

Name: _____

Date:

GCSE Edexcel Geography A (1GA0)

Mark Scheme

Topic 1: The changing landscapes of the UK

Time:

Total marks available: 40

Total marks achieved: _____



EXAM PAPERS PRACTICE

Suitable for Edexcel Students sitting exams 2026+ onwards.
However, other boards will also find this useful

Mark Scheme

Q1.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	<p>Working to show:</p> <p>Distance measured = 7.9cm Divided by 1.6cm</p> <p>= 1mark</p> <p>Correct answer is 4.9km = 1 mark (accept 4.7km-5.1km)</p> <p>Max of 1 mark if no working shown (or incorrect working) but correct answer or correct workings and incorrect answer.</p>	(2)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	<p>Award 1 mark for a reason and a further mark for using map evidence to support the reason.</p> <p>The land is very steep (1) which makes it difficult to build settlements in this area (1).</p> <p>The contours are close together (1) which means that it is difficult to build on (1).</p> <p>The climate is cold/ wet (1) because the altitude is high (1).</p> <p>There are few areas of flat land (1) which means that the area available for building a settlement is small (1).</p> <p>It is more difficult to establish settlements (1) because there are large areas of forest/ woodland (1)</p> <p>Accept any other appropriate response.</p>	(2)

Q2.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	<p>Award 1 mark for each descriptive point about the relief in grid square A or 1 mark for a point and a further 1 mark for development of that point, up to a maximum of 2 marks.</p> <p>The relief is steep (1) with the contours being close together (1).</p> <p>The area is quite hilly (1) and there is a valley (1).</p> <p>There is a hill (1) with a maximum height of 125m (1).</p> <p>Accept any other appropriate response</p>	(2)

Q3.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	<p>Award 1 mark for a point about one of the characteristics of igneous rocks and a further 1 mark for explanation, up to a maximum of 2 marks.</p> <p>Igneous rocks are more resistant rocks (1) which means that they are less easily eroded (1).</p> <p>Igneous rocks are hard (1) which means that they are less easily eroded (1).</p> <p>Igneous rocks are formed by volcanoes (1) which erode very slowly (1)</p> <p>Accept any other appropriate response.</p>	(2)

Q4.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	<p>Award 1 mark for a reason and a further 1 mark for extension through explanation, up to a maximum of 2 marks.</p> <p>Large crystals form when magma cools (slowly) (1) because it forms underground (1).</p> <p>Intrusive rock / molten rock underground (1) cools down (slowly) to form big crystals (1).</p> <p>Accept any other appropriate response.</p>	(2)

Q5.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	<p>Award 1 mark for identifying an effect of forestry and a further 1 mark for explaining how this affects the landscape, up to a maximum of 2 marks.</p> <p>The planting of large areas of coniferous forest (1) can reduce the variety of trees in a landscape (1).</p> <p>The planting of large areas of forest (1) can make the landscape look very similar/bland (1).</p> <p>The cutting down of large areas of forest (1) reduces the biodiversity of a landscape (1).</p> <p>Trees can hold back the soil (1) which reduces flooding (1).</p> <p>Accept any other appropriate response</p>	(2)

Q6.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	<p>D – slate</p> <p>A and C are sedimentary, B is igneous</p>	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum of 1 mark. Can contain fossils (1). Can have crystals (1). Changed by heat (1). Changed by pressure (1). Dense (1). Formed from other rocks (either sedimentary or igneous) (1). Hard (1). Resistant to erosion (1). Accept any other appropriate response.	(1)

Q7.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	A	(1)

Q8.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	B Granite The correct answer is granite as this is the only example of an igneous rock listed. Chalk and sandstone are sedimentary rocks and schist is a metamorphic rock.	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark Composed mainly of quartz and mica (1) Crystals (1) Hard (1) Formed from cooling (1) Formed from intrusive activity (1) Formed from volcanic activity (1) More resistant to erosion/ weathering (1) Permeable/ impermeable (1) Accept any other appropriate response.	(1)

Q9.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	C – Woodland The land use at X is woodland. It is not buildings, a railway or a youth hostel.	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	Harberton	(1)

Q10.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	B	(1)

Q11.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	B - Granite (1) The areas shown are formed from granite rather than any of the other rock types listed.	(1)

Q12.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark: Forestry (1) Urbanisation/settlement (1) Deforestation (1) Building of roads/rail (1) Reject farming/agriculture Accept any other appropriate response	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	Award 1 mark for farming activity and a further one mark for effect on the landscape, up to a maximum of 2 marks: Farming clears the natural surface vegetation/trees (1), which can result in a mono-culture and/or artificial landscape (1) Farming can plant the same crop over and over (1) which can give landscapes the same appearance (1) In some parts of the UK, farming has led to a loss of hedgerows (1) as farmers removed them to improve efficiency of farming (1) Farming has led to sheep in upland landscapes (1) which has created a deforested and grazed/grassy landscape (1) Accept any other appropriate response	(2)

Q13.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark Escarpment (1) Scarp (1)	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	Award 1 mark for a point about water coming to the surface at point Z and a further 1 mark for a reason for it collecting here. The stream is created by a spring (1) which is found here because water flows through the chalk (1). Water flows through the permeable chalk (1) and comes to the surface when it reaches the clay (1). Water is forced to the surface here (1) when it reaches the impermeable clay (1). The water is forced to the surface here (1) where the water table reaches the surface (1). Accept any other appropriate response.	(2)

Q14.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark Gneiss (1) Marble (1) Quartzite (1) Schist (1) Slate (1) Accept any other appropriate response	(1)

Q15.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark Carbonation (1) Exfoliation/ Onion skin weathering (1) Hydrolysis (1) Solution (1) Plant/ animal action (1) Chemical weathering (1) Biological weathering (1) Mechanical weathering (1) Accept any other appropriate response	(1)

Q16.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	C	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark. Rocks formed from other rocks (1) Rocks formed because of heat/pressure (1) Crystals are formed in layers (1) May contain fossils of plants and/or animals (1) Dense/Hard (1) Accept any other appropriate response	(1)

Q17.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	D	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark: Rocks formed in layers (1) Idea of compaction/cementation (1) Oldest rocks are at the bottom/youngest at the top (1) May contain fossils of plants and/or animals (1) Accept any other appropriate response	(1)

Q18.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark. Erosion/named type of erosion (1) Deposition (1) Transportation/named type of transportation (1) Mass movement/named type of mass movement (1) Accept any other appropriate response	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	Award 1 mark for point about a change in temperature or the effects of wind, rain and waves and a further 1 mark for the effect on the landscape, up to a maximum of 2 marks. Rocks expand when hot and contract when cold (1), which can result in cracks forming and/or pieces of rock breaking off if a rock is heated and cooled many times (1) The wind can blow tiny grains of sand against a rock (1), which can result in the rock wearing away (1) When water gets into a rock and freezes it expands (1), which can result in it pushing the crack further apart until it breaks the rock (1) Accept any other appropriate response	(2)

Q19.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark Layers (1) Compaction/cementation (1) Oldest rocks are at the bottom/youngest at the top (1) May contain fossils (1) Variety of colour (1) Permeable/impermeable (1) Comment about resistance (1) Hard/soft (1) Do not accept statements about location Accept any other appropriate response.	(1)

Q20.

Question number	Answer	Mark
	Award 1 mark for one of the following, maximum 1 mark Layers (1) Compaction/cementation (1) Oldest rocks are at the bottom/youngest at the top (1) May contain fossils (1) Variety of colour (1) Permeable / impermeable (1) Comment about resistance (1) Hard/soft (1) Do not accept statements about location Accept any other appropriate response	(1)

Q21.

Question number	Answer	Mark
(i)	Award 1 mark for any of the following: Chalk (1) Limestone (1) Sandstone (1) Accept any other appropriate response	(1)

Question number	Answer	Mark
(ii)	C - layered structure Sedimentary rocks have a layered structure. They are not formed by cooling (A), do not have a crystal structure (B) and are not formed by heating (D).	(1)



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