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CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International AS & A Level

GEOGRAPHY **9696/32**

Paper 3 Advanced Physical Geography Options **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:
  - Answer questions from **two** options.
  - For **each** option, follow the instructions inside on which questions to answer.
- 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.
- You should make reference to appropriate examples studied in the field or the classroom, even where such examples are not specifically requested by the question.

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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Answer questions from **two** different options.

Tropical environments

If answering this option, answer Question 1 and **either** Question 2 **or** Question 3.

1 Figure 1.1 is a climate graph for Medan, Indonesia. Figure 1.2 is a climate graph for Tidele, Senegal.

(a) Describe the main differences between the climates shown in Figure 1.1 and Figure 1.2. [4]

(b) Suggest reasons for the differences in the **precipitation** you described in **1(a)**. [6]

2 To what extent is the formation of characteristic limestone landforms of tropical environments influenced by weathering processes? [20]

3 'The development of plant communities in tropical ecosystems is largely the result of human activity.'

How far do you agree with this statement? [20]

Coastal environments

If answering this option, answer Question 4 and **either** Question 5 **or** Question 6.

4 Figure 4.1 shows the frequency of wave direction and wave height at Marina di Pisa, Italy, May 2008–May 2009.

(a) Describe the variations in the frequency of wave direction **and** wave height shown in Figure 4.1. [4]

(b) Explain how **wave direction** influences marine processes. [6]

5 Assess the relative importance of the conditions required for coral growth. [20]

6 'The problems of sustainably managing a stretch or stretches of coastline **cannot** be solved.'

Using a case study, how far do you agree with this statement? [20]

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Hazardous environments

If answering this option, answer Question 7 and **either** Question 8 **or** Question 9.

7 Figure 7.1 shows changes in the factor of safety on a slope.

(a) Describe the pattern of changes in the factor of safety shown in Figure 7.1. [4]

(b) Explain **two** hazards resulting from slope instability. [6]

8 'Lava flows are the most significant hazard resulting from volcanoes.'

How far do you agree with this statement? [20]

9 To what extent are the primary impacts of atmospheric disturbances more significant than the secondary impacts? [20]

Hot arid and semi-arid environments

If answering this option, answer Question 10 and **either** Question 11 **or** Question 12.

10 Figure 10.1 is a photograph which shows a semi-arid environment in Texas, USA.

(a) Describe the main features of the vegetation shown in Figure 10.1. [4]

(b) Suggest reasons for the features of the vegetation you described in **10(a)**. [6]

11 'The global distributions of hot arid and semi-arid environments are largely determined by latitude.'

How far do you agree with this statement? [20]

12 To what extent are the landforms of hot arid and semi-arid environments the result of erosion rather than deposition? [20]

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