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Oxford Cambridge and RSA

Tuesday 19 May 2015 – Afternoon

GCSE GEOGRAPHY A

A731/01/02/I Contemporary Themes in Geography
(Foundation and Higher Tier)

INSERT



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Fig. 1

Eyjafjallajökull Volcano in Iceland



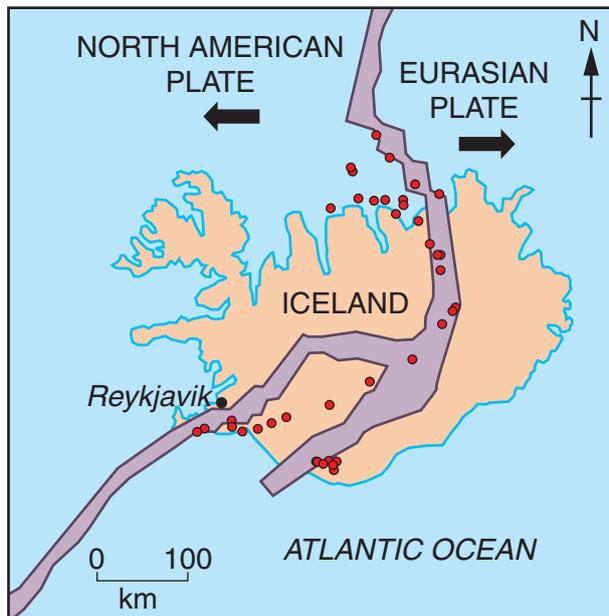
Fig. 2

A dam and hydro electric power station in Iceland



Fig. 3

Information on earthquakes in Iceland



Although more famous for its volcanoes, Iceland also experiences dangerous earthquakes.

Key

-  area of Mid-Atlantic Ridge
-  earthquakes

Source www.tectonics.com

Fig. 4 Agriculture and GDP* per person in selected countries

*GDP (Gross Domestic Product) is a measure of wealth

Country	GDP per person in US dollars	% GDP from agriculture
Norway	55,000	3
USA	50,000	1
Austria	42,500	2
Iceland	39,500	5
UK	36,500	1
Italy	30,000	2
Hungary	20,000	3
Mexico	15,000	4
Brazil	12,000	6
Thailand	10,000	13
Egypt	6,500	14
Bangladesh	2,000	18
Uganda	1,500	37
Mali	1,000	42

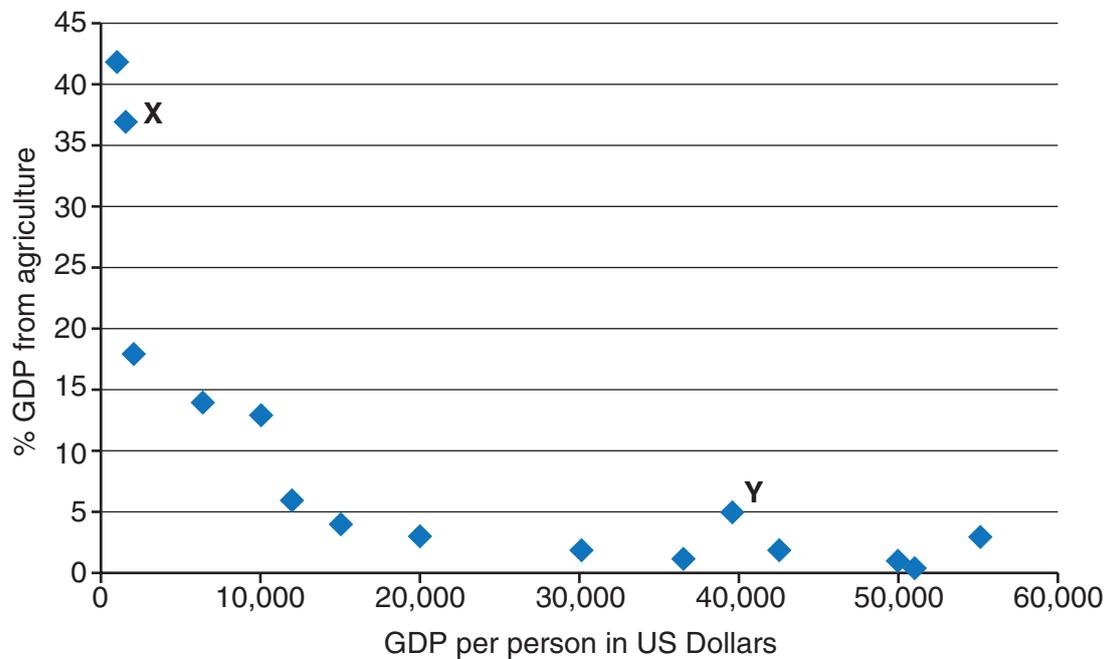
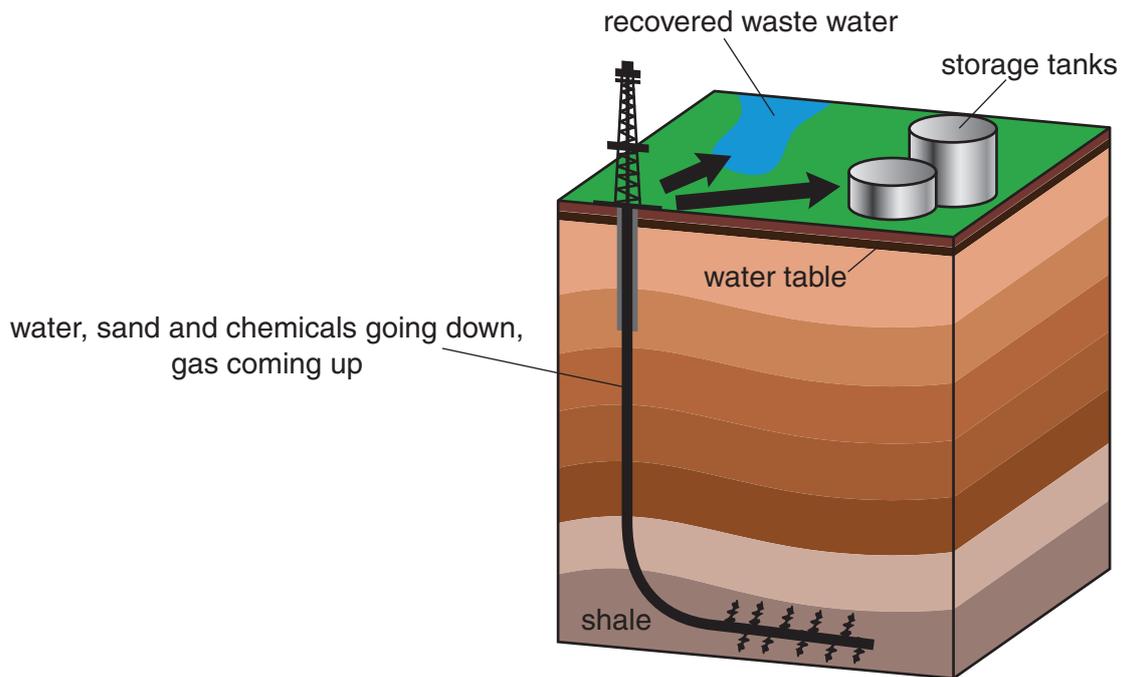


Fig. 5 Information on shale gas extraction (fracking)

Source: http://countylifeonline.com/2012/08/06/rise-early-work-late-strike-oil-or-gas/fracking-diagram_fmt-2/

Energy Secretary approves shale gas extraction

**"The country is running out of gas.
Our choice would be to develop our own shale gas resources"**

In fracking, a mixture of water, sand and chemicals is pumped down into the ground under high pressure to force the gas up to the surface. However, one company in Lancashire was stopped from fracking after it was blamed for causing earth tremors near Blackpool. Local people were also concerned that fracking may cause water and air pollution.

The Energy Secretary said that shale gas was a promising new energy resource for the UK. It might contribute to energy security and reduce the need for gas imports which have been increasing as North Sea gas is running out. However he also said that fracking must be safe and the public must be confident that it is safe.

Community News, September 2013

Fig. 6
Map and aerial photograph of part of Washington, UK

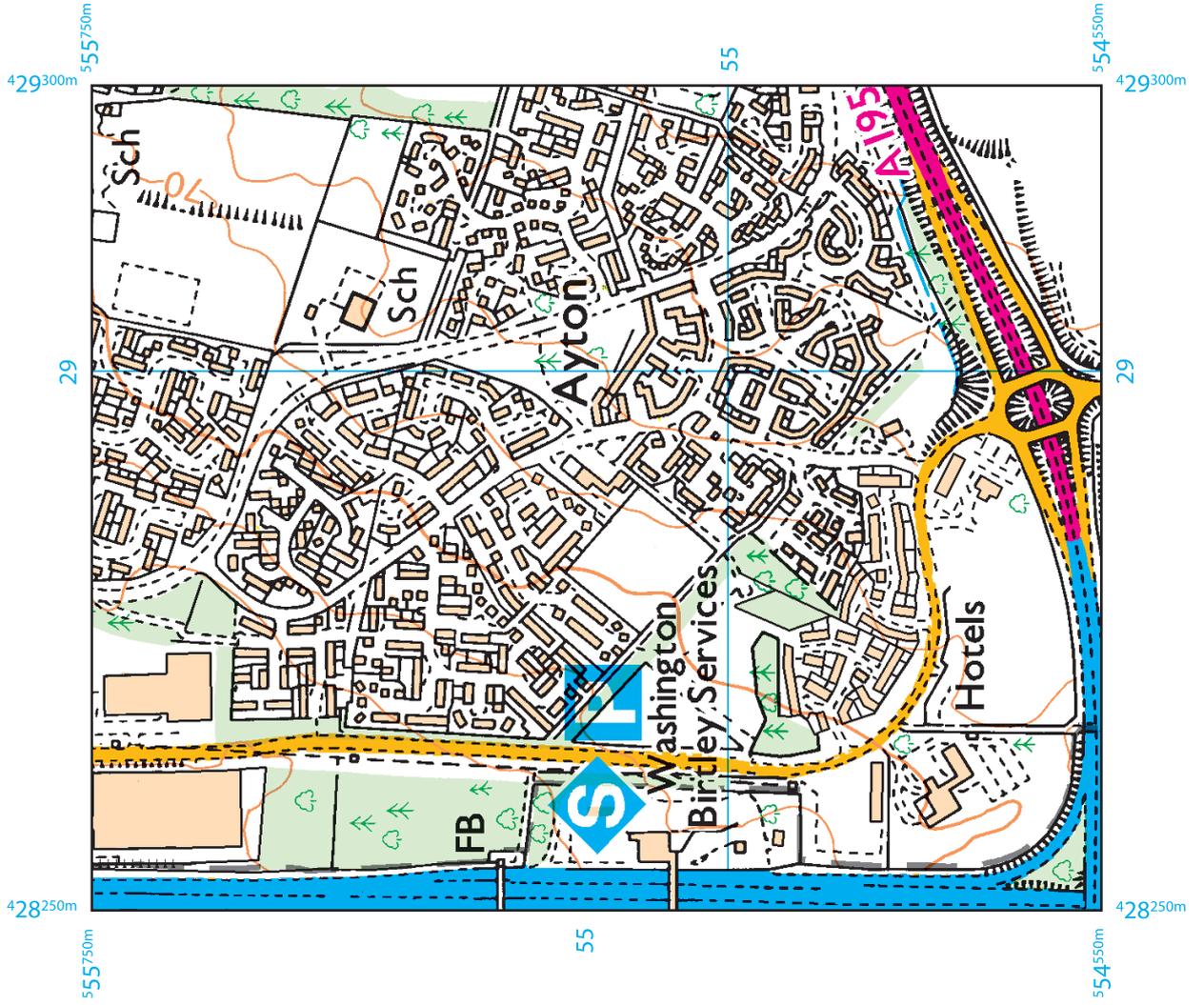


Fig. 7

Town centre shop closures increase

Many town centre shops have closed down in Britain over the past 12 months.

Big companies closed an average of 20 shops a day last year. There was a fall in the number of shops selling products such as computer games, cards and clothes, but a rise in the number of charity shops, pound shops and coffee shops. Supermarkets are also taking over empty units to open convenience stores.

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