

Cambridge IGCSE™ (9–1)

IGCSE GEOGRAPHY

Paper 2 Geographical Skills

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 60

0976/22**May/June 2026**

Published

This mark scheme contains the instructions and marking guidance that our examiners used to mark candidate responses for this component.

Before they start marking, examiners complete a standardisation process. They review a range of candidate responses and discuss the mark scheme in detail to agree which answers can and cannot be accepted. Examiners award marks where it is clear that candidate responses have met the requirements of the mark scheme. These requirements may vary between different components or different versions of the same component, depending on the exact requirements of the question and the candidate responses seen during the standardisation process.

Sometimes, our mark schemes may allow marks to be awarded to responses which contain elements that are factually incorrect or for content not covered by the syllabus. We do this in response to the demands of a specific question to support candidates and make sure that our assessments are fair. However, these allowances should not be used as a guide for teaching and learning.

We cannot discuss the mark scheme with schools, and we recommend that schools read the mark scheme together with the assessment material and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

This document consists of **11** printed pages.

General marking principles

All examiners must apply these marking principles when marking candidate responses.

1	Examiners must award marks for each response in line with: - the specific content defined in the mark scheme - the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the level descriptions - the standard of response required as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.
2	Examiners must award whole marks (not half marks, or other fractions).
3	Examiners must award marks positively . This means that: - marks are not deducted for errors or omissions - marks are awarded for correct/valid answers as defined in the mark scheme and also for other valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme referring to your team leader as appropriate - the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar are judged only when the mark scheme indicates that these features are specifically assessed in the question. However, the meaning of all responses must be unambiguous.
4	Examiners must consistently apply the requirements of the mark scheme and any rules for what to do when candidates have not followed instructions correctly.
5	Examiners must use the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme, unless limited by the quality of the candidate responses seen.
6	Examiners must award marks according to the mark scheme and must not award marks with grade thresholds or grade descriptions in mind.

Annotations guidance for centres

Examiners use a system of annotations as a shorthand for communicating their marking decisions to one another. Examiners are trained during the standardisation process on how and when to use annotations. The purpose of annotations is to inform the standardisation and monitoring processes and guide the supervising examiners when they are checking the work of examiners within their team. The meaning of annotations and how they are used is specific to each component and is understood by all examiners who mark the component.

We publish annotations in our mark schemes to help centres understand the annotations they may see on copies of scripts. Note that there may not be a direct correlation between the number of annotations on a script and the mark awarded. Similarly, the use of an annotation may not be an indication of the quality of the response.

The annotations listed below were available to examiners marking this component in this series.

Annotations

Annotation	Meaning
	Correct point
	Incorrect point
	Benefit of doubt given
	Not answered question
	Repetition
	Content of response too vague
	More information required
	Highlighting areas of text
	Open bracket
	Close bracket
	Page or response seen by examiner

Question	Answer	Marks																									
In Q1(a)(b) and (c) list rule applies – only accept the first answer given.																											
1(a)(i)	main road/LP-2	1																									
1(a)(ii)	sports ground (football pitch = ^)	1																									
1(a)(iii)	church/hermitage/Santuario (de Fatima)	1																									
1(a)(iv)	picnic site (picnic area = ^)	1																									
1(a)(v)	1274 (m)	1																									
1(b)	151 688 / 151 689 / 152 688 /152 689	1																									
1(c)(i)	SE/south-east	1																									
1(c)(ii)	3700 (m) (tolerance 3550–3850) Accept a range if both figures are within tol	1																									
1(c)(iii)	128 (°) (tolerance 126–130)	1																									
1(d)	• astronomical viewpoint / Mirador de San Borondon; • cliffs; • footpath; • hotel; • information centre; • museum; • port/marina/docks/ harbour; • viewpoint / Pozo de San Antonio; • rural cottage. 3 or 4 correct = 2 marks 1 or 2 correct = 1 mark Do not accept: interesting tourist place, sea, coast, beach, sports ground, petrol station	2																									
1(e)	<table><tr><th>feature</th><th>area in Figure 1.2</th><th>area in Figure 1.3</th><th>both of these areas</th><th>neither of these areas</th></tr><tr><td>gentle slopes</td><td>✓</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>land over 1000m</td><td></td><td>✓</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>mostly forest</td><td></td><td></td><td>✓</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>slopes facing SE</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>✓</td></tr></table> Two or more ticks in any row = 0 for that row.	feature	area in Figure 1.2	area in Figure 1.3	both of these areas	neither of these areas	gentle slopes	✓				land over 1000m		✓			mostly forest			✓		slopes facing SE				✓	4
feature	area in Figure 1.2	area in Figure 1.3	both of these areas	neither of these areas																							
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Question	Answer	Marks
1(f)	- started/peak over 750 <u>m</u> (allow any figure between 750 and 1000 <u>m</u>); <u>started</u> in the E/SE/S (of the map/present lava flow); - travelled W/WNW/WSW; (from E to W etc = 2) - spread from <u>steep to flat</u> areas; (from highland to lowland = 0) - lava <u>came from</u> (fissure) vents; - divided into two main flows; <u>reached</u> the coast/water/sea/beaches; - enters/extends into the sea/Playa del Perdico/Playa de los Guirres /<u>formed</u> deltas/beaches/new land; - extending 5.05 ha / 43.46 ha; - flowed around mountains/hills/high areas/peaks OR mountains/hills/high areas/peaks are unaffected (by lava) OR mountains/hills/high areas/peaks interrupted the lava flow/shielded some areas; - covered/affected forest(s)brushwood/meadows/farms/road(s)/ village(s)/ buildings/settlement(s); (cities/towns = 0) - e.g. Todoque (accept one named affected settlement or industrial area); example can be credited on its own e.g. 'La Asmada was affected'. - length 6.5 <u>km</u> (tolerance 6 – 7 <u>km</u>); - width 3 <u>km</u> (tolerance 2.5 – 3.5 <u>km</u>); - total area = 12 – 16 <u>km²</u>. (accept any figure in between) ^ steep slope flowed towards the coast large area covered flows a long distance Do not accept: features on their own e.g. fissure vent, rocky areas source/started from Tajogaite/Volcan Tajogaite (given in question) lava flows to the NW/S. No credit for where the lava flow is not found (with the <u>exception</u> of mountains/named mountains - Montana de la Liguria/Todoque/Cogote /Rajada).	5

Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)(i)	choropleth map	1
2(a)(ii)	1: the centre of the island is sparsely populated 4: the north is more densely populated than the south 6: the population density is unevenly distributed	3
2(a)(iii)	$1\,301\,978 \div 2040 = 1$ mark (Must indicate division) $638 (.22) = 1$ mark $639 / 638.3 = 0$	2

Question	Answer	Marks
2(b)	- high birth rate/lack of contraceptives/family planning/high fertility rate/early marriage/culture that supports large families/<u>in</u>-migration/immigration/rural-urban migration; (increase in BR = 0) availability of/access to: - energy/electricity; - housing/ squatter settlement/tower blocks; (public) services/education/healthcare; (facilities = 0) - high order shops/business opportunities/shopping malls; - piped water/sanitation; - employment; <u>transport</u> infrastructure/roads/railways; - reliable/safe governance/ low crime rates/law and order/security. ^ accessible living space low education rates/illiteracy/lack of education (needs to say what about) overpopulation Do not accept: low death rates/ high life expectancy tourism on its own high standard of living/quality of life/better living conditions religious beliefs	2

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)	(natural) arch; • goes right the way through (cliff/headland)/a tunnel/bridge-shaped; • water can pass through/hollow; • line of weakness/crack; • a third of the height of the headland; • parallel to the beach. cave; • an opening/gap/dent/hollow (in the cliff/headland); • doesn't penetrate through rock/cut partially through rock; • narrow. headland/cliffs; • made of sandstone/yellow rock; • layers of rock; • weathered/crumbling; • bare rock; • cracks; • tall; • steep; • sticks out across bay/sea. bay/cove; • small; • sheltered/enclosed by cliffs; • curved; • steep. stacks/stump; • upstanding/pillar/column/tall (stack); • sharp (top)/pointed/jagged; • bare rock; • isolated/surrounded by sea/cut-off/separated; • undercut; • base wider than top; • small base (stump); • hidden under the waves/sea (stump); • surrounded by rocks. beach/wave cut platform; • small/narrow; • sand; (sediment = 0) (not depositing sand = process) • <u>covered with</u> boulders/rocks. (rocky beach = 2) • curved (beach)	6

Question	Answer	Marks																		
3(a)	Named features 3@ 1 mark (Reserve). Description 3@ 1 mark (max. 1 mark per feature) (Reserve). Description must refer to a correctly named landform. Credit similar description only once. Do not accept: details of processes reference to vegetation																			
3(b)	Responses need to identify a feature from the photograph (e.g. the port). Credit one opportunity (e.g. trade). <table><tr><th><u>Feature</u> (in photograph)</th><th><u>For:</u> (possible opportunities for people)</th></tr><tr><td>Beaches/ Bay</td><td>Sunbathing / Swimming <u>in</u> sea/tourism/leisure</td></tr><tr><td>Port/ Harbour/ Docks/ Marina/ Jetty</td><td>Ferries/ Cruise ships/ Fishing/ Fishing boats/ Mooring yachts / Tourist boats/ Trade/ Import/ export of products/ Transport of goods</td></tr><tr><td>OR</td><td>OR</td></tr><tr><td>Boats/ Yachts/ Ferries</td><td>Fishing/ Tourist trips/ Leisure/ Recreation</td></tr><tr><td>Lorries / Containers</td><td>Industrial activity/Trade/Imports /Exports</td></tr><tr><td>Swimming pools/ Tennis courts/ Parks</td><td>Recreation/ Leisure / Relaxation/ Sports</td></tr><tr><td>Hotels/ Villas/ Car parks</td><td>Tourism</td></tr><tr><td>Blocks of flats</td><td>Residential/ Places to live</td></tr></table> transport needs evidence e.g. 'port for transport of goods/materials'. ^ coastal access for fishing boating/fishing/swimming/tourism resort on its own house near the sea jobs on its own places/space to park boats	<u>Feature</u> (in photograph)	<u>For:</u> (possible opportunities for people)	Beaches/ Bay	Sunbathing / Swimming <u>in</u> sea/tourism/leisure	Port/ Harbour/ Docks/ Marina/ Jetty	Ferries/ Cruise ships/ Fishing/ Fishing boats/ Mooring yachts / Tourist boats/ Trade/ Import/ export of products/ Transport of goods	OR	OR	Boats/ Yachts/ Ferries	Fishing/ Tourist trips/ Leisure/ Recreation	Lorries / Containers	Industrial activity/Trade/Imports /Exports	Swimming pools/ Tennis courts/ Parks	Recreation/ Leisure / Relaxation/ Sports	Hotels/ Villas/ Car parks	Tourism	Blocks of flats	Residential/ Places to live	2
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Blocks of flats	Residential/ Places to live																			

Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)	• cirrus • cumulus	2
4(b)(i)	isobars isolines = 0	1
4(b)(ii)	• sky <u>fully</u> covered in cloud/ <u>cloud</u> cover 8 <u>oktas</u>; • <u>heavy</u> rain; • <u>wind</u> at <u>20–49</u> <u>knots</u>; • <u>wind from</u> the W/WNW; • <u>air pressure</u> – any number or range between 1004 and 1006 <u>mb</u>. ^ sky almost fully covered/extremely cloudy strong wind/very windy	3
4(b)(iii)	cloud cover – symbol for 6 oktas – $\frac{3}{4}$ circle shaded (as in key) shower – correct symbol – isosceles triangle with single point at its base (no credit if shaded). 2 @ 1 mark per correctly drawn symbol.	2

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)(i)	primary	1
5(a)(ii)	• large/deep/big/wide/steep/cliff(s); • open-cast/mining the surface/strip-mining; (open = ^) • <u>bare</u> rock/grey/red/orange/brown rock/<u>different</u> coloured <u>rocks</u>; • (soil/earth/ground = 0) • layers/terraces/stair-like/steps/benched sides/ hillsides cut into platforms /many levels/roads on each level; • barren/dusty/dry; • barrier/fence. Do not accept: holes at the bottom of the mine, tractors, excavators, lorries, no greenery/vegetation, hilly, uneven, rocky, dirty, highland, roads on its own	3

Question	Answer	Marks
5(b)(i)	- visual pollution caused by mining waste/spoil heaps; - visual pollution caused by abandoned machinery/pipes/debris from mining processes/powerlines; - deforestation/<u>loss</u> of vegetation/less trees; (lack = ^) - water pollution/contamination of water/groundwater/ leaching; - loss of/damage/contamination to soils/top soil removed/dug up <u>leading to</u> infertility; - growth of secondary forest/vegetation unable to grow in infertile/contaminated soils; - leads to a reduction in species diversity/loss of habitat/animals abandon habitat; - air pollution created by dust/particulates (from mining)/use of machinery/trains/lorries. ^ degradation of the land, arid, dry, burning, equipment causes noise, natural landscape destroyed Do not accept: topsoil removed so agriculture can't be practiced soil erosion.	3
5(b)(ii)	<u>mining related</u> tourist activity/attraction; (tourist attraction on its own = 0) - reforestation/afforestation; - recreation area/theme park/a lake <u>for</u> water-based activities; - reservoir; - used for landfill/waste dump/waste station/waste tip; (wildlife) conservation area; - military exercises; - industrial estates/warehouses/factories; - reuse of the mine waste/spoil. ^ housing, national park, reused as a farm, shopping centre, pond, playground	1

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)(i)	HEP	1
6(a)(ii)	5000 (terawatt hours)	1
6(a)(iii)	oil	1
6(a)(iv)	increased; from 10 000 to 26 000 / by 16 000 <u>terawatt hours</u> / $\times 2.6$ <u>terawatt hours</u> Credit if 'terawatt hours' is used once in the response.	2

Question	Answer	Marks
6(b)	IN FAVOUR - Res. 1 • infinite supply/renewable/does not run out; • quick to install; • clean form of energy/no CO² produced/no <u>air</u> pollution/no harmful emissions; • farming can continue around turbines/very little loss of cropland or grazing land; • can be used in remote areas/does not need connection to a grid; • provides jobs <u>in construction</u>. AGAINST - Res. 1 • cost of installation is expensive/LEDCs cannot afford installation/maintenance can be expensive; • inconsistent production of energy/unreliable supply /wind can be variable/wind low in some months/wind not always available; • needs <u>a lot of turbines/large scale</u> to support a large population/ to produce a large amount of energy; • (blades) can kill/scare/danger to birds/noise pollution/noisy/noise might disturb wildlife; • eyesore/detracts from scenic beauty; • disruption to communication signal/shipping. ^ requires a large amount of land isolated area is needed high investment costs, 'expensive' on its own, environmentally friendly, sustainable, reduces need for non-renewable sources, reduces global warming, reusable limited to areas with strong wind energy output is low. Do not accept: cheap, depends on the wind/some countries have no wind/weather dependent, not all areas are windy.	3