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# Geography

## Higher level

### Paper 1

9 May 2025

**Zone A** afternoon | **Zone B** afternoon | **Zone C** afternoon

2 hours 15 minutes

#### Instructions to candidates

- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer the questions in three options.
- The accompanying **geography resource booklet** is required for this examination paper.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[60 marks]**.

| Option                                | Questions |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Option A — Freshwater                 | 1 – 2     |
| Option B — Oceans and coastal margins | 3 – 4     |
| Option C — Extreme environments       | 5 – 6     |
| Option D — Geophysical hazards        | 7 – 8     |
| Option E — Leisure, tourism and sport | 9 – 10    |
| Option F — Food and health            | 11 – 12   |
| Option G — Urban environments         | 13 – 14   |

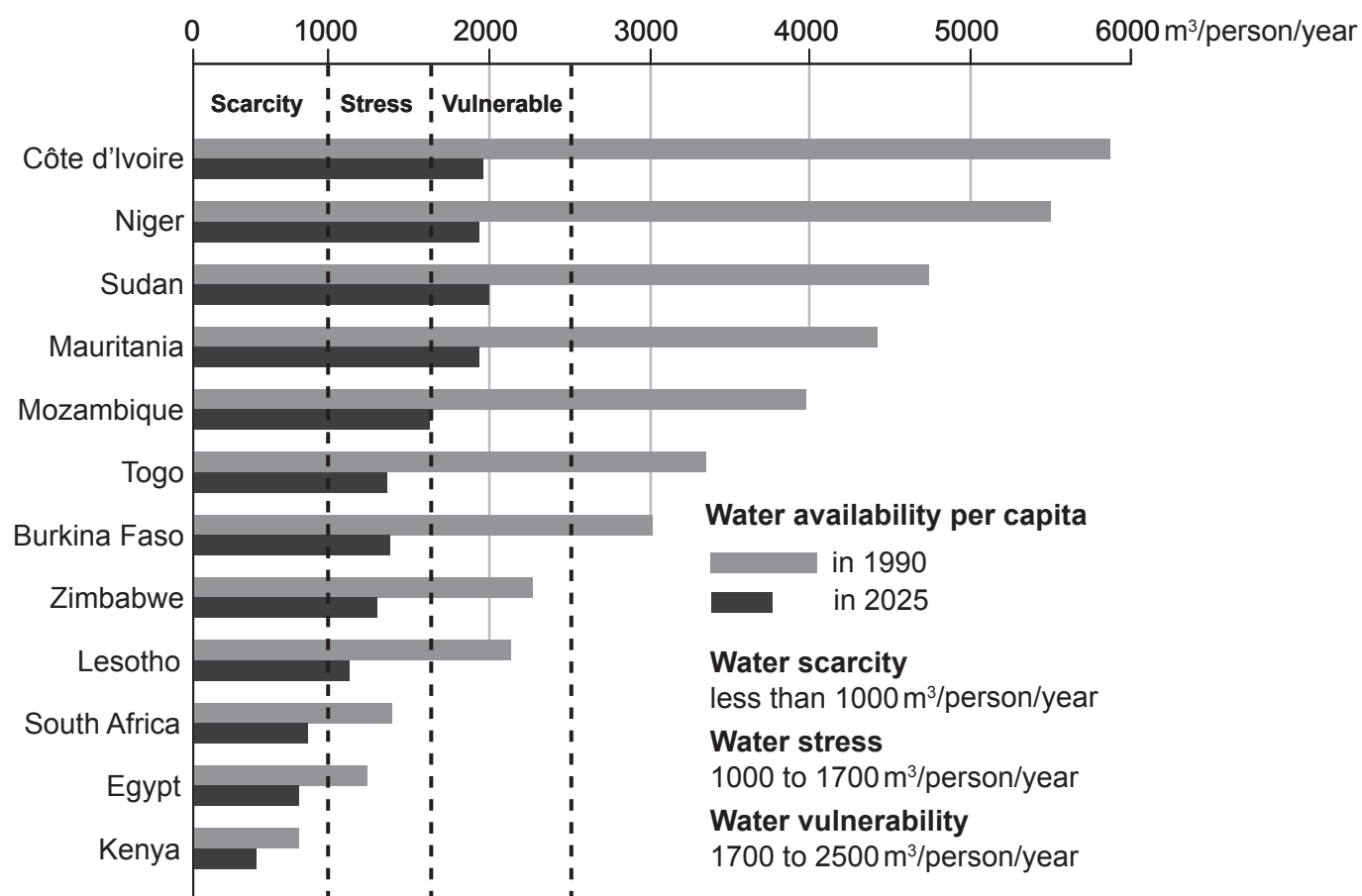
Answer the questions in **three** options.

When relevant, answers should refer to case studies or examples, and where appropriate include well-drawn maps or diagrams.

### Option A — Freshwater

Answer the following question.

1. The graph shows the projected change in water availability in selected African countries between 1990 and 2025.



- (a) (i) State which country's water availability has decreased the most between 1990 and 2025. [1]
- (ii) Identify which country's water availability decreased by approximately 1500 m³/person/year between 1990 and 2025. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** possible **physical** cause for water scarcity in regions such as these. [2]
- (c) Explain **two** reasons for the growing human pressure on lakes. [3 + 3]

(Option A continues on the following page)

**(Option A continued)**

Answer either part (a) or part (b).

**Either**

2. (a) Examine the role of the processes of river erosion and deposition in the formation of meanders and floodplains. [10]

**Or**

2. (b) Examine the role of local communities in managing access to clean and sustainable water supplies. [10]

**End of Option A**

### Option B — Oceans and coastal margins

Answer the following question.

3. Refer to the graph on page 2 of the accompanying resource booklet.

The graph shows the percentage of coral reefs destroyed since 2000.

- (a) (i) Identify the area with the greatest percentage of destroyed coral reefs. [1]
- (ii) Estimate the percentage of coral reefs destroyed in the Caribbean and Atlantic Ocean. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** human activity responsible for the decline in coral reefs. [2]
- (c) (i) Explain **one climatic** impact of a La Niña event. [3]
- (ii) Explain **one economic** impact of a La Niña event. [3]

Answer either part (a) or part (b).

**Either**

4. (a) Evaluate the effectiveness of strategies to manage oil and plastic waste pollution in the oceans. [10]

**Or**

4. (b) Examine why conflicts between commercial development and conservation measures at coastlines may be difficult to resolve. [10]

## End of Option B

### Option C — Extreme environments

Answer the following question.

5. Refer to the map on page 3 of the accompanying resource booklet.

The map shows the land use of plots in a few villages in a hot, arid area in Northern Senegal.

- (a) (i) Identify the main land use in the village of Widou Thiengoly. [1]
- (ii) State the direction from the communal garden in Tessekere to the communal garden in Koyli Alpha. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** way in which water might be obtained from the water points. [2]
- (c) Explain how increasing tourism in hot, arid environments may lead to:
  - (i) **one** positive **economic** impact; [3]
  - (ii) **one** negative **environmental** impact. [3]

Answer either part (a) or part (b).

**Either**

6. (a) Examine the role of freeze-thaw and solifluction in the formation of periglacial landscape features. [10]

**Or**

6. (b) Examine the opportunities **and** challenges of using new technologies for sustainable development in **one or more** extreme environments. [10]

## End of Option C

### Option D — Geophysical hazards

Answer the following question.

7. Refer to the diagram on page 5 of the accompanying resource booklet.

The diagram shows the effects on a settlement of liquefaction caused by an earthquake.

- (a) (i) Identify **one** effect of liquefaction on this settlement. [1]
- (ii) Identify **one** effect of liquefaction on the physical geography of the area. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** adaptation strategy that could be used where liquefaction occurs. [2]
- (c) Explain how the hazard risk from volcanic eruptions might be affected by:
  - (i) **one demographic** characteristic of the population; [3]
  - (ii) **one economic** characteristic of the population. [3]

Answer either part (a) or part (b).

**Either**

8. (a) Examine the relationship between plate margin movements and the characteristics and distribution of earthquakes. [10]

**Or**

8. (b) Evaluate the effectiveness of pre-event management strategies in reducing human vulnerability to earthquake hazards. [10]

**End of Option D**

### Option E — Leisure, tourism and sport

Answer the following question.

9. Refer to the map on page 6 of the accompanying resource booklet.

The map shows part of the Sagarmatha National Park in Nepal. The scale is 1:50 000 and the contour interval is 40 metres.

- (a) (i) State the latitude of the hotel at Phunki Tenga (point **A**). [1]
- (ii) State the altitude gain, in metres, walking from the spot height near Phunki Tenga (point **A**) to the spot height near Pangboche (point **B**). [1]
- (b) Outline **one** possible human problem caused by the large number of hotels in this area. [2]
- (c) (i) Explain **one political** reason for the growing importance of the Paralympic Games. [3]
- (ii) Explain **one cultural** reason for the growing importance of the Paralympic Games. [3]

Answer either part (a) or part (b).

**Either**

10. (a) Examine the role of movie location and/or heritage tourism as part of a niche national tourism strategy. [10]

**Or**

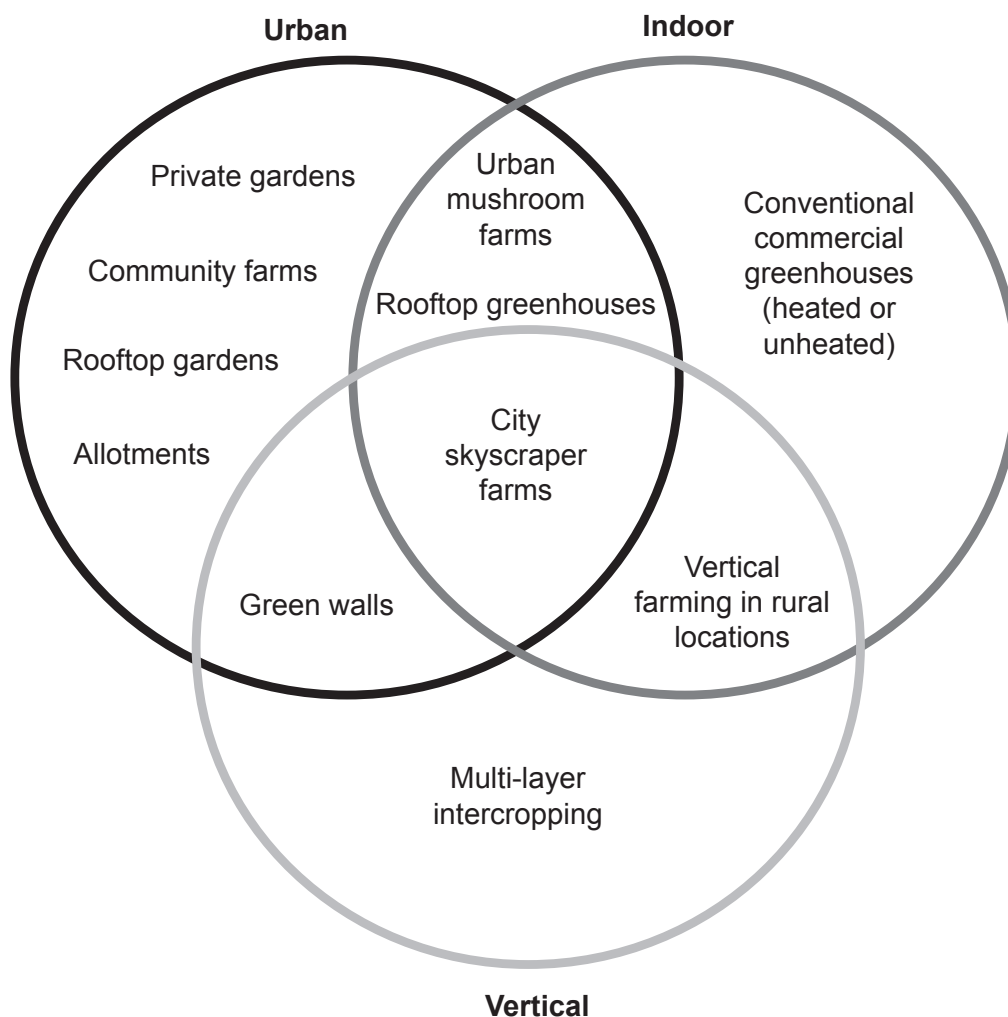
10. (b) Examine the relative importance of human **and** physical factors in the growth of tourism hotspots. [10]

## End of Option E

## Option F — Food and health

Answer the following question.

11. The Venn diagram shows how different types of food production can be classified into urban, indoor and vertical categories.



- (a) (i) State the type of food production that is found in all three categories. [1]
- (ii) Identify the categories in which rooftop greenhouses are found. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** disadvantage of vertical farming for farmers. [2]
- (c) (i) Explain how **one physical** factor can lead to a change in food **production** over time. [3]
- (ii) Explain how **one human** factor can lead to a change in food **consumption** over time. [3]

(Option F continues on the following page)

**(Option F continued)**

Answer either part (a) or part (b).

**Either**

12. (a) Examine the relative importance of different geographic factors contributing to the diffusion of **one or more** vector-borne diseases. [10]

**Or**

12. (b) Evaluate possible solutions to the problem of food insecurity. [10]

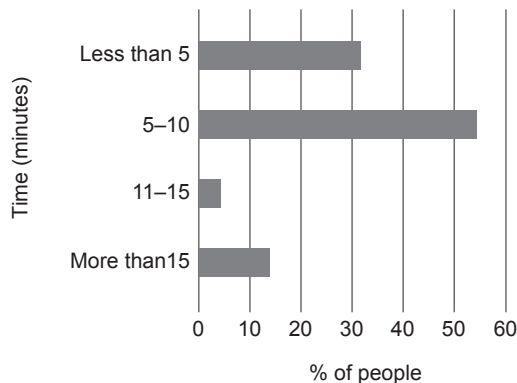
**End of Option F**

## Option G — Urban environments

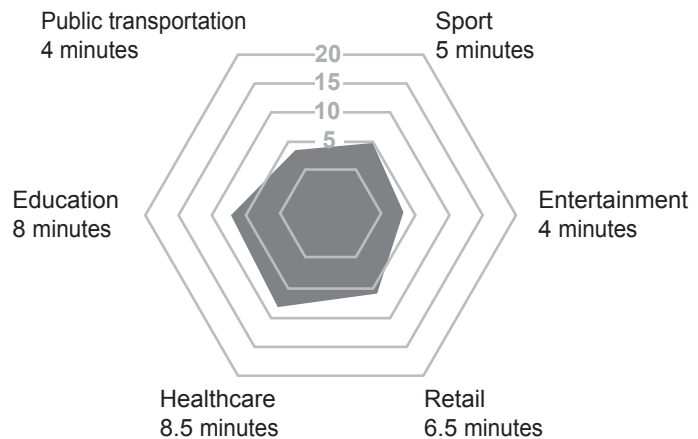
Answer the following question.

13. The diagram shows the idea of the 15-minute city, in which most essential destinations are within a 15-minute travel time (walking or cycling) from home.

**Percentage of people and travel time taken to arrive at essential destinations**



**Typical travel time to each essential destination**



- (a) (i) Estimate the percentage of citizens who are more than 15 minutes travel from their essential destinations. [1]
- (ii) State the **average** travel time, in minutes, to reach the six types of essential destination. [1]
- (b) Outline **one** way in which becoming a 15-minute city could help reduce a city's ecological footprint. [2]
- (c) Explain how the pattern of urban residential areas can be affected by:
- (i) **one physical** factor; [3]
- (ii) **one human** factor. [3]

(Option G continues on the following page)

**(Option G continued)**

Answer either part (a) or part (b).

**Either**

- 14.** (a) Examine the strengths **and** weaknesses of strategies to reduce air pollution in **one or more** urban areas. [10]

**Or**

- 14.** (b) Examine the role of economic **and** demographic processes contributing to inner-city gentrification. [10]

**End of Option G**

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**References:**

1. Philippe Rekacewicz, February 2006. <https://www.grida.no/resources/5597>. Source adapted.
11. Breewood, H., n.d. *Spotlight on urban, vertical and indoor agriculture*. [online] Available at: <https://www.tabledebates.org/essay/spotlight-urban-vertical-and-indoor-agriculture> [Accessed 9 February 2024]. Source adapted.
13. Walther Ploos van Amstel, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences / CityLogistics.info.