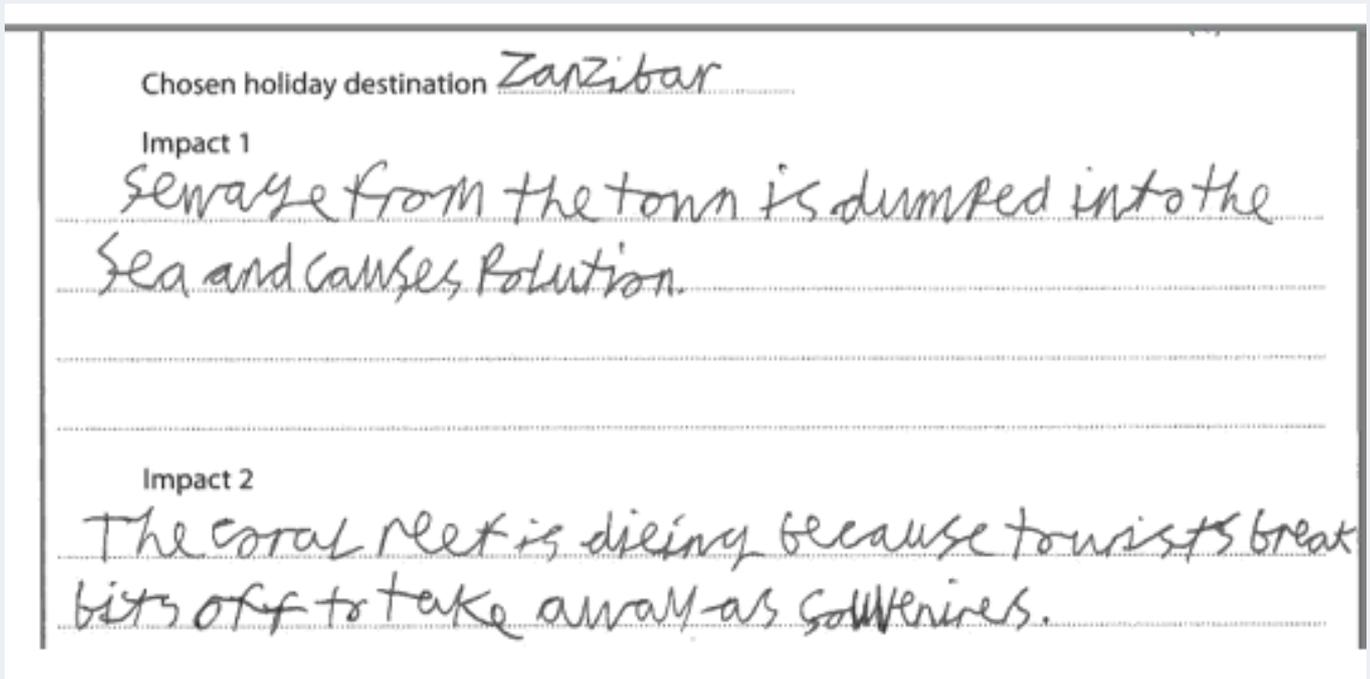## Question 6(a) (iii)

extremely well recieved, ith many candidates using the resource well and achieving full marks. The main pitfall here was when students had not fully understood the question and only wrote about human or physical attractions.

Question 6(b)

Generally well answered with pertinent answers referring to increased noise, litter, air pollution, loss of habitat etc.
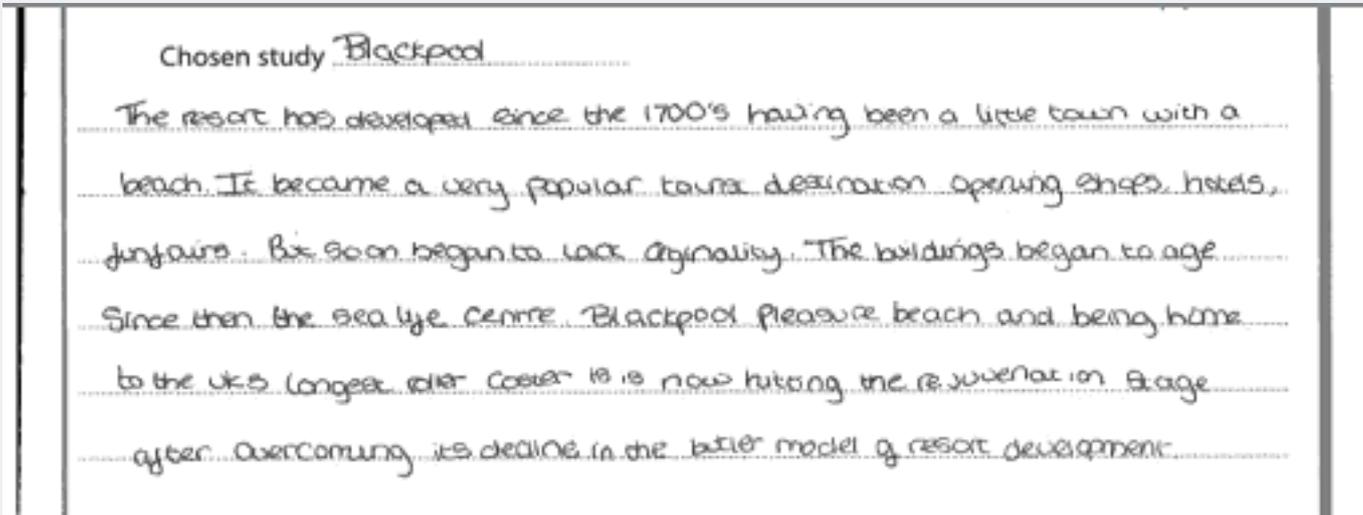
Examiners were looking for answers that were linked to a specific case study. An example of this is shown below:

Chosen holiday destination *Zanzibar*

Impact 1

Sewage from the town is dumped into the Sea and causes Polution.

Impact 2

The coral reef is dieing because tourists break bits off to take away as soulvenires.

Question 6(d)

Generally well answered by candidates. A wide range of case studies was seen ranging from Ayia Napa to Blackpool with many scoring at least 2 marks and some even achieving the maximum.

For maximium marks, examiners were looking for both explanation and specific points. An example of a response that was awarded full marks is hown below:

> Chosen study Blackpool
>
> The resort has developed since the 1700's having been a little town with a beach. It became a very popular tourist destination opening shops, hotels, funfairs. But soon began to lack originality. The buildings began to age. Since then the sea life centre, Blackpool Pleasure beach and being home to the UK's longest roller coaster is is now hitting the rejuvenation stage after. Overcoming its decline in the butler model of resort development.

On the whole, the candidates response to the paper was extremely positive. There were very few candidates attempting the incorrect number of questions and few blank pages within chosen topics. The majority of candidates were able to complete both of their chosen topics ithin the time permitted.

As with the higher tier, some questions proved more popular than others - question 1 being the least popular and questions 4 and 6 most popular among candidates.

There was a significant percentage of candidates who did not supply specific data when it was requested as part of a description of a graph. Candidates not supply specific data did not achieve full marks on those questions.

The requirement for candidates to be able to give short, place - specific examples has been clearly understood by many centres and evident in many 3 and 4 mark questions.

Grade boundaries

Grade	Max. Mark	C	D	E	F	G	U
Raw mark boundary	50	28	24	21	18	15	0
Uniform mark scale boundary	69	60	50	40	30	20	0

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