



2011 Geography HSC Examination 'Sample Answers'

When examination committees develop questions for the examination, they may write 'sample answers' or, in the case of some questions, 'answers could include'. The committees do this to ensure that the questions will effectively assess students' knowledge and skills.

This material is also provided to the Supervisor of Marking, to give some guidance about the nature and scope of the responses the committee expected students would produce. How sample answers are used at marking centres varies. Sample answers may be used extensively and even modified at the marking centre OR they may be considered only briefly at the beginning of marking. In a few cases, the sample answers may not be used at all at marking.

The Board publishes this information to assist in understanding how the marking guidelines were implemented.

The 'sample answers' or similar advice contained in this document are not intended to be exemplary or even complete answers or responses. As they are part of the examination committee's 'working document', they may contain typographical errors, omissions, or only some of the possible correct answers.

Section II

Question 21 (a)

Answers could include:

Primary:

- questionnaires
- surveys
- photographs
- field sketches and maps
- log of events
- flora and fauna
- identification surveys.

Secondary:

- historical maps
- using GIS
- aerial photos or satellite images
- interpreting diagrams and graphs
- weather maps
- the internet.

Answer provides reasons for their use in an identified ecosystem at risk.

Question 21 (b)

Answers could include:

Natural changes:

- natural climate change
- sea level rise
- drought
- flooding
- soil erosion.

Human changes:

- air, water and land pollution
- human induced climate change
- population change
- deforestation and habitat destruction
- reduction in biodiversity
- desertification
- ecotourism.

Answer provides characteristics and features of positive or negative effects of these changes on an identified ecosystem at risk.

Question 21 (c)***Answers could include:***

The park could be managed through revegetation, preservation of habitat species conservation, ecotourism, education, waste management, legislation, sustainable use of past resources.

Question 22 (a)***Answers could include:***

A world city as a centre of: finance, culture, sport, heritage, transport, telecommunications, decision-making, TNC headquarters, and tourism.

Answer mentions a definition of world cities (dominance, leadership, authority).

Question 22 (b)***Answers could include:***

- Globalisation of fashion/music/movies
- Loss of cultural heritage/traditional ways of life
- Increasing crime/pollution/environmental degradation/overcrowding
- Could be positive, eg understanding other ways of life
- May mention architecture, streetscape, heritage, noise, colour, street life, energy, vitality and lifestyle.

Question 22 (c)***Answers could include:***

- Mention of a large city – this shows awareness of population growth and associated demand for housing
- This puts stress on provision of social services, eg education, healthcare, employment, recreational space and caring service
- Stress also placed on infrastructure, including: roads and railways, electricity supply, communications, sanitation, water supply, waste management and public transport.

Question 23 (a)***Answers could include:***

Must refer to an economic activity from primary to quinary, and could include any economic activity, such as:

- manufacturing
- viticulture
- tourism
- farming/agriculture

- stock exchange
- retail/wholesale
- transportation of goods
- ecotourism.

Describes and demonstrates an understanding of technology relevant to the economic activity identified and its use over time and space. This could include:

- communications technology
- transportation
- machinery.

Question 23 (b)

Answers could include:

Refers to a local economic enterprise. Examples could include: hotel, retail outlet, farm.

Identifies the relationships between the identified economic enterprise and the wider operating environment. This could include linkages from the local to the global, including:

- globalisation of transport
- increased use of telecommunications to access larger market share
- increased speed of financial operations
- online marketing and customer feedback
- diversification of available goods and services
- actions of government, eg new legislation, GFC.

Section III

Question 24

Answers could include:

Reference to an ecosystem studied and in the stimulus booklet. Answers include discussion of:

- human impacts, such as tourism, development, pollution, population pressure, infrastructure, expansion of agriculture, deforestation and mining
- natural stress, such as climate change, natural disasters, natural attrition and sea level rise.

Possible ecosystems from the stimulus booklet could include: forest (temperate, rainforest), freshwater wetland (inland lake or pond), national park, river or lake.

Question 25

Answers could include:

- Definition of a world city and its networks, along with the provision of more than one example of a world city
- Discussion of distribution of world cities

- Discussion of linkages and flows between cities
- Understanding of the hierarchy between cities, including relationships of dominance and dependency between cities
- World cities as centres of culture, economics, employment, tourism, transport and communications.

For example, New York, London, Tokyo, Paris and Sydney are centres of culture (museums, theatre, arts, sport, icons, heritage), finance (retail, stock exchange, trade, banking), communications (telephone, internet, publishing), globalised population and tourism, and are transport hubs.

Question 26

Answers could include:

Identification of an economic activity such as viticulture, tourism, manufacturing, agriculture, forestry, fishing and finance.

In explaining spatial patterns and future directions, the location and distribution of the activity should be discussed in relation to any of the following factors:

- biophysical, such as topography and climate
- ecological
- technological
- economic
- political
- socio-cultural and
- organisational.

Prediction of the scale of the economic activity in the future, impact of technology in the future, the influence of employment, changing legislative requirements and standards, evolution of the activity, product or service.