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CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

GEOGRAPHY **9696/11**

Paper 1 Core Physical Geography **May/June 2026**

1 hour 30 minutes

You must answer on the enclosed answer booklet.

You will need: Answer booklet (enclosed)
Insert (enclosed)

INSTRUCTIONS

- Answer **four** questions in total:
  - Section A: answer **all** questions.
  - Section B: answer **one** question.
- Follow the instructions on the front cover of the answer booklet. If you need additional answer paper, ask the invigilator for a continuation booklet.
- Sketch maps and diagrams should be drawn whenever they serve to illustrate an answer.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this paper is 60.
- The number of marks for each question or part question is shown in brackets [ ].
- The insert contains all the resources referred to in the questions.

This document has **4** pages. Any blank pages are indicated.

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Section A

Answer **all** questions in this section. All questions are worth 10 marks.

Hydrology and fluvial geomorphology

1 Figure 1.1 shows the mean river discharge for Grey River / Māwheranui, New Zealand.

(a) Describe the pattern of mean river discharge shown in Figure 1.1. [4]

(b) Suggest **one** reason for the pattern of mean river discharge shown in Figure 1.1. [2]

(c) Explain why the discharge of a river changes over time. [4]

Atmosphere and weather

2 Figure 2.1 is a photograph which shows a weather phenomenon.

(a) State the type of weather phenomenon shown in Figure 2.1. [1]

(b) Suggest how the weather phenomenon shown in Figure 2.1 was formed. [4]

(c) Explain how the albedo of different land surfaces may affect the diurnal energy budget of an area. [5]

Rocks and weathering

3 Figure 3.1 shows a diagram of mass movement.

(a) **(i)** State the type of mass movement shown in Figure 3.1. [1]

(ii) State **two** pieces of evidence that mass movement has occurred in Figure 3.1. [2]

(b) Using Figure 3.1, suggest reasons for the mass movement. [3]

(c) Explain how rock structure influences mass movement. [4]

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Section B

Answer **one** question from this section. All questions are worth 30 marks.

Hydrology and fluvial geomorphology

4 **(a)** **(i)** Describe the process of transportation in a river channel. [3]

(ii) Explain the formation of a meander. [4]

(b) Explain how drainage basin characteristics can influence a storm hydrograph. [8]

(c) With the aid of examples, assess the view that physical factors are more important than human factors in causing a river to flood. [15]

Atmosphere and weather

5 **(a)** **(i)** Define the atmospheric terms 'convection' and 'humidity'. [4]

(ii) Briefly explain latent heat transfer. [3]

(b) Describe **and** explain how global temperatures are influenced by latitude. [8]

(c) 'Increasing temperature is the most significant atmospheric impact of global warming.'

With the aid of examples, how far do you agree with this statement? [15]

Rocks and weathering

6 **(a)** **(i)** Define the terms 'rainsplash' and 'sheetwash'. [4]

(ii) Briefly explain how grading can reduce mass movement on a slope. [3]

(b) Explain the processes **and** landforms that occur at convergent (destructive) plate boundaries. [8]

(c) With the aid of examples, assess the extent to which temperature is more significant than rainfall in affecting the type **and** rate of weathering in an area. [15]

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