

CAIE Geography Pre-U

2A: Trade, Debt and Aid Exam Structure and Tips



The Exam

Length and marks

Paper 2 is 1 hour and 30 minutes and contains 50 marks.

Question structure

For Paper 2, you answer **two questions**, one from section A and one from section B. Each question is made up of one **25 marker** in which you get a choice between two questions. In these 25 markers you will be able to go into depth into the topic that the question is on, using your **knowledge, case studies and statistics** to put across a **balanced argument** and critically evaluate the question. These questions will be **'to what extent', 'examine', 'assess' and 'discuss'** questions. Using the structure **PEACE** often helps to structure the 25 markers. Make your **point**, give **evidence/examples**, give an **A grade explanation**, **criticise** and then **evaluate**. You should also try to include a **diagram or sketch map** is relevant to the question, making sure it is well integrated into the text and is fully annotated. For these questions they will often pick a heading from the specification for example 'The benefits and problems of trade for importers and exporters' and will make this into a question for example 'Assess the benefits and problems of trade which exporting countries experience.' You can then use the bullet points under this heading to structure your essay and make sure you answer the question how they would like. This means that is important to make sure that you know the specification as the questions are often based around it.

General mark scheme

For the 25 marker, in order to achieve the top level, you need to:

- Give wide-ranging, accurate and detailed **knowledge** and a clear and high order of **understanding** of the subject content.
- Give relevant, detailed and accurate **examples** which are used effectively.
- **Organise** the essay in a clear and logical way, use good English, and use **geographical terminology** accurately.
- Use well annotated and executed **diagrams/sketch maps** if applicable which are fully integrated within the text.
- **Analyse and critically evaluate** and give appropriate application of concepts and theories.
- Write a **conclusion** which shows **high level insight** and is **logical** and **well founded on the evidence given and the argument** you have put forward.

Revision

If you are stuck on how to revise, here is a suggestion about how to go about it. First read through the **detailed notes and case studies**, making sure that you understand everything. Watching **videos**, especially for formations or processes might be useful. Then keep going over the **flashcards**, learning statistics, definitions and points. Doing this over a long period of time is best rather than cramming it in close to your test or exam. Doing some **extra reading** is also useful. It can help to give you a wider understanding of the topic that isn't covered in the detailed notes as well as giving more specific examples that you might find easier to remember and include in answering questions. There are plenty of these linked in each topic. Make sure to also **practise**



doing questions and ask your teacher to mark them. Make sure you get feedback and understand where you went wrong and where you can improve. You can also go and rewrite or re-draft your answer, improving on where you went wrong. As this is a relatively new specification, there are not that many questions. If you run out you can write your own questions using the previous questions as bases.

