



Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit
State Examinations Commission

Junior Cycle 2025

Marking Scheme

Geography

Common Level

Note to teachers and students on the use of published marking schemes

Marking schemes published by the State Examinations Commission are not intended to be standalone documents. They are an essential resource for examiners who receive training in the correct interpretation and application of the scheme. This training involves, among other things, marking samples of student work and discussing the marks awarded, so as to clarify the correct application of the scheme. The work of examiners is subsequently monitored by Advising Examiners to ensure consistent and accurate application of the marking scheme. This process is overseen by the Chief Examiner, usually assisted by a Chief Advising Examiner. The Chief Examiner is the final authority regarding whether or not the marking scheme has been correctly applied to any piece of candidate work.

Marking schemes are working documents. While a draft marking scheme is prepared in advance of the examination, the scheme is not finalised until examiners have applied it to candidates' work and the feedback from all examiners has been collated and considered in light of the full range of responses of candidates, the overall level of difficulty of the examination and the need to maintain consistency in standards from year to year. This published document contains the finalised scheme, as it was applied to all candidates' work.







In the case of marking schemes that include model solutions or answers, it should be noted that these are not intended to be exhaustive. Variations and alternatives may also be acceptable. Examiners must consider all answers on their merits, and will have consulted with their Advising Examiners when in doubt.

Future Marking Schemes

Assumptions about future marking schemes on the basis of past schemes should be avoided. While the underlying assessment principles remain the same, the details of the marking of a particular type of question may change in the context of the contribution of that question to the overall examination in a given year. The Chief Examiner in any given year has the responsibility to determine how best to ensure the fair and accurate assessment of candidates' work and to ensure consistency in the standard of the assessment from year to year. Accordingly, aspects of the structure, detail and application of the marking scheme for a particular examination are subject to change from one year to the next without notice.

In considering this marking scheme, the following should be noted:

- The detail required in any answer is determined by the context and the manner in which the question is asked and by the number of marks assigned to the answer in the examination paper.
- Words, expressions or phrases must be correctly used in context and not contradicted, and where there is evidence of incorrect use or contradiction, the marks may not be awarded.
- As a general rule, if in doubt about the validity of any answer, examiners must consult their advising examiner before awarding marks.
- The suggestions, examples etc. in the scheme are not exhaustive and alternative valid answers etc. are acceptable.

Annotation	Used to Show
	Answer (or part of an answer) / valid point worth 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 marks
	Surplus answer(s)
	An incorrect answer worth 0 marks
	Evidence / Example / Reference / Diagram worth 2 marks
	Naming worth 2 / 3 marks
	Blank page has been seen / Information seen but not awarded marks

Question 1

33 marks			
(a)	(i)	2,548 km ²	3
	(ii)	67%	3
	(iii)	N3 + VP3 <i>Clearing land for agriculture, cash crops, palm oil</i>	6
(b)	(i)	Killybegs	3
	(ii)	27, 780 tonnes 4 marks for calculation 1 mark for unit	4+1
	(iii)	Overfishing occurs when fish are taken from the water faster than they can reproduce	3
	(iv)	(N3 + VP2) + (N3 + VP2) <i>Quotas, limit the amount of fish caught</i> <i>Exclusion Zones, allow fish to reproduce</i>	10

Question 2

45 marks			
(a)		D	2
		B	2
		C	2
		A	2
(b)	(i)	Left Background	4
	(ii)	G 888 613	4
	(iii)	Reservoir	3
	(iv)	Renewable	3
	(v)	True	3
(c)		$(N2 + VP2 + VP2) + (N2 + VP2 + VP2)$ Can be positive or negative impact. Recreational area, boating activities, tourism, floods land, people lose their homes, forced to migrate.	12
(d)		For each of the four items: Show = 1m Label = 1m	8

Question 3

45 marks			
(a)	(i)	D B C A	2 2 2 2
	(ii)	Sliding	3
	(iii)	Richter/ Mercalli / Modified Mercalli / Moment Magnitude Scale (MMS)	3
	(iv)	Aftershocks	3
	(v)	<i>The point on the surface of the earth, directly above the focus</i>	4/2/0
(b)	(i)	B C A D	2 2 2 -
	(i)	Named location	2
	(ii)	(N2 + VP2 + VP2) + (N2 + VP2 + VP2) Economic – Damage to businesses, loss of employment, loss of income Social – homes destroyed, forced migration, people live in refugee camps	12
	(iii)	VP2 + VP2	4

Question 4

48 marks			
(a)	(i)	Syria	3
	(ii)	Natural Disasters War	3 3
	(iii)	Emergency Aid	3
	(iv)	(a) Emigration (b) Work (c) Asylum seeker (d) Barrier (e) Multilateral	3 3 - 3 3
(b)		VP3 + VP3 + VP2 <i>Increase life expectancy, vaccinations, TB</i>	8
(c)	(i)	Secondary	3
	(ii)	4%	5
	(iii)	Country A	2
	(iv)	VP2 + VP2 + VP2 <i>More employed in tertiary, higher-level education</i>	6

Question 5

26 marks			
(a)		D A € B	2 2 - 2
(b)		N3 + VP3 + VP2 + VP2 + Dg2 <i>Accept valid features of erosion only.</i> <i>One VP reserved for a named process of glacial erosion. [Plucking, Abrasion, Freeze-thaw action]</i>	12
(c)		N2 + VP2 + VP2 + VP2 <i>Increase in temperature, human activity, etc.</i>	8

Question 6

30 marks			
(a)	(i)	3 1 4 2	- 2 2 2
	(ii)	Named type of weathering: Physical, Chemical, Biological	3
(b)		VP2 + VP2 + VP2 <i>Climate: rate of weathering depends on temperature and precipitation</i> <i>Vegetation: creates plant litter which breaks down to form humus</i> <i>Parent Material: weathered rock provides minerals and nutrients</i>	6
(c)	(i)	A third	3
	(ii)	Intensive agriculture Industrial activity	2 2
	(iii)	N3 + VP3 + VP2 Soil is no longer fertile, crop failure, famine	8

Question 7

49 marks			
(a)	(i)	D A B C	2 2 2 2
	(ii)	Cool Temperate Oceanic	3
	(iii)	VP2 + VP2 + VP2 <i>Aspect: south facing slopes are warmer for crops to grow</i> <i>Latitude: summer tilted towards the sun and warmer temperatures</i> <i>Prevailing wind: south westerly warm moist air from the Atlantic Ocean</i> <i>Altitude: western mountains cause relief rainfall</i>	6
(b)	(i)	High pressure	3
	(ii)	1032 mb	3
	(iii)	Low pressure	3
	(iv)	3-6 mm	3
	(v)	Millimetres (mm)	3
	(vi)	Rain gauge	3
(c)	(i)	Accurate named significant weather event	2
	(ii)	Accurate named location	2
	(iii)	VP3 + VP3 + VP2 + Dg2	10

Question 8

44 marks			
(a)	(i)	Linear Dispersed Clustered/Nucleated	3 3 3
	(ii)	Accurate Grid Reference <i>Includes subzone letter and coordinates in easting and northing order</i>	5
	(iii)	VP2 + VP2 + VP2 Linear: in a line along a road, access to services such as electricity	6
(b)	(i)	True	3
	(ii)	False	3
	(iii)	True	3
	(iv)	False	3
(c)		(N3 + VP3) + (N3 + VP3)	12

Question 9

40 marks			
(a)		A Secondary	3
		B Primary	3
		C Tertiary	3
(b)	(i)	False	3
	(ii)	G 878 614	5
	(iii)	Regional	3
	(iv)	108 km ²	4
	(v)	N3 + Ev2 + VP3 <i>Low lying area</i>	8
(c)		VP2 + VP2 + VP2 + VP2	8
		<i>Reference to climate, geomorphology, terrain etc.</i>	