



L-Università
ta' Malta

MATSEC
Examinations Board



Specimen Papers
SEC 15 Geography

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Specimen Assessments: Controlled Paper LEVEL 1-2



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MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD

**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
SAMPLE PAPER – ALL CANDIDATES**

SUBJECT: **Geography**
PAPER NUMBER: **Level 1 – 2**
DATE:
TIME: 2 Hours

Section A Answer ALL questions.

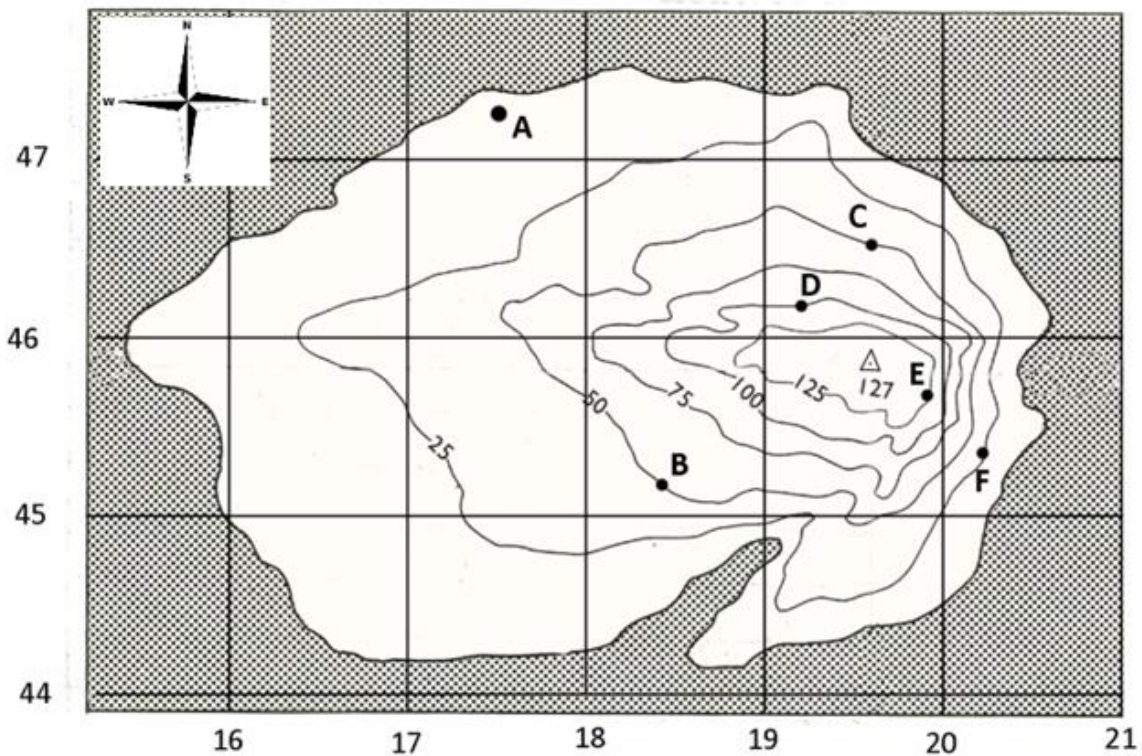


Figure 1 Source: Adapted from A. Stagles (1967) Practical Contour Exercises.

Question 1

Study the topographical map (Figure 1) and answer the following questions.

a) Underline the correct answer:

- i. The grid square for place A is (4717/ 4647/ 1747/ 1748). (1)
- ii. The highest point is (125/ 127/ 100/ 25) metres above sea-level. (1)

- b) State whether the following statements are **True** or **False**:
- i. Points **B** and **C** are at the same height. _____ (1)
 - ii. Point **D** is higher than point **B**. _____ (1)
- c) Measure the straight line distance between Point A and Point B if the scale of the map is 1cm represents 100m. Give your answer in metres. (3)
- d) What letter is found in grid reference 192462? _____ (2)
- e) On Figure 1, indicate by means of the letter **P** a sheltered bay. (2)
- f) A group of people has landed on the island and wants to settle on flat land. Identify on Figure 1 with a letter 'X' where the tribe can settle. (2)
- g) Underline the correct answer:
- i. Point A is to the (North/ South/ North West) of Point D. (1)
 - ii. Point E is to the (South/ South East/ East) of Point D. (1)

(Total: 15 marks)

Section B
Answer ALL questions.

Question 2

- a) What weather is associated with High Pressure Systems? (3)
- _____
- _____
- b) What weather is associated with Low Pressure Systems? (3)
- _____
- _____

(Total: 6 marks)

Question 3

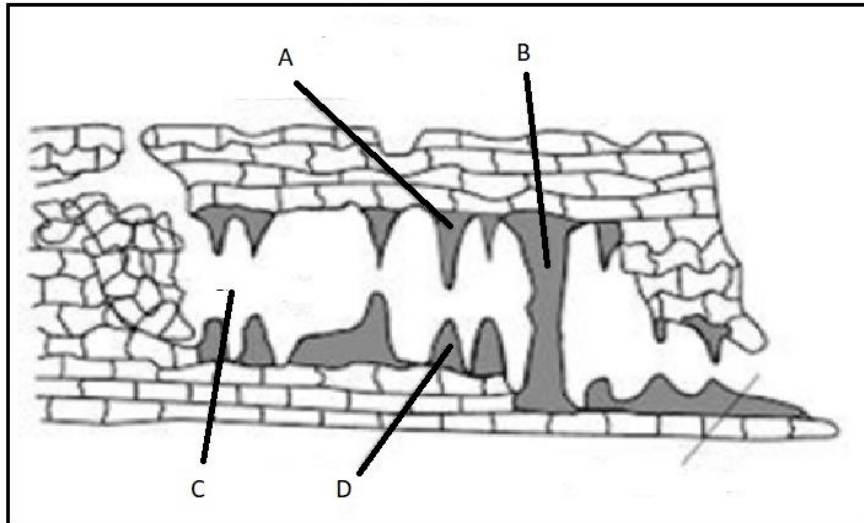


Figure 2

Study Figure 2 and answer the following questions:

- a) Match letters **A**; **B**; **C**; **D** with the features listed in the table below: (4)

Pillar	
Stalagmite	
Cave	
Stalactite	

(Total: 4 marks)

Question 4

Study Figure 3 and answer the questions which follow.

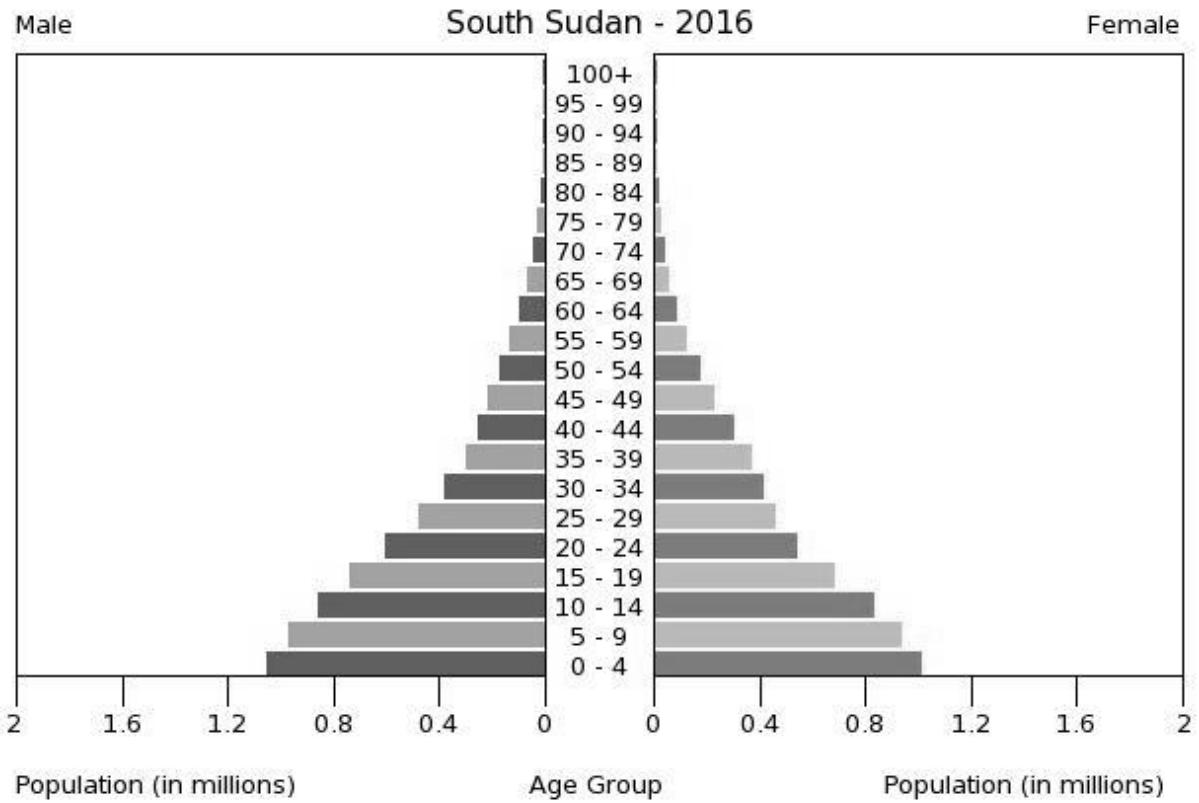


Figure 3
 Source: <http://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/od.html>

- a) The graph illustrated in Figure 3 is called a _____. (1)
- b) Name **ONE** factor that influences:
- i. Birth rate: _____ (1)
 - ii. Death rate: _____ (1)
- c) Underline the correct answer. Does the graph in Figure 3 belong to a **developing** or **developed** country? (1)
- d) Describe why the Human Development Index (HDI) is used as a measure to compare development between countries.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____ (3)
- e) Label on Figure 3 the economically active and the economically inactive section of the population. (2)

(f) Does the graph in Figure 3 belong to a developing or developed country? (1)

(Total: 10 marks)

Question 5

a) Label Figure 4 using the following terms: (4)

crust	mantle	Core	convection currents
-------	--------	------	---------------------

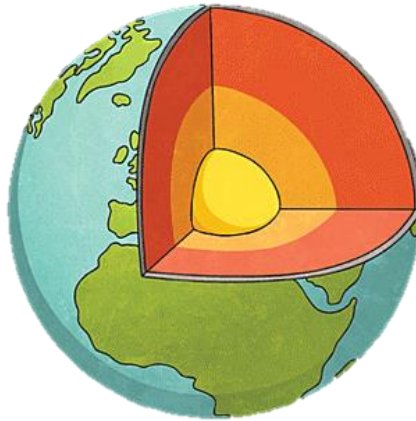


Figure 4: Diagram showing the Earth's interior.



Figure 5 Landforms found along a subduction zone.
Source: <https://www.volcanodiscovery.com>

b) Figure 5 shows a subduction zone. Describe the plate movement at this plate boundary.

(4)

- c) Various landforms in the Maltese Islands were formed by earthquakes. Name **ONE** of these landforms.

_____ (1)

(Total: 9 marks)

Question 6

- a) List **FIVE** important land uses found along rivers:

Land use 1: _____ (1)

Land use 2: _____ (1)

Land use 3: _____ (1)

Land use 4: _____ (1)

Land use 5: _____ (1)

- b) Fill-in **Table A** by writing the correct letter next to the feature it shows on Figure 6.

(4)

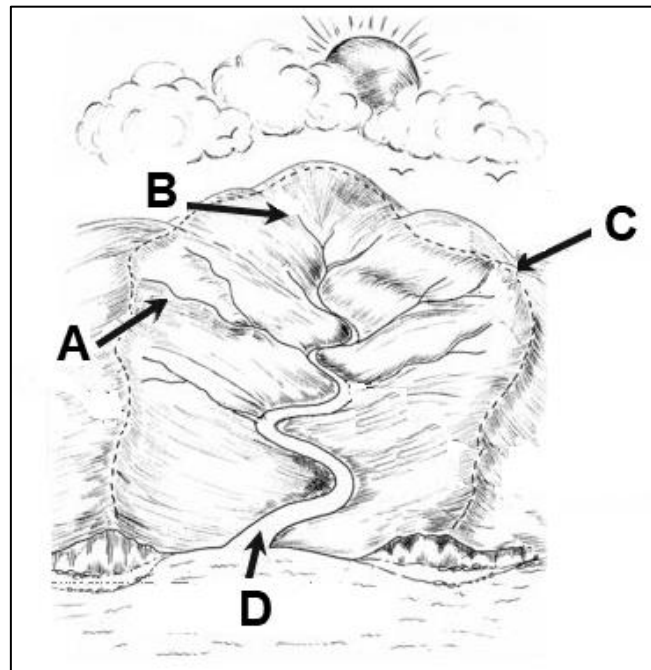


Figure 6

Source: <http://geobytesgcse.blogspot.com/2006/11/drainage-basin.htm>

Table A

Letter	Feature

c) Briefly describe **TWO** physical and **TWO** human causes of flooding.

i. Physical causes:

(4)

ii. Human causes:

(4)

(Total: 17 marks)

Question 7

a) Use the terms in the provided word bank to add labels to Figure 8. (3)

parent rock	decaying leaves and vegetation	organic activity and decaying weathered activity
-------------	--------------------------------	--

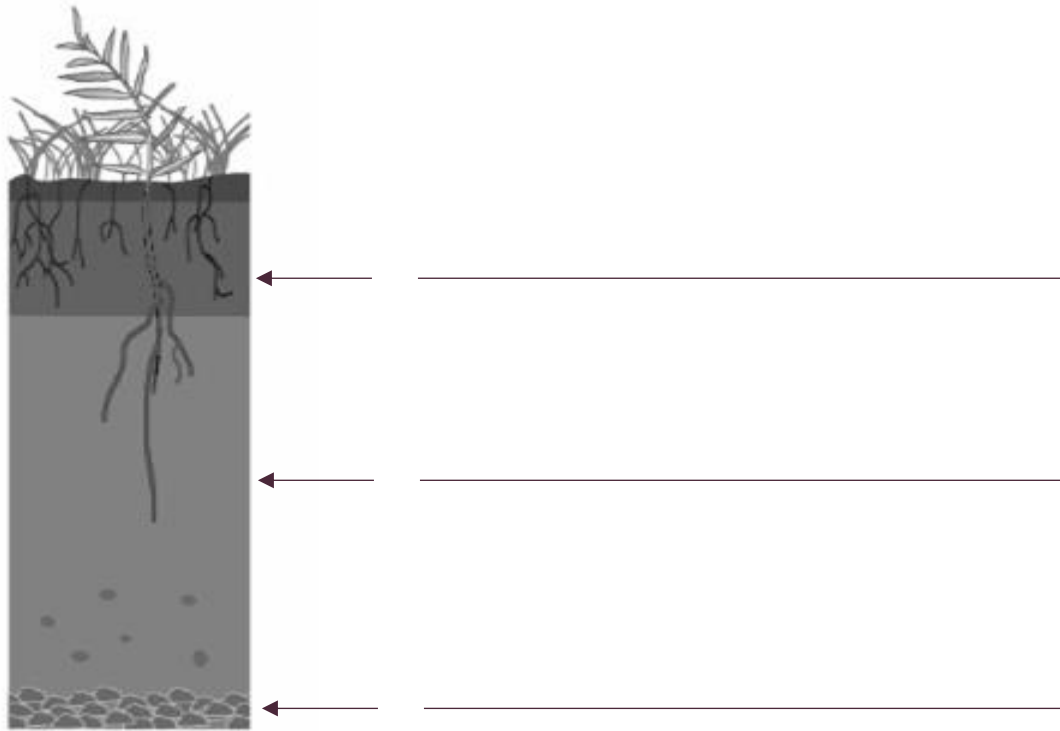


Figure 8 A typical soil profile diagram.
Source: www.qld.gov.au/

b) Mention **TWO** major characteristics of soil.

(2)

c) Describe how the weathering of rock leads to soil formation.

(5)

d) Outline **TWO** measures to combat environmental degradation.

_____ (6)

(Total: 16 marks)

Question 8

- a) Use the word bank to classify the renewable sources of energy and non-renewable sources of energy in the table below. (4)

coal	wind	oil	nuclear
tidal energy	hydroelectric power (HEP)	geothermal energy	Gas

Renewable Sources of energy	Non-renewable sources of energy

- b) List THREE effects of one non-renewable resource on the environment.

 _____ (3)

- c) Oil spillages from ships in marine waters are a continuing threat to seas and oceans. Give **FOUR** problems arising from such spills.

 _____ (8)

- d) Describe the problems arising from the generation of energy in Malta.

 _____ (4)

(Total: 19 marks)

Question 9

- a) Briefly describe the location in which you carried out fieldwork.

(2)

- b) List **TWO** fieldwork aims.

(2)

Total: 4 marks

END

Specimen Assessments: Controlled Paper LEVEL 2-3



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**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
SAMPLE PAPER – ALL CANDIDATES**

SUBJECT: **Geography**
PAPER NUMBER: **Level 2 – 3**
DATE:
TIME: 2 Hours

Section A

Answer ALL questions.

Question 1

Study Figure 1 and answer the following questions. The scale of the map is 1:25,000.

- a) In which grid square is Ir-Ramla located? _____ (1)

- b) Give the six-figure grid reference of the Torri ta' Isopu marked by the letter A.
_____ (2)

- c) Give the compass direction from Torri ta' Isopu (Point **A**) to Torri ta' Kenuna (Point **B**). _____ (1)

- d) Measure the straight-line distance, in metres or kilometres, between Point **C** at Dañlet Qorrot and Point **D** at San Blas. _____ (3)

- e) Would you be walking uphill or downhill if you walked westwards from grid reference 353904? How did you reach this conclusion?

_____ (3)

- f) i. Describe the shape of the settlement found in grid square 3589.

_____ (2)

ii. Explain why this developed in such a manner.

(3)

(Total: 15 marks)

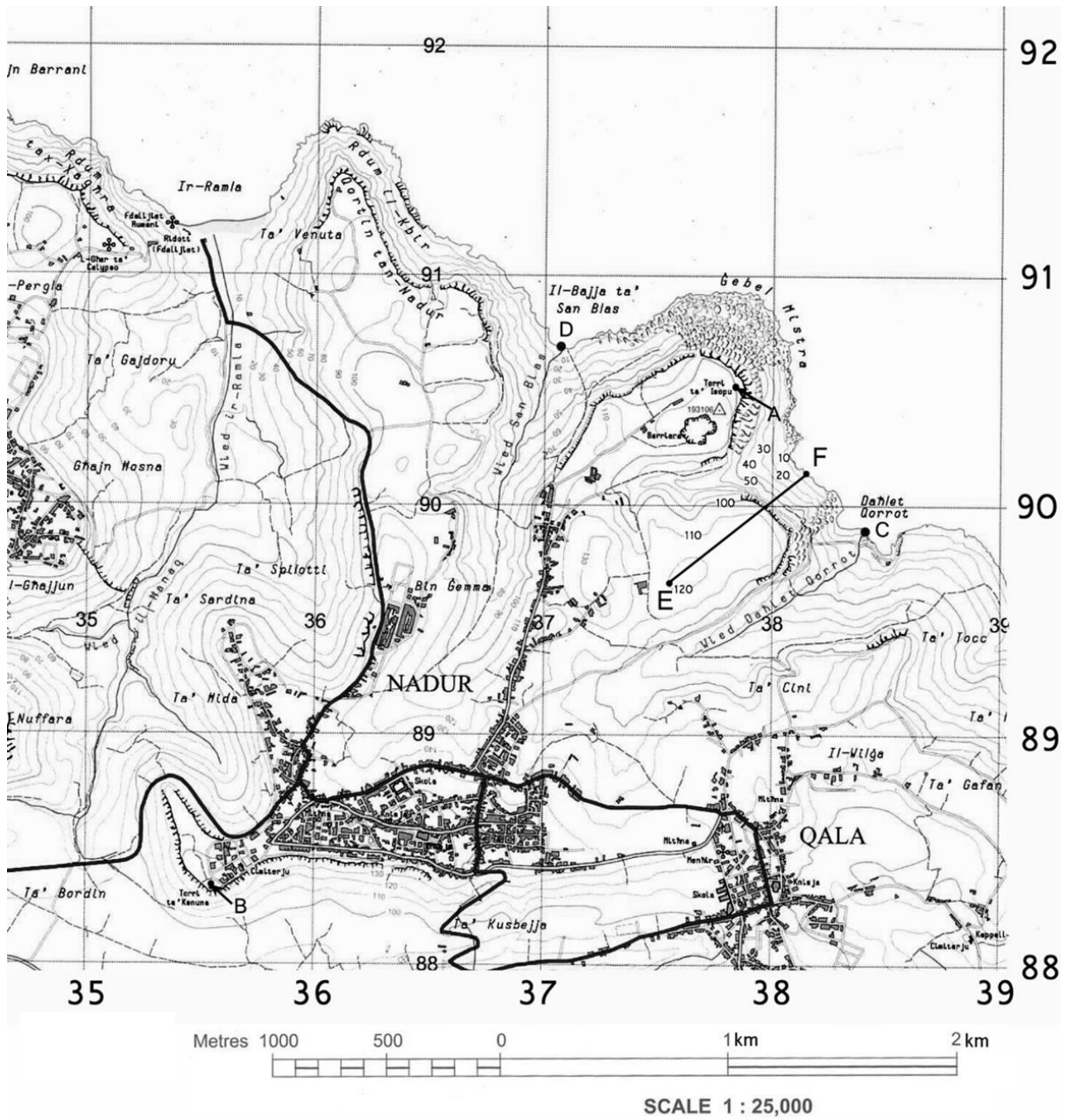


Figure 1

Section B
Answer ALL questions.

Question 2

Describe the formation of a doline in karst landscape.

(5)

(Total: 5 marks)

Question 3

Figure 2 illustrates population pyramids for South Sudan and Sweden.

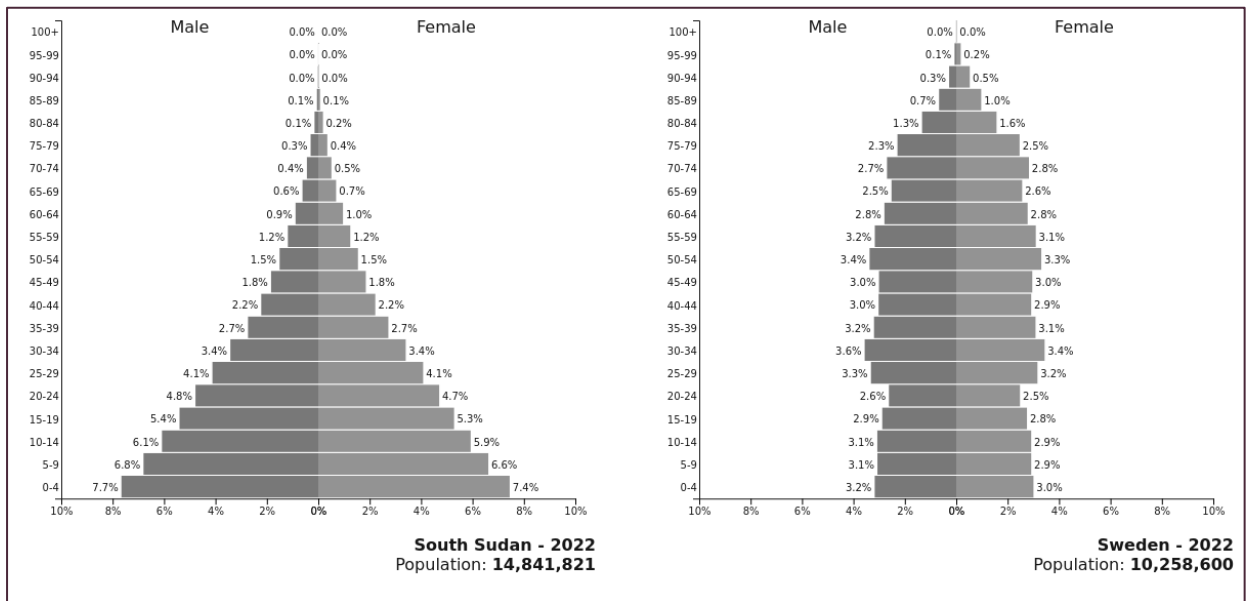


Figure 2

Interpret the difference in the population pyramids for South Sudan and Sweden taking into account the following factors: the young dependents; the economically active; and the elderly dependents.

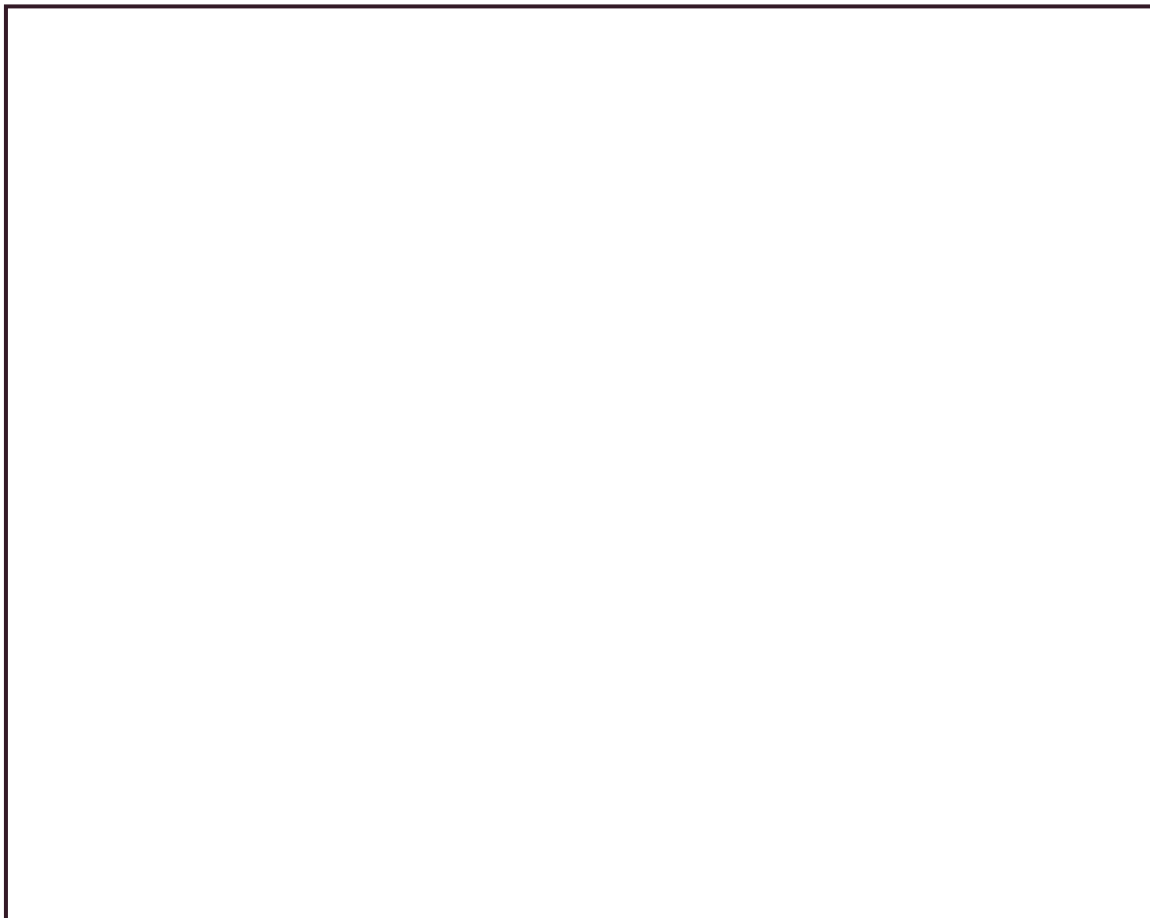
(6)

(Total: 6 marks)

Question 4

- a) Sketch a diagram in the space provided (on the following page) to show the interior of a composite volcano and label it with the following terms: (5)

crater	magma chamber	lava tube	layers of lava and ash
--------	---------------	-----------	------------------------



- b) Discuss **TWO** negative and **TWO** positive effects of a volcanic eruption by referring to a specific example.

(8)

(Total: 13 marks)

Question 5

Answer the following questions:

- a) Describe **TWO** human activities that are found along a river.

(4)

- b) Define **TWO** of the following terms: (4)

watershed	tributary	source	river estuary
-----------	-----------	--------	---------------

- c) Explain the formation of **TWO** landforms found along the course of a river.

(8)

(Total: 16 marks)

Question 6



Figure 3

Source: www.iucn.org/ (International Union for the Conservation of Nature)

a) Study Figure 3 and briefly describe **TWO** causes of deforestation.

(4)

b) Outline **TWO** measures to combat environmental degradation.

_____ (4)

c) Using a case-study of your choice, explain how forests can be managed sustainably.

_____ (6)

(Total: 14 marks)

Question 7

Global warming has become of increasing concern to most countries for a number of reasons.

a) Describe **ONE** cause of global warming.

_____ (2)

b) What are the main differences between renewable and non-renewable energy resources?

_____ (4)

c) Discuss the effects of climate change on the environment and people, giving appropriate examples.

_____ (6)

d) Why are some governments favouring an energy mix to sustain their socio-economic development?

_____ (5)

(Total: 17 marks)

Question 8

a) With the help of Figure 4 describe the global distribution of tropical storms.

_____ (2)

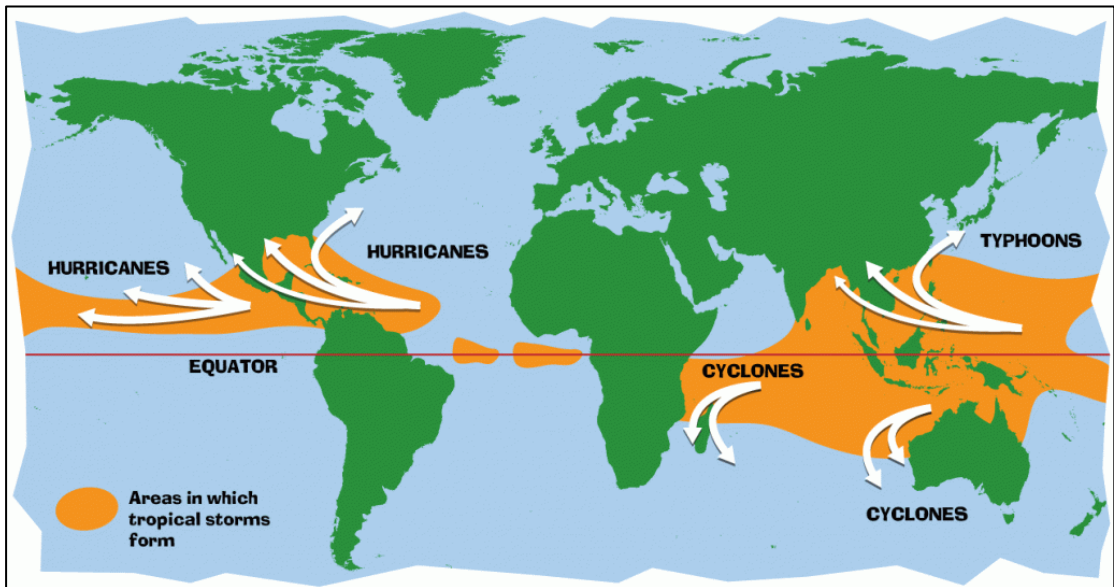


Figure 4

Source: <https://www.internetgeography.net/topics/what-are-tropical-storms/>

b) With reference to a specific example explain the impacts of a tropical storm on the people and the environment.

_____ (4)

Question 9

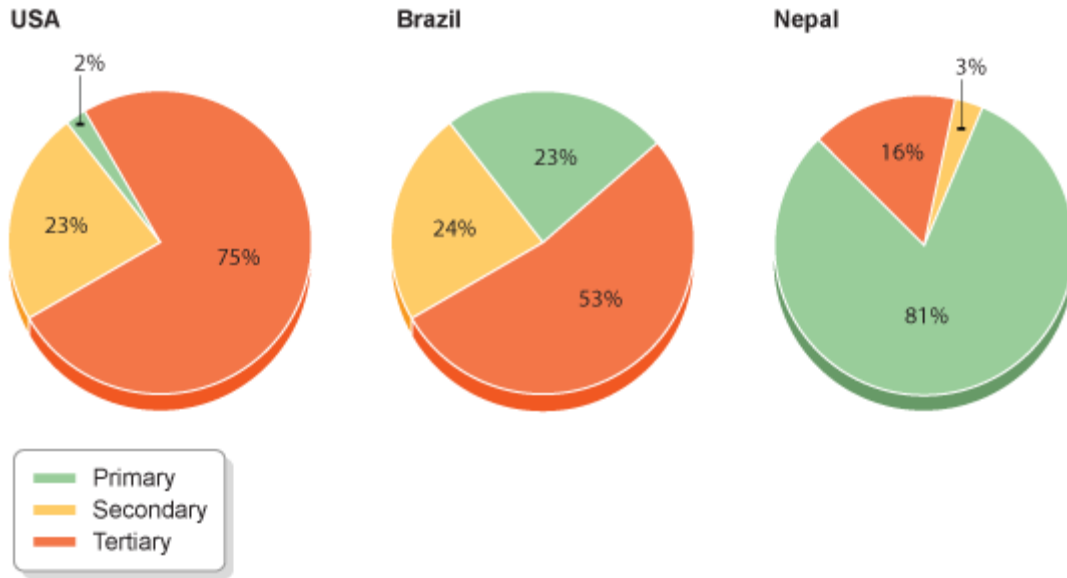


Figure 5

Source: <https://maxwatsongeography.wordpress.com/section-b/economic-activity-and-energy/changes-over-time-and-space/>

Analyse how employment structures vary between the countries shown by Figure 5.

(6)

(Total: 6 marks)

Question 10

Describe an area suitable for a fieldwork investigation you have carried out.

(2)

(Total: 2 marks)

END

Specimen Assessments: Controlled Assessment (Private Candidates Only)
LEVEL 1-2-3



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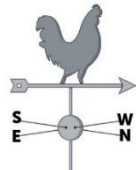


**SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE LEVEL
PRIVATE CANDIDATES
SAMPLE PAPER**

SUBJECT: **Geography**
PAPER NUMBER: **Level 1 – 2 - 3**
DATE:
TIME: **2 Hours**

Answer ALL questions.

Question 1

a) Complete the following table: (6)

	Instrument Name	Weather element measured
i. 		
ii. 		
iii. 		

b) Give the reading of the weather element shown by the instrument labelled (iii) in question 1 (a) above. Don't forget to write the unit of measurement.

_____ (1)

- c) Figure 1 is a rainfall graph for Vancouver, Canada. Use Figure 1 to find the
- i. The driest month: _____ (1)
 - ii. The wettest month: _____ (1)

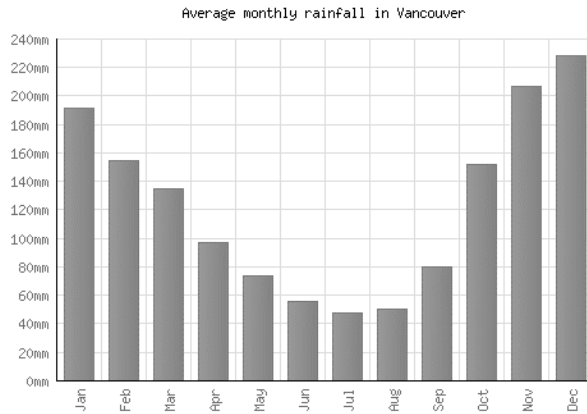


Figure 1: Rainfall graph for Vancouver, Canada.
Source: <https://www.weather2visit.com>

- d) With the help of Figure 2, describe the formation of convectional rainfall.

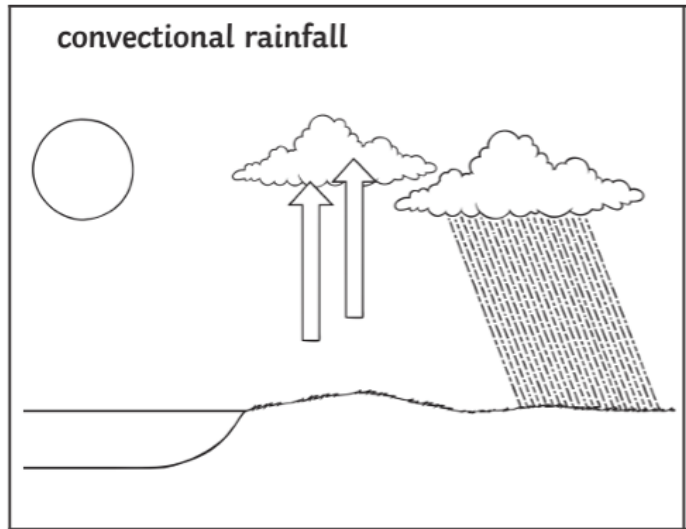


Figure 2: Formation of convectional rainfall
Source: <https://www.thegeographeronline.net>

(5)

(Total: 14 marks)

Question 2

- a) There are three main rock types in the world: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. Write each rock type next to correct formation description. (3)

Rock Formation Description	Rock Type
Formed when molten rock such as lava cools and becomes solid.	
Formed by the deposition and compaction of weathered material.	
Formed when there are chemical changes in a rock due to extreme heat and/or pressure.	

- b) Give an example of each rock type. (3)

Rock Type	Example
Sedimentary Rock	
Igneous Rock	
Metamorphic Rock	

_____ (3)

- c) Figure 3 shows rocks the process of freeze-thaw weathering. Briefly describe this weathering process.

_____ (3)

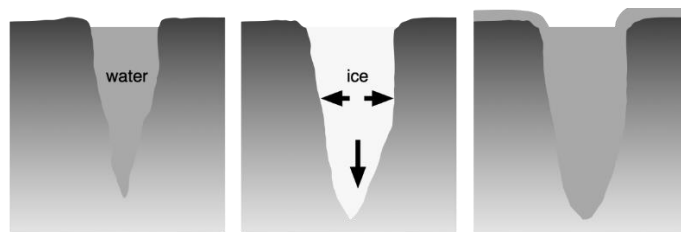


Figure 3: Freeze-thaw weathering
 Source: <https://www.internetgeography.com>

- d) Underline the correct answer in brackets:
 Freeze-thaw weathering is (biological / chemical / physical) weathering. (1)

- e) Describe the formation of stalactites and stalagmites in karst landscapes.
- _____
- _____

_____ (5)

(Total: 18 marks)

Question 3

Answer the following questions:

- a) Name **TWO** primary industries.

_____ (2)

- b) With reference to the primary industry mentioned in (a) above, complete the table to include **ONE** input, **ONE** process and **ONE** output. (3)

Inputs	Processes	Outputs

- c) Is the employment structure chart shown in Figure 4 typical of a developed or a developing country? Give **TWO** reasons for your answer.

 _____ (6)

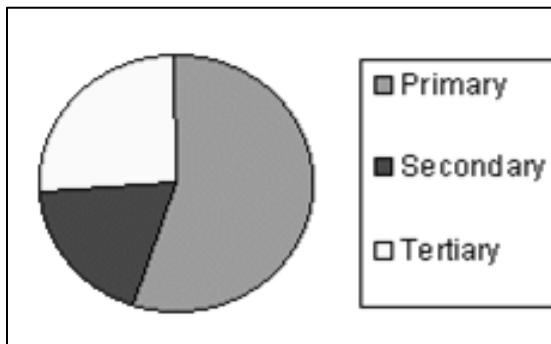


Figure 4: Employment Structure Pie Chart

- d) Discuss **TWO** negative effects of a primary industry on the environment.

(6)

(Total: 17 marks)

Question 4

Figure 5 shows two landforms typically found in the lower course of a river.

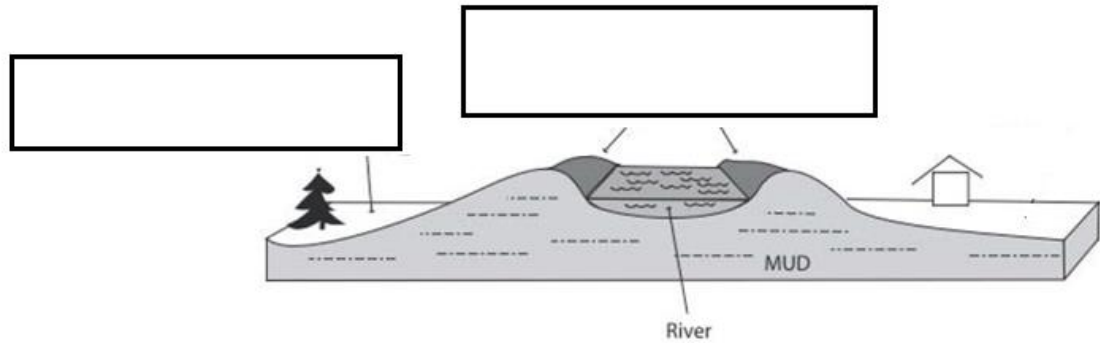


Figure 5: The lower course of a river
Source: <https://www.e-education.psu.edu/>

a) Label Figure 5 with the name of these **TWO** landforms. (2)

b) Explain the formation of any **ONE** of the landforms shown in figure 5.

(4)

(Total: 6 marks)

Question 5

Explain the causes of earthquake activity in the Mediterranean region including Malta.

(6)

(Total: 6 marks)

Question 6

a) Describe **ONE** effect of an oil spillage accident on the physical environment.

(2)

b) Discuss how an oil spill accident can influence the economic activities of the place where it occurred.

(6)

(Total: 8 marks)

Question 7

Figure 6 shows a typical Mediterranean environment.

a) What type of vegetation does Figure 6 show?

(1)



Figure 6: A typical Mediterranean environment and vegetation
Source: <https://leslievella.wordpress.com/tag/garrigue>

b) Explain how plants adapt to the dry season of the Mediterranean climate.

(6)

(Total: 7 marks)

Question 8

a) Calculate the natural increase of a country with the following birth and death rates.

(1)

Birth rate	Death rate	Natural increase
7	4	

b) Discuss **TWO** ways how countries can use birth rate and death rate data.

(6)

(Total: 7 marks)

Question 9

With reference to a fieldwork you carried out:

a) List an aim or hypotheses that you have investigated.

(2)

b) Describe **ONE** method used in your investigation to collect data.

(4)

c) Describe the data you collected for your investigation.

(8)

d) Provide a brief point form conclusion from the investigation you carried out.

(6)

(Total: 20 marks)

END