

Cambridge International Examinations

Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary and Advanced Level

GEOGRAPHY 9696/12

Paper 1 Core Geography

May/June 2017

MARK SCHEME
Maximum Mark: 100

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge is publishing the mark schemes for the May/June 2017 series for most Cambridge IGCSE[®], Cambridge International A and AS Level and Cambridge Pre-U components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

® IGCSE is a registered trademark.



Cambridge International AS/A Level – Mark Scheme **PUBLISHED**

Question	Answer	Marks
1(a)	Photograph A shows a fluvial landform.	4
	Describe the features of the landform shown in Photograph A.	
	The features described can include: Waterfall Multiple channels / gullies Plunge pool Debris / rockfall at base of waterfall Steep back wall / high / slight overhang Gorge	
	Credit can be given for labelled diagram.	
	If simple list, max. 2 marks.	
1(b)	Explain how processes form the features shown in Photograph A, and suggest how the landform may develop over time.	6
	 Reference to named erosional processes such as hydraulic action (cavitation), abrasion Undercutting creating weakness for collapse of cap rock Recessional / headward erosion Development of plunge pool 	
	Development over time could be past, present or future, and includes the retreating of the waterfall and thus the development of a gorge / steep sided valleys.	
	An alternative approach may be the development of a knickpoint which then retreats towards the source of the river as headward erosion.	
	This question has two parts – the erosional processes forming the features and the suggestion of development over time. Max. 4 marks if one part is missing.	

© UCLES 2017 Page 2 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	Fig. 1 shows a diagram of atmospheric circulation in the Northern Hemisphere.	4
	Describe the main features of atmospheric circulation in the Northern Hemisphere shown in Fig. 1.	
	Location of high and low pressures	
	Air flow from high to low	
	Surface winds	
	Three key cells within which air broadly rotates	
	Some specific detail is required for full marks.	
2(b)	Describe and explain how seasonal variations may affect atmospheric circulation.	6
	The description of the seasonal variations includes the seasonal shift of the ITCZ and low pressure zones, due to the passage of the overhead sun.	
	 How this then affects the atmospheric circulation includes the displacement of pressure belts and global wind patterns. Discussion of monsoon climates would be appropriate. 	
	Change in location of jet stream etc.	
	Max. 4 marks for description / explanation only.	

© UCLES 2017 Page 3 of 19

Cambridge International AS/A Level – Mark Scheme **PUBLISHED**

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)(i)	Photograph B shows a mass movement. Name the type of mass movement shown in Photograph B. Rockfall / fall	1
3(a)(ii)	Describe the evidence that suggests the mass movement shown in Photograph B has recently occurred. A description is needed which can include: Lack of vegetation Clarity (colour) of talus / scree Freshly exposed free face / slope Shape of lobe Lack of removal of failed mass Full marks may be gained by citing a range of evidence briefly, or less evidence described in detail.	3
3(b)	Explain how a mass movement, such as that shown in Photograph B, may occur. Explanations could refer to: Steep slope Triggered by excess water Ground movement Weathering Undercutting if coastal / base of slope by river Credit human causes Minimum of 3 developed points for full marks.	6

© UCLES 2017 Page 4 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)(i)	Table 1 shows average life expectancy for four continents in 1900, 2001 and 2012. Using Table 1, state: the continent in which life expectancy increased the most; Asia	1
4(a)(ii)	the difference in life expectancy between Africa and Europe in 2012.	1
4(b)	Giving evidence from Table 1, suggest two reasons why data about life expectancy can be misleading. Two ideas with one developed well can gain full marks. Reasons could include: They treat whole continent as if it is uniform – hides lots of internal variations Treats people as uniform but differences in gender, age, wealth will influence figures Data is often not easy to find especially in LEDCs Ignores sudden disasters such as wars, disease etc. 2001 and 2012 can only be a be a guestimate as takes 80 years to prove Lack of consistency in time periods There is a requirement to refer to Table 1 to support the reasons – max. 2 marks if no reference.	3
4(c)	Explain why life expectancy increases as an area develops economically. Reasons could include: More resources available to raise standard of living Greater application of new medicines, treatments and medical technology Less famines etc. as stronger political control or more international aid Improvements in transport, housing, sanitation, education Resources for pensions and social security Lower infant mortality Females gain in education, health care etc. Change in work patterns e.g. manual to non-manual (primary to secondary / tertiary) Two reasons with good cause / effect on life expectancy can gain full marks. A list of three or more reasons, max. 4 marks.	5

© UCLES 2017 Page 5 of 19

Cambridge International AS/A Level – Mark Scheme **PUBLISHED**

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)	Fig. 2 shows remittance flows into Nigeria, an LEDC in Africa, 2006 to 2010.	3
	Using evidence from Fig. 2, describe the trend in remittance flows.	
	 Overall increase / or sharp rise 2006–7 (1 mark) Steady from 2007–10 or slight fluctuations (1 mark) Other detail / use of figures (1 mark) 	
5(b)	Suggest the link between remittance flows and migration.	2
	Migrants send back money to the area which they left (1 mark).	
	Extra mark for elaboration and / or development e.g. who sends the money to whom; earnings abroad are higher so there is 'spare' money to send back.	
5(c)	Explain the other links between migrants and their source area(s), apart from remittances.	5
	Two links with development can gain full marks or 5 less developed points such as:	
	Economic links – still own property etc. in source area, rents sent to them from source area, introduce new ideas to source areas.	
	 Social links – via internet and / or post, counter movement (retired or young returning to source area for retirement or education), marriage partners, wife and family in source area. Encourage friends / relatives to migrate. 	
	 Cultural – via media, religion Political – may be entitled to vote in source area 	
	Tollical may be entitled to vote in source area	

© UCLES 2017 Page 6 of 19

Push factors could also be relevant

Cambridge International AS/A Level – Mark Scheme **PUBLISHED**

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)(i)	Fig. 3 shows sales by retail location in an MEDC, 2002 to 2012.	3
	Compare the trends in the percentage of retail sales for CBD and internet shown in Fig. 3.	
	 CBD sales have fallen whilst internet has risen (1 mark) Development of the trend e.g. internet displays accelerating rise (after 2009) / CBD declining faster than internet increasing / CBD sales remain higher throughout the period (1 mark) Use of data (1 mark) 	
6(a)(ii)	Suggest why out-of-town centre retail sales have increased in many countries.	3
	Two ideas with one developed well can gain full marks.	
	Reasons could include:	
	Better accessibility (ring roads) and transport	
	More and cheaper parking	
	 Larger scale (land cheaper) so prices can be cheaper and greater range of stock 	
	Movement out of more wealthy population to outer urban fringe	
	Planning controls encourage more of such centres	
	Increasing problems in inner urban areas and CBDs i.e. congestion	
6(b)	Give two reasons why retail sales are highest in CBDs.	4
	The data shows that the CBD is still the highest in sales. Part of this is a reflection of past trends and factors but reasons could include:	
	Easiest to get to as most accessible (road and public transport focus)	
	Biggest shops with greater range of goods (more quality / cost)	
	More shops of a wide variety (more choice)	
	Competition drives down prices in CBD Page 1 a graph in a sharp in a with other page 1 activities again a sight continue.	
	People combine shopping with other central activities especially services and entertainment	
	Reputation – more 'trendy' / prestigious shops locate here	
	2×1 marks for two basic reasons. 2×2 for developed reasons.	

© UCLES 2017 Page 7 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
7(a)(i)	Define the hydrological terms porosity and antecedent moisture.	4
	The ability to hold water (1 mark) in pores (1 mark) Moisture already present (1 mark) from a previous rainfall event or before a new rainfall event (1 mark)	
7(a)(ii)	Explain why the level of the water table may change over time.	3
	 The explanation may include: Seasonal variation in precipitation Changes in precipitation levels and amount of recharge Human extraction Vegetation changes Global warming affecting precipitation amounts Marks can be gained through a few brief reasons or at least one well	
	developed explanation.	
7(b)	With the aid of a diagram, describe how water circulates within a drainage basin system.	8
	Flow diagram (or alternative) needed showing the links between the stores / flows and input / outputs.	
	Text to describe the way water moves through the system.	
	Credit use of key terms, and classification of terms as flows (e.g. infiltration) and stores (e.g. surface storage).	
	Detailed description of a variety of components within the drainage system, along with an accurate diagram can gain full marks.	
	Max. 5 marks if no diagram.	

© UCLES 2017 Page 8 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
7(c)	'Floods can never be accurately predicted or prevented.'	10
	To what extent do you agree with this statement?	
	Prediction methods may include: • Flood recurrence intervals • Meteorological forecasts • Antecedent moisture • Relief and structure • Hydrology (influence of catchment characteristics) Prevention methods may include: • Hard engineering • Soft engineering e.g. catchment modification Factors influencing both prediction and prevention may include: • Scale of flooding	
	Lack of resources Level 3 A detailed and well balanced answer that looks at the accuracy of flood prediction and prevention. The argument is supported through examples and there is a clear evaluation. The complexity of the balance is appreciated.	
	Level 2 A reasonable attempt to look at the accuracy of flood prediction and prevention. Lacks balance and evaluation is likely to be limited. 5–7	
	Level 1 A basic answer with little attempt to look at the accuracy of flood prediction and prevention. The evaluation is likely to be limited or not present. Lists and basic description may be typical.	
	No response, or no creditable response, 0 .	

© UCLES 2017 Page 9 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
8(a)(i)	Describe the terms reflected solar radiation and earth (terrestrial) radiation.	4
	Radiation which is reflected (bounced off) the Earth's surface (1 mark). Any elaboration i.e. shortwave radiation / albedo etc. (1 mark)	
	The outgoing (terrestrial) radiation from the earth back into the atmosphere (1 mark).	
	Any elaboration i.e. longwave radiation, infrared radiation (1 mark)	
8(a)(ii)	Briefly explain what is meant by a temperature inversion.	3
	Increase of temperature with height – credit a diagram if correct (1 mark).	
	Development points for 2 marks could include issues such as:	
	Reversal of norm	
	Air is stable / calm conditions	
	An inversion prevents the air rising	
	Radiation and advection cooling	
8(b)	Describe and explain how land and sea breezes form.	8
	Day time – land heats up differentially as a result of different heat capacity leading to rising air which causes air above the sea to move horizontally towards the lower pressure.	
	Night time – a reversal of day time conditions leading to the movement of air from the land to the sea.	
	Max. 5 marks if only land or sea breezes considered.	

© UCLES 2017 Page 10 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
8(c)	'The impact of global warming is mainly climatic.'	
	How far do you agree with this statement?	
	 Climatic impacts – temperature, cyclones, jet streams, drought, pressure systems, etc. Ecosystem impacts – flora and fauna, etc. Economic impacts – rising sea level, agriculture, etc. Social impacts – displacement of people, disease, etc. 	
	The impacts may be negative or positive.	
	Level 3 A detailed and well balanced answer that looks at the climatic impact of global warming and considers it in detail against other types of impacts. The argument is supported through examples and there is a clear evaluation.	
	Level 2 A reasonable attempt to look at the climatic impact of global warming and considers it against other types of impacts. Some attempt to assess the importance of other factors. Lacks balance and evaluation is likely to be limited.	
	Level 1 A basic answer with little or no attempt to consider the climatic impact of global warming. The evaluation is likely to be very limited or not present. Lists and basic description may be typical.	
	No response, or no creditable response, 0 .	

© UCLES 2017 Page 11 of 19

Cambridge International AS/A Level – Mark Scheme **PUBLISHED**

Question	Answer	Marks
9(a)(i)	Define the weathering terms organic action and chelation.	4
	Weathering by vegetation (1 mark), any elaboration (1 mark)	
	Chemical weathering (1 mark) where organic acids lead to rock decomposition (1 mark).	
9(a)(ii)	Briefly explain how human activity can increase acid rain.	3
	One named form of human activity i.e. emissions from power stations, industry, vehicles etc. (1 mark).	
	Explanation of how pH is lowered through the increase of hydrogen ions. Sulphur dioxide and nitrous oxide dissolved in rain water to produce sulphuric acid and nitric acid (2 marks).	
9(b)	Describe the processes and explain the landforms produced at divergent plate boundaries.	8
	Description and explanation should include both processes (convection currents and movement of plates) and the landforms produced (mid-ocean volcanic ridges, possible islands such as Iceland, faulting, sea floor spreading, rift valleys may be used).	
	A diagram is not required in the question; however, the description marks can come from a diagram.	
	For full marks, both a description of the processes and an explanation of the	

© UCLES 2017 Page 12 of 19

landforms must be present.

Cambridge International AS/A Level – Mark Scheme PUBLISHED

Question	Answer	Marks
9(c)	Discuss the view that strong physical weathering only occurs in climates of extreme temperature.	10
	Accept high / low as interpretation of extreme. Some may understand that at very low temperatures freeze-thaw is limited. Relevant processes are: • Frost shatter	
	 Insolation Salt crystallisation (associated with areas of high temperature, but also coastal environments). 	
	 Pressure release (not specifically related to areas of extreme temperatures) Root action 	
	Relevant factors other than extreme temperature that could result in strong physical weathering are: Exposure	
	Rock structure and compositionPrecipitationHuman activity	
	Level 3 A detailed and well balanced answer that looks at the climates of high and low temperatures and considers them in detail against other types of climates or other factors such as high precipitation, rock structure etc. which may result in strong physical weathering. The argument is supported through examples and there is a clear evaluation.	
	Level 2 A reasonable attempt to look at the climates of high and low temperatures and consider them against other types of climates or other factors which may result in strong physical weathering. Some attempt to assess the importance of other factors. Lacks balance and evaluation is likely to be limited.	
	Level 1 A basic answer with little or no attempt to consider the climates of high and low temperatures against other types of climates or other factors which may result in strong physical weathering. The evaluation is likely to be very limited or not present. Lists and basic description may be typical.	

© UCLES 2017 Page 13 of 19

No response, or no creditable response, ${\bf 0}.$

Cambridge International AS/A Level – Mark Scheme **PUBLISHED**

Answer	Marks
 Describe the main causes of food shortages. Food shortages may be caused by: Environmental problems such as floods, frost, droughts, volcanic eruptions, poor soils, pests such as locusts etc. Demographic problems such as increased population due to high birth rate or high migration (either in or out). Economic problems such as poor farming techniques, lack of transport, lack of capital, poor storage and processing, crop failure in areas food imported from Political problems such as war, poor infrastructure, inadequate / corrupt government. 	7
3 causes well developed could gain full marks. Simple list – max. 4 marks. With the help of one or more examples, explain the main consequences.	8
 of food shortages. Consequences could include: Environmental – deforestation etc. in order to plant more food crops, soil erosion, destruction of wildlife (as food) Demographic – higher death rates, disease, outmigration Economic – weaker work force, high cost of importing food, increased cost of food Social – unrest (food riots), inequalities exposed (wealthy can afford food) Political – revolution, civil war There could be some positives such as land reform, introduction of new technology etc. 	
	Describe the main causes of food shortages. Food shortages may be caused by: Environmental problems such as floods, frost, droughts, volcanic eruptions, poor soils, pests such as locusts etc. Demographic problems such as increased population due to high birth rate or high migration (either in or out). Economic problems such as poor farming techniques, lack of transport, lack of capital, poor storage and processing, crop failure in areas food imported from Political problems such as war, poor infrastructure, inadequate / corrupt government. 3 causes well developed could gain full marks. Simple list – max. 4 marks. With the help of one or more examples, explain the main consequences of food shortages. Consequences could include: Environmental – deforestation etc. in order to plant more food crops, soil erosion, destruction of wildlife (as food) Demographic – higher death rates, disease, outmigration Economic – weaker work force, high cost of importing food, increased cost of food Social – unrest (food riots), inequalities exposed (wealthy can afford food) Political – revolution, civil war There could be some positives such as land reform, introduction of new

© UCLES 2017 Page 14 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
10(c)	'Innovation is the solution to food shortages.'	10
	To what extent do you agree?	
	The highest level answers will go beyond innovation in farming to consider improvement in transport, processing, better storage etc. Other ways such as opening up new areas should be considered.	
	Many will see this as the introduction of new farming techniques as in the Green Revolution or genetically modified crops. These tend to increase yields whereas an alternative approach could be to extensify by opening up new areas as food sources.	
	Innovation will increase food production but the laws of diminishing marginal returns may limit it and so is it the main way? Candidates should appreciate that it may vary over time, with location, the type of food and resources available.	
	The role of aid organisations could also be considered.	
	Also relevant would be factors influencing demand rather than supply.	
	Candidates will probably:	
	Level 3 Make a response from detailed knowledge and strong conceptual understanding. Have clear cause and effect link between a range of types of innovation and food production. Other ways should be appreciated. Provide an effective assessment. Use one or more examples in detail.	
	Level 2 Make a reasonable attempt, which may contain good points, but which remains partial. Show a thinly developed cause / effect link between a limited range of types of innovation and food production. Limited recognition of the role of other ways. Offer a valid, but limited assessment. Refer briefly to examples.	
	Level 1 Offer one or more basic ideas and struggle to deal with the issue. Take a descriptive approach making little or no assessment. Offer limited or no examples.	
	No response, or no creditable response, 0 .	

© UCLES 2017 Page 15 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
11(a)(i)	Define the term intra-urban movements of population.	2
	Movement that occurs within an urban area (1 mark). Further development such as an example (1 mark).	
11(a)(ii)	Outline the main types of intra-urban movements of population.	5
	The syllabus uses the term 'movements' under a unit heading of 'internal migration' so candidates can quote circulation as a movement.	
	 Types could include: The family or age cycle that sees people migrate to suburbs then return to inner zones over time Migration to be nearer occupations to reduce travel to work time / cost Migration to nicer areas as incomes rise e.g. to leafy suburbs 	
	Gentrification – movement to inner areas Padavalanment etc. displacing people.	
	Redevelopment etc. displacing peopleCirculation such as for commuting, shopping, recreation	
	3 main types with development can gain full marks.	
11(b)	Explain why the volume of population movements within urban areas increases as countries develop.	8
	The focus is on intra-urban specifically.	
	This tends to be explained in terms of economic development. Reasons could include:	
	 Improved public and personal transport so can live away from work Higher incomes so can afford to move and transport costs become relatively smaller 	
	Greater range of jobs in a variety of locations within the urban area available	
	 But it is also about social and political development such as: Greater levels of education / knowledge so people know about other areas / opportunities within the urban area Media allow people to keep in touch and exchange information on places Governments lift restrictions on movement or facilitate it Increased planning controls tend to zone land uses 	

© UCLES 2017 Page 16 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
11(c)	Assess the effects of urban-rural migration on rural areas.	10
	The syllabus refers to the impacts of urban-rural movements rather than purely migration so accept the impact of circulation such as traffic congestion, pollution etc. Assessment could be in terms of both negative and positive effects.	
	It is the cause / effect link to the impact on the rural area that is key. These could include the impacts on:	
	Environmental characteristics – such as loss of lands on urban fringes to building of new estates, destruction of ecosystems, pollution of water courses	
	Demographic characteristics – influx of wealthy late middle-aged / retirees / imbalance of population structure	
	 Economic characteristics – impact on house prices, jobs, land use, transport routes 	
	 Social characteristics – polarisation of social groups e.g. culture clash with newcomers, demand for services e.g. schools Political characteristics – changes in voting patterns 	
	Candidates will probably:	
	Level 3 Make a response from detailed knowledge and strong conceptual understanding. Have clear cause and effect link between urban-rural movements and their impacts on the characteristics of rural areas. Provide an effective assessment. Use one or more examples in detail.	
	Level 2 Make a reasonable attempt, which may contain good points, but which remains partial. Show a thinly developed cause / effect link between urbanrural movements and their impacts on the characteristics of rural areas. Offer a valid, but limited assessment. Refer briefly to examples.	
	Level 1 Offer one or more basic ideas and struggle to deal with the issue. Take a descriptive approach making little or no assessment. Offer limited or no examples.	
	No response, or no creditable response, 0 .	

© UCLES 2017 Page 17 of 19

Question	Answer	Marks
12(a)(i)	Explain the meaning of the term hierarchy of world cities.	3
	World cities are not of equal status – some are more important than others so form a hierarchy (1 mark)	
	Other marks for any development such as the idea of Alpha, Beta, Gamma levels of world cities etc.	
12(a)(ii)	Outline two characteristics of world cities.	4
	Although what exactly constitutes a world city is still subject to debate, standard characteristics of world cities are:	
	 A variety of international financial services, notably in finance, insurance, real estate, banking, accountancy, and marketing Headquarters of several multinational corporations 	
	 Domination of the trade and economy of a large surrounding area Major manufacturing centres with port and container facilities 	
	 Considerable decision-making power on a daily basis and at a global level 	
	 Centres of new ideas and innovation in business, economics, culture and politics 	
	 Centres of media and communications for global networks High-quality educational institutions, including renowned universities, international student attendance and research facilities 	
	2×1 mark for simple list. 2×2 marks for more developed characteristics.	
12(b)	Explain the growth of one or more world cities.	8
	This is about the reasons for the growth of one or more named world cities, so generic answers on urban growth max. 3 marks. Growth can include population, area, functions, and importance. The exact reasons will vary with the chosen example but could include:	
	Its global location – especially in world transport / communication networks	
	Historical, political and social links with other areasIts range of global functions especially media and economic functions	
	Its range of services especially health and educationPolitical stability, tolerance and openness	
	Positive attempts to become a global city e.g. Singapore	
	An important element is the cumulative causation type factor where reputation as a world city creates a self-sustaining growth.	

© UCLES 2017 Page 18 of 19

Cambridge International AS/A Level – Mark Scheme **PUBLISHED**

Question	Answer	Marks
12(c)	'The most rapid rates of urbanisation are occurring in LEDCs.'	10
	How far do you agree?	
	Basically a correct statement but some explanation is required as to why it's broadly true.	
	 LEDC cities are growing very fast as: High rural to urban migration fuelled by a range of pushes and pulls High urban birth rates Low urban death rates Transport networks focus on cities Development and limited resources (infrastructure) are concentrated in large urban areas 	
	Urban areas are the focus of political power	
	But also MEDC have low rates of urbanisation or are declining as: Counter-urbanisation is common due to a range of pushes and pulls Low urban birth rates High urban death rates Transport networks and other infrastructure are ubiquitous	
	It can be argued that cities go through a growth and decay cycle. At the highest level candidates may argue there are exceptions or that urbanisation is more rapid in NICs.	
	Candidates will probably:	
	Level 3 Make a response from detailed knowledge and strong conceptual understanding. Have clear cause and effect link between a range of forces and the rapid rate of urbanisation in LEDCs. Provide an effective assessment. Use one or more examples in detail.	
	Level 2 Make a reasonable attempt, which may contain good points, but which remains partial. Show a thinly developed cause / effect link between a limited range of forces and the rapid rate of urbanisation in LEDCs. Offer a valid, but limited assessment. Refer briefly to examples.	
	Level 1 Offer one or more basic ideas and struggle to deal with the issue. Take a descriptive approach making little or no assessment. Offer limited or no examples.	
	No response, or no creditable response, 0 .	
		I

© UCLES 2017 Page 19 of 19