



Geography

GCSE 2012

Geography A

Candidate Style Answers
A732/01 Geographical Skills
(Foundation Tier)

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INTRODUCTION

These support materials are intended to support teachers in their marking. There are four candidate style responses with accompanying commentary. These exemplars are based on the published Specimen Assessment Materials (SAMs), which can be downloaded from the relevant OCR webpage for the specification.

The exemplars and commentaries should be read alongside the specification which is available from the website.

OCR will update these materials as appropriate.

Centres may wish to use these support materials in a number of ways:

- teacher training in interpretation of the marking criteria
- departmental standardisation meetings
- exemplars for candidates to review.

QUESTION 4 (b)

In 2010, renewable resources produced 10% of the UK's electricity. The table below shows the different percentages of electricity produced from these renewable resources.

Energy type	Percentage (%)
HEP	83
Wind	8
Biomass	6
Geothermal	2
Other	1
TOTAL	100

How important was the use of wind energy in producing electricity in the UK in 2010 compared to other types of renewable energy?

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.....[2]

EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

ANSWER 1

Wind energy is not as important as HEP as only 8% is used compared with 83% which is 10 times as much.

COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 1

The candidate scores both marks which are available.

They compare wind energy with HEP and states that 'it is not as important' for a mark. They then use the figures well to illustrate this, not only quoting the comparative figures but interpreting them by pointing out that 'ten times as much HEP' is used.

EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

ANSWER 2

Wind is more important than geothermal because it is windy in UK.

COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 2

1 mark is scored for the simple comparison between the importance of wind energy and geothermal power.

No supporting data is used and the reasoning is not relevant to the question asked.

QUESTION 8 (a) (iii)

RESOURCE 6

The opinions of 50 local people

Opinion	Agree strongly	Agree	Disagree	Disagree strongly
Wind turbines will create a lot of noise.	35	10	3	2
Wind turbines will be a danger to walkers.	2	4	4	40
Wind turbines will spoil the view.	20	10	14	6
Wind turbines will not create many jobs in this area.	15	25	5	5
Wind turbines will damage crops and animals.	4	6	10	30

Opinions are mixed!

Local farmer: The company that built the wind farm paid me good money and I've not seen any bad effects on my crops or cows.	Local resident: I didn't really want the turbines here but I know we need more energy from renewable resources.
Conservationist: The wind farm will be a disaster for wildlife as the noise and movement will affect nesting and breeding. Horses may be spooked too.	Government official: The wind is free and the wind farm will not produce any greenhouse gases or pollutants after being built. We can reduce our use of fossil fuels.
Visitor: Wind turbines are an interesting feature of the landscape. Turbines do not spoil the view any more than existing churches, pylons and telephone poles.	Energy expert: Wind turbines cannot produce maximum energy without constantly high wind speeds. You need 24 000 turbines to generate the same electricity as 1 coal-fired power station.
Local councillor: Putting 125 metre high turbines close to our churches is vandalism. Turbines are a terrible eyesore and spoil the views. Property prices will drop and they are not producing jobs in this area.	Company spokesperson: Turbines need not be large. They are available in a range of sizes to suit residents and businesses in towns and villages. The Low Spinney site will produce enough electricity for 5000 households.

EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

ANSWER 1

I agree with Statement B.

The wind farm should not have been built there because it will spoil the view and the turbines are noisy. This will spoil the natural environment of a beautiful area which is used by a lot of people for leisure activities. 45 of the 50 people questioned thought it would be noisy and 30 out of 50 thought it would spoil the view. The councillor compared putting high turbines close to churches to vandalism and said that they are an eyesore and spoil the view.

There are advantages like creating jobs but it will not need many workers and more jobs will be lost if tourists don't go there so it would be better if it was built in a less attractive area.

COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 1

This answer is awarded Level 3 as it fits the criteria well.

The candidate justifies their view that the wind turbines should not have been built there by making detailed reference to the table, including statistics, along with reference to the opinion of the local councillor. The candidate further justifies the view by making reference to the opposite choice, stating that there are advantages like creating jobs, but actually not many would be created. This point is well developed by reference to the jobs which may be lost in the tourist industry being more than those created by the wind farm. The whole answer is clearly expressed with good written communication.

EXEMPLAR AND COMMENTARY

ANSWER 2

I agree with Statement A.

The country need electricity and a wind farm was a good decision. It is a good place to build it because it is high and windy. Some people don't like it because it is noisy but it is clean and safe which is most important. Most of the people said it would not be a danger for walkers or crops and animals.

COMMENTARY FOR ANSWER 2

This answer is awarded Level 2 as the view that the wind turbines should be built is supported with some points from the table and opinions.

Whilst none of these points are developed the reasoning is clear and logical and statistics in the table have been interpreted in the last sentence. There is very limited reference to the opposite choice as the candidate refers to people thinking it is noisy; however the counter argument that 'it is clean and safe which is most important' is logical.

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