

**Question 21** (10 marks)

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- (a) A highway currently passes through a country town. The government is proposing to build a bypass that diverts highway traffic away from the town.

Discuss the costs and benefits of this proposal.

The construction of the highway to divert traffic will employ people and provide employment. Additionally, it will reduce pollution around the country town.

However, the bypass will require land and the ~~pop~~ environment affected. Furthermore, since it diverts traffic away from the town it may decrease demand for produce in the town and decreasing revenue.

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Do NOT write in this area.

Question 21 (continued)

- (b) Explain the effect that globalisation has had on environmental sustainability.

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The process of globalisation tends to have a negative impact on the environment. As countries become more integrated into each other ~~compo~~ economies, firms become more competitive. This usually causes firm to focus on competitiveness and ignore environmental sustainability. Examples include China: It went for cheap coal power stations which pollute the world and can cause smog. Another example is Australia - the open cut mines encourage erosion and is difficult to 'repair'. Additionally, globalisation has caused some countries to ~~develop a~~ rapidly develop and consume raw materials for steel ~~make~~ production.

End of Question 21