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CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge IGCSE™

GEOGRAPHY **0460/23**

Paper 2 Geographical Skills **October/November 2025**

MARK SCHEME

Maximum Mark: 60

Published

This mark scheme is published as an aid to teachers and candidates, to indicate the requirements of the examination. It shows the basis on which Examiners were instructed to award marks. It does not indicate the details of the discussions that took place at an Examiners' meeting before marking began, which would have considered the acceptability of alternative answers.

Mark schemes should be read in conjunction with the question paper and the Principal Examiner Report for Teachers.

Cambridge International will not enter into discussions about these mark schemes.

Cambridge International is publishing the mark schemes for the October/November 2025 series for most Cambridge IGCSE, Cambridge International A and AS Level components, and some Cambridge O Level components.

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Generic Marking Principles

These general marking principles must be applied by all examiners when marking candidate answers. They should be applied alongside the specific content of the mark scheme or generic level descriptions for a question. Each question paper and mark scheme will also comply with these marking principles.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 1:

Marks must be awarded in line with:

- the specific content of the mark scheme or the generic level descriptors for the question
- the specific skills defined in the mark scheme or in the generic level descriptors for the question
- the standard of response required by a candidate as exemplified by the standardisation scripts.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 2:

Marks awarded are always **whole marks** (not half marks, or other fractions).

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 3:

Marks must be awarded **positively**:

- marks are awarded for correct/valid answers, as defined in the mark scheme. However, credit is given for valid answers which go beyond the scope of the syllabus and mark scheme, referring to your Team Leader as appropriate
- marks are awarded when candidates clearly demonstrate what they know and can do
- marks are not deducted for errors
- marks are not deducted for omissions
- answers should only be judged on the quality of spelling, punctuation and grammar when these features are specifically assessed by the question as indicated by the mark scheme. The meaning, however, should be unambiguous.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 4:

Rules must be applied consistently, e.g. in situations where candidates have not followed instructions or in the application of generic level descriptors.

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 5:

Marks should be awarded using the full range of marks defined in the mark scheme for the question. (However, the use of the full mark range may be limited according to the quality of the candidate responses seen.)

GENERIC MARKING PRINCIPLE 6:

Marks awarded are based solely on the requirements as defined in the mark scheme. Marks should not be awarded with grade thresholds or grade descriptors in mind.

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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
BOD	Benefit of doubt given
NAQ	Not answered question
REP	Repetition
TV	Content of response too vague
^	More information required
Highlighter	Highlighting areas of text
(	Open bracket
)	Close bracket
SEEN	Page or response seen by examiner

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<table>
<tr><th>Question</th><th>Answer</th><th>Marks</th></tr>
<tr><td>1(a)(i)</td><td>(national) secondary</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(a)(ii)</td><td>(Colligan) river</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(a)(iii)</td><td>176</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(a)(iv)</td><td>parking</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(a)(v)</td><td>coniferous/plantation</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(b)</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th></th><th>area A</th><th>area B</th><th>both of these areas</th><th>neither of these areas</th></tr>
<tr><td>church</td><td></td><td>✓</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>land above 170 m</td><td>✓</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>stream</td><td></td><td>✓</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>track</td><td></td><td></td><td>✓</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>regional road</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>✓</td></tr>
<tr><td>electricity transmission line</td><td></td><td>✓</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table>
</td><td>6</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(c)</td><td>linear</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(d)(i)</td><td>278 957</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(d)(ii)</td><td>8.9–9.2</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(d)(iii)</td><td>west</td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(e)(i)</td><td>flows south-east
flat / gentle gradient
tributary/confluence/another river joins
straight sections/partly straight/relatively straight/straight in the west
meandering
river mouth/flows into an estuary/lake/bay/sea/body of water</td><td>3</td></tr>
<tr><td>1(e)(ii)</td><td>hills/high/mountain(ous)
top/peak/summit
steep
N/NE/NNE facing slopes
valley(s)
saddle/col
flat flood plain/next to river
minimum height 0–10 m
maximum height 240–263 m (allow any height within ranges)</td><td>2</td></tr>
</table>

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Question	Answer	Marks
2(a)	increase in migrants (in most countries) decrease/anomaly in Pakistan In 1990 Pakistan had most migrants and in 2020 UAE had most. In 1990 Oman had least migrants and in 2020 Canada had least. greatest increase to the United Arab Emirates (in absolute terms) greatest % increase to Oman	**2**
2(b)(i)	high(er) GNI (per capita)/income/wages/pay/wealthy countries close to India/same continent	**2**
2(b)(ii)	GNI/income/wages/pay/wealth lower than India/lowest	**1**
2(c)	Line drawn at 88% Shaded correctly	**2**
2(d)	migrants send remittances home fewer benefits to pay less pressure on housing/healthcare/services less unemployment migrants learn new skills (to benefit India on their return)	**1**

Question	Answer	Marks
3(a)(i)	300 000	**1**
3(a)(ii)	Bar drawn to 2 million males	**1**
3(a)(iii)	wider at bottom / young age groups in Ug / narrower at bottom in Sw wider in middle / working age groups in Sw / narrower in middle in Ug wider at top / old age groups in Sw / narrower at top in Ug taller in Sw / shorter in Ug constrictive in Sw v expansive in Ug / Sw convex v Ug concave / Sw widest in middle v Ug widest at bottom Answer must be comparative and refer only to shape.	**3**
3(b)(i)	increase	**1**
3(b)(ii)	large numbers of old people to support/care for strain on health services/social care need for pensions/benefits need for old people's homes shortage of workers/ decreased working population higher tax / burden on working population less tax revenue (government) underuse of resources less military	**2**

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Question	Answer	Marks
4(a)(i)	strato/composite cone	1
4(a)(ii)	high/tall steep dissected/ gullies/ ridges / valleys black/grey/ash crater gas emission/vent cone/conical concave/steeper at the top/gentler at the base (bare) rock / rocky vegetation on lower / gentler slopes	4
4(b)	fertile soil jobs/income from tourism not economy geothermal power hot springs minerals/mining or named mineral (e.g. sulphur, gold, silver, diamonds) building materials/sand fertiliser (production) relief rainfall in dry areas leisure opportunities / climbing / hiking cheap house prices research/study opportunity	3

Question	Answer	Marks
5(a)(i)	temperature in August: 27 annual temperature range: 2 rainfall in November: 310	3
5(a)(ii)	there is a cold season: there is a hot season: temperatures are high throughout the year: ✓ there is a high annual range of temperature: annual rainfall is low: annual rainfall is high: ✓	2
5(b)	along/on/at/near the equator/between the tropics / between one named tropic and the equator coastal in S. America/Africa/Asia (2 named continents)	2

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Question	Answer	Marks
5(c)	buttress roots for stability (in wet ground/ shallow soil) emergents / tall trees / straight trunks to reach light branchless trunks / leaves only at top as low light below canopy smooth bark / waxy leaves / drip tips to shed water large leaves to maximise sunlight capture lianas / epiphytes to reach light fruit/flower/leaves grow all year round/continuous growing season carnivorous plants to trap/digest insects/provide nutrients	1

Question	Answer	Marks
6(a)	arable/mixed/animals and crops extensive/farm is large mechanised/machinery/combine harvester/tractor harvesting more than one crop hedgerows/bushes/woodland/line of trees/cluster of trees flat/gently sloping land commercial farming/crops to sell (divided into) fields sheep fences	4
6(b)(i)	more used for wheat/less for oats 2060–2090 thousand ha/ almost 2100 thousand ha wheat and 100–120 thousand ha oats difference 1940–1990 thousand ha **(reserve1 mark for statement and reserve 1 mark for data)**	2
6(b)(ii)	increased	1
6(c)	large amount of output compared to size of land high labour input for size of land high capital input for size of land uses high levels of technology on relatively small area of land	1

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