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CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

GEOGRAPHY **9696/12**

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

1 hour 30 minutes

9415602003

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 part of the drainage basin system.

(a) Using Figure 1.1:

(i) state flow A [1]

(ii) name **one** output from the drainage basin system. [1]

(b) Using Figure 1.1, explain **two** types of water flow below the ground. [4]

(c) Explain why the rate of overland flow in a drainage basin may change over time. [4]

Atmosphere and weather

2 Figure 2.1 shows selected impacts of global warming in Africa.

(a) Describe the pattern of impacts of global warming in Africa shown in Figure 2.1. [3]

(b) Suggest reasons for the impacts of global warming shown in Figure 2.1. [3]

(c) Explain how **two** types of evidence indicate global warming. [4]

Rocks and weathering

3 Figure 3.1 shows the velocity of some mass movements.

(a) Using Figure 3.1:

(i) state the name of the mass movement that has a velocity of 1 mm / day [1]

(ii) state the maximum velocity of mud and debris flows. [1]

(b) Contrast the rate of the mass movement of creep and solifluction. Use information from Figure 3.1. [3]

(c) Explain the role of water in mass movement. [5]

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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)** Define the fluvial terms 'hydraulic action' and 'helicoidal flow'. [4]

(ii) Briefly explain how the shape of a storm hydrograph is affected by the drainage density of a drainage basin. [3]

(b) Explain how hard engineering could prevent river flooding. [8]

(c) 'The impact of the flood was greater on people than on the environment.'

With the aid of a case study of a recent river flood event, how far do you agree with this statement? [15]

Atmosphere and weather

5 **(a)** **(i)** Define the atmospheric terms 'sensible heat transfer' and 'albedo'. [4]

(ii) Describe the urban heat island effect. [3]

(b) Explain the different types of precipitation. [8]

(c) 'The greatest influence on the seasonal variation of temperature is the land/sea distribution.'

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

Rocks and weathering

6 **(a)** **(i)** Describe how afforestation may reduce mass movement. [3]

(ii) Explain **two** small-scale movements of sediment on slopes. [4]

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

(c) With the aid of examples, assess the extent to which rock type is more significant than climate in affecting the type of weathering in an area. [15]

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