

**GCSE (9–1)**

*Candidate Style Answers*

# ***GEOGRAPHY A*** ***(GEOGRAPHICAL THEMES)***

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**J383**

For first teaching in 2016

## **J383/01- Living in the UK today**

Version 1

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# Introduction

This resource comprises student answers from the Sample Question Paper for J383 Component 01 <http://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/207278-unit-j383-01-living-in-the-uk-today-sample-assessment-material.pdf>:

The sample answers in this resource have been extracted from original candidate work to maintain their authenticity. They are supported by examiner commentary. Please note that this resource is provided for advice and guidance only and does not in any way constitute an indication of grade boundaries or endorsed answers.

Whilst a senior examiner has provided a possible level for each Assessment Objective when marking these answers, in a live series the mark a response would get depends on the whole process of standardisation, which considers the big picture of the year's scripts. Therefore the level awarded here should be considered to be only an estimation of what would be awarded.

How levels and marks correspond to grade boundaries depends on the Awarding process that happens after all/most of the scripts are marked and depends on a number of factors, including candidate performance across the board. Details of this process can be found here: <http://ocr.org.uk/Images/142042-marking-and-grading-assuring-ocr-s-accuracy.pdf>.

# Section 1 - Landscapes of the UK

## Question 1(d)\*

### 1 (d)\* CASE STUDY – a UK coastal landscape

Name of coastal landscape area in the UK

Examine how far human activity has positively impacted the coastal landscape in your chosen area.

[8]

### Exemplar 1 (Level 3)

d)

Lyme Regis

Lyme Regis is located in Dorset in the South-West of England, it is a very popular tourist destination so humans have to intervene to stop ~~the~~ the beach from washing away. The first defence which has been put in is a sloping beach. As the waves come up the beach they lose their erosive power as it is more effort to get up a slope, also a lot of water soaks into the sand so it is smoothed in its tracks. There are also groynes put in place to stop the beach from getting washed away, there is a slight problem with groynes as sand gets built up as a result of longshore drift. Fortunately when the groyne sand builds up too much the government use high-tech diggers to move and evenly re-distribute the sand. This has positively impacted the area as the beach is the main reason why tourists travel here, without the beach all the shops and restaurants located on the coastline would lose almost all of their business. Secondly, large amounts of rip-rap and rock armour has been deposited along the coastline in front of the high curved sea-wall. These defences are very useful in protecting pubs such as the Plough which are directly on the coast and it has also helped people's economic lives by protecting their home.

prices. Without these defences houses on the coast would be worth next to nothing because there would be no longer any in buying the house. This would cause grave <sup>big</sup> problems for ~~the~~ economic many people if there were no defences.

## Examiner commentary

This answer contains reasonable knowledge of a case study and a number of examples of human activities (AO1). There is evidence of some reasonable understanding (AO2) of how the activities (management strategies) impact the coastal landscape at Lyme Regis containing well-developed ideas and lines of reasoning; for example, the role of the beach in reducing erosion is emphasised. There are logically structured arguments for the importance of the strategies in protecting the economic health of the town, whilst also recognising the problems caused by the installation of groynes (AO3). As a result, this answer meets elements of the criteria for Level 3.

### How the answer could be improved:

Whilst a number of management strategies are covered, their role in protecting the town could be further explained at times, using more specialist terminology. For example, using terms such as 'absorb' and 'energy' when explaining the role of the beach or explaining the problems of downdrift starvation caused by groynes. Finally, whilst there is some recognition of the negative impacts of these strategies, these could be explored further.

## Exemplar 2 (Level 2)

d Lyme Regis

As Lyme Regis has become ever more popular with tourists its beach needs to be protected to maintain its attraction. Because of this, a sea wall has been built along the back edge of the beach, with arctic groynes running along it. This is positive as it lessens the effect of long-shore drift on the beach, helping reduce the amount of erosion. However, human activity has had some negative impacts. Since the main focus in the area has been development or infrastructure, some parts in the east have been neglected and worn away to cliffs, which could damage the businesses on them if they collapse. To combat this, a wall of rock armour has been introduced to stop the main extent of the erosion. Even though some neglect has occurred, human activity has also meant that sand and shingle from the beach has been replaced fixing some of the problems that continuous erosion may have created.

## Examiner commentary

This answer contains a named case study and a number of relevant examples of management strategies/human activities (AO1). There is a basic understanding (AO2) of how the strategies impact the coastal landscape at Lyme Regis containing both developed and basic ideas on, for example, the effects on longshore drift. There is some structure and reasoning to imply that there are both positive and negative impacts (AO3). As a result, this answer meets elements of the criteria for Level 2.

### How the answer could be improved:

The case study evidence does need developing beyond the name of the town in order to show evidence of place specific detail. The role of the management strategies in protecting the town needs clearer explanation. Whilst there are both positive and negative impacts, these are mainly listed and there is not a focus on how far human activity has positively impacted the coastal landscape.



## Exemplar 3 (Level 1)

North Norfolk

North-Norfolk is located roughly North of London. It is a coast with sandy beaches and cliffs made out of soft rocks like limestone. For thousand of years the beaches and cliffs were exposed to erosion which led first coastal management to be taken after WWII. The coastal management used hard engineering, like sea wall, to prevent further erosions from happening. ~~The money~~ The positive outcome of this is that tourism is still interested in North-Norfolk and therefore has a positive impact on the economy and further plans <sup>for</sup> coastal management.

[8]

## Examiner commentary

This answer contains a named case study and some basic knowledge of the location, some of which relevant, particularly in the second half, where some management strategies/human activities are identified (AO1). The simple ideas demonstrate little or no understanding (AO2) of how the strategies impact the coastal landscape on the North Norfolk coast. There is basic structure and reasoning and an awareness of positive impacts (AO3) however these are not focused on the coastal landscape itself, which is the focus of the question.

### How the answer could be improved:

The case study evidence does need developing beyond the name of the area in order to provide a little more place-specific detail. The role of the sea wall in protecting the coastline needs explanation. In order to respond to the question, this answer needs both positive and negative impacts in order to offer some more developed evaluation.

# Section B - People of the UK

## Question 2(d)

2 (d) Discuss the social and economic impacts of immigration on the UK in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

[6]

### Exemplar 1 (Level 3)

Immigration to the UK causes more social diversity and introduces new cultures and cuisines. Immigration also increase the government's tax revenue as those who work pay tax on what they earn. The education system benefits because some immigrants choose to go to UK universities and pay the fees to attend. Skilled workers sometimes immigrate which fills gaps in areas where that type of skill is needed, such as doctors or nurses. On the other hand, immigration could cause an increase in house prices ~~and~~ as demand outstrips supply. It could also create social tension as some people may feel immigrants are "taking their jobs". Another issue may be that <sup>some</sup> immigrants ~~do~~ do not integrate into society and do not accept British values.

### Examiner commentary

This answer is not explicit in its focus on the 21<sup>st</sup> century, but it is clear that it is set in a contemporary context: 'choose to go to UK universities and pay the fees to attend'. Furthermore, both social and economic impacts are considered and some of the ideas are well-developed with a thorough understanding (AO2). Whilst not required in this answer, the balance between negative and positive impacts helps the candidate to develop a variety of points.

#### How the answer could be improved:

A number of the points could be more well-developed. For example, the issue of house prices could be explained in relation to urban areas or possibly an example of how British values are sometimes not accepted. This would also explicitly set the response in a 21<sup>st</sup> century context more clearly.



## Exemplar 2 (Level 2)

Economically immigration to the UK in the 21<sup>st</sup> century has meant more workers with unique expertise are able to work and help keep up with the economic structure of the country. Many foreign investors such as those from the UAE and China immigrate providing new business propositions for the country, boosting trade and the UK's economy.

However socially immigration has lead to a certain unrest for the population as this has meant a lack of homes which leads to a rise in homelessness. Moreover cultural and ethnic views clash between societies further enhancing the unrest. On the other hand new cultures are integrated to society as well as a more ethnically diverse society which has lead to changes to the UK's culture.

## Examiner commentary

This answer is clear in its focus on the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with references to foreign investors, and it does provide developed ideas which contain a reasonable understanding of both social and economic impacts (AO2). However, some of the points are unclear and merely state the impacts without discussing them more fully.

### How the answer could be improved:

A number of the points could be better developed and more clearly discussed. For example, how does foreign investment boost business and trade, and why is immigration linked with housing issues?

## Exemplar 3 (Level 1)

The economic impact of immigration is that some of the people that move to the U.K. don't work and have benefits. This means that the government will have to pay out more money on people and people will have to work for longer. This impacts social because there will slowly be a social divide between the immigrants and the people that were born in the country. It may not always get along well, but over time it could be the complete opposite.

## Examiner commentary

This answer demonstrates some basic understanding of the impacts of immigration to the UK (AO2). It makes some simple points about employment and social divisions but they are not developed clearly. Social impacts are clearly stated but economic impacts are less clearly identified.

**How the answer could be improved:**

Both aspects of the answer could be improved by relating them to a contemporary context, such as urban problems in the UK's larger cities and by showing a more developed understanding. The point about work and benefits is simplistic and needs to show a little more insight, while the issue of social divisions could be discussed with reference to aspects such as religion and culture.

# Section C - UK Environmental Challenges

Fig. 5 – Carbon dioxide emissions compared to wind turbines used to power homes

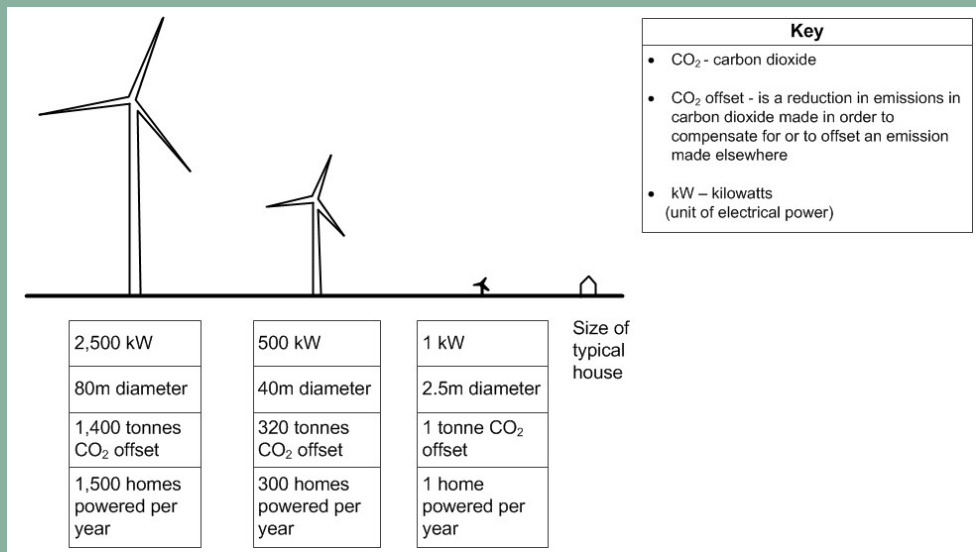
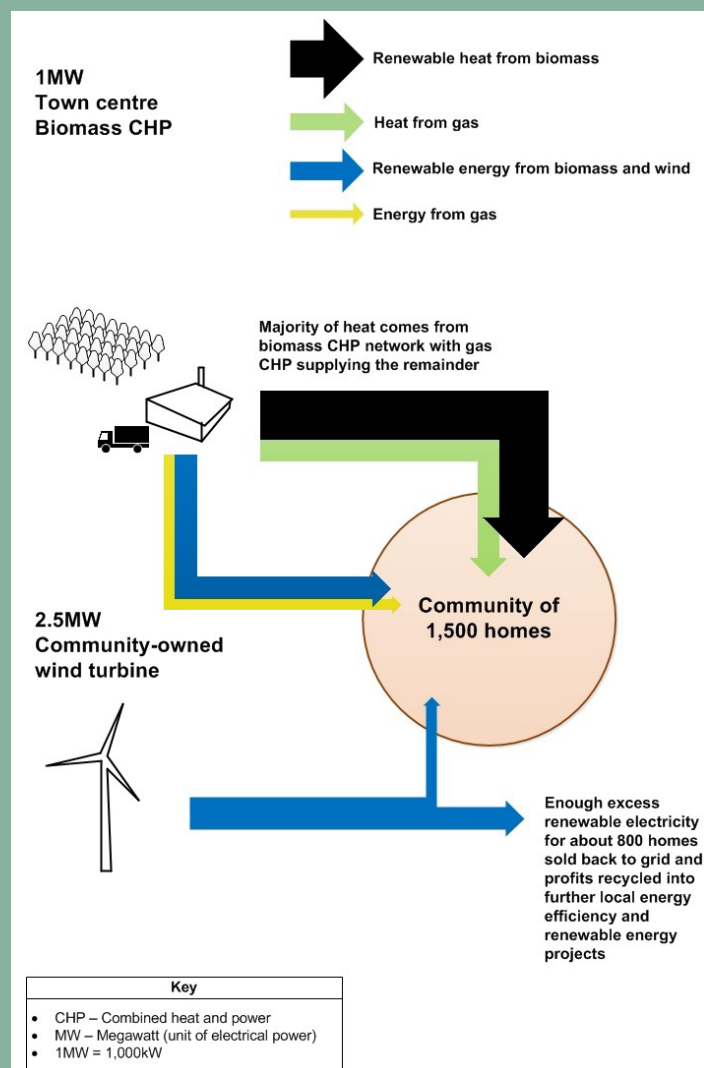


Fig. 6 – Community energy system supplying 1500 homes





## Question 3(d)\*

3 (d)\* Study **Figs 5 and 6** in the separate Resource Booklet

Using **Figs 5 and 6** and your own knowledge and understanding, assess whether the sustainable management of energy has been successful at a local scale.

[12]

Spelling, punctuation and grammar and the use of specialist terminology [3]

### Exemplar 1 (Level 3)

The sustainable management on a local scale has been achieved to an extent. The 2MW biomass CHP allows greater renewable heat from biomass in comparison to heat from gas, meaning a sustainable renewable source is vast in the system. Moreover this is limited to 2MW and provides a moderate amount of renewable energy from biomass and wind. This limitation allows the 2.5MW <sup>from the local turbine</sup> to further enhance the renewability allowing excess electricity which is resold and profits recycled for further local energy and renewable energy projects. This creates a sustainable and renewable turbine allowing the sustainable management of energy.

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However the use of this turbine caused 55,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> offset but this turbine also allows more homes to be powered annually with an increase in kilowatts to diameter ratio of the wind turbine used for a typical house. [12]

Spelling, punctuation and grammar and the use of specialist terminology [3]

## Examiner commentary

The response contains some evidence from the two resources but it is clear that they have been used to develop a structured line of reasoning. There is a thorough knowledge, understanding and analysis – both problems and benefits are identified – of the successful management of energy at a local scale, with well-developed ideas about the sustainability of that management, albeit with some unclear statements (eg burning biomass waste not releasing any greenhouse gases). It is communicated clearly and consistently with a wide use of specialist terms appropriate to the question.

### How the answer could be improved:

The answer would benefit from more specific evidence from the resources to support the analysis. Furthermore, it would benefit from more comprehensive knowledge and understanding beyond the resources in order to produce more well-developed ideas.

## Exemplar 2 (Level 2)

The wind turbines are able to power houses upto 1,500 per year this is at the cost of 80m<sup>£</sup>. However it also has a CO<sub>2</sub> offset of 1,400 and it produces 7,500kw of power. It can also be built in smaller sizes with enough to power 300 homes per year this allows areas with not many houses to receive power with a much lower cost and it can also go to the size of a typical house which provides 1kw and powers 1 house per year. There is also an option of renewable source which powers 1500 homes this is the use of renewable heat from biomass, heat from gas, renewable energy from biomass and wind and energy from gas. This is a good source of power as most of it is renewable. It also gives excess renewable electricity for about 800 homes which is sold back to grid to improve the surrounding areas and development. However gas is a harmful source of energy as it damages the atmosphere.

Spelling, punctuation and grammar and the use of specialist terminology [3]

## Examiner commentary

The response contains some good evidence from the two resources and there is a thorough understanding of the benefits of the different sources of renewable energy. At the end, there is a comment which identifies one of the problems of using gas to supply energy. The response, however, is rather one-sided and there is little analysis provided, nor is there much indication of anything other than basic knowledge beyond the resources provided. It is communicated with considerable accuracy and control, with some specialist terms, but there are some errors albeit not hindering meaning.

### How the answer could be improved:

There is little of the candidate's own knowledge in the response apart from the final comment. Furthermore, the question requires an assessment so the response requires more balance; more of the problems of using wind, biomass or gas to produce energy should be identified. The question also uses the term 'sustainable management' and good responses will see this as an opportunity to comment on this concept; this response mentions cost but little more. To gain a further mark for SPaG, the response would benefit from a wider use of specialist and appropriate terms.

## Exemplar 3 (Level 1)

In cambridge they built more wind farms to have more energy and wind energy is renewable so they don't have to worry about that and it's also environmental friendly.

### Examiner commentary

The response contains some brief comments about wind energy which demonstrate some basic knowledge of sustainable management: wind energy is renewable, it's environmentally friendly. There is little more credit in the response, although it is able to gain one mark for SPaG and communication of specialist terms as meaning is not hindered.

#### How the answer could be improved:

Although this is a brief response, it would still benefit from the use of evidence from the resources and an understanding that sustainable management can go beyond environmental factors.





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