Understand how different levels are achieved and how to interpret the mark scheme.
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Section A

Question 1: Global systems and global governance

Explain how trade agreements are a factor in globalisation.

AO1 – 4 marks

Trade agreements are a factor in globalisation as they result in the increased movement of goods, services and people across national and international borders. Globalisation is the process of countries and places becoming more interconnected and trade agreements therefore are a factor in globalisation as they result in increased communication. Furthermore, trade agreements, such as NAFTA (between USA, Mexico and Canada) result in more advanced technology and IT, more components of globalisation, as countries seek to be more productive and efficient to achieve maximum gain from these trade agreements.

A very clearly expressed response. The student explains how trade agreements lead to an increased movement of good and people. This point is developed to say that there is increased communication as result of trade agreements. An example is then used to support this. The answer is clearly about trade agreements rather than just trade.

4 marks
Assess the relative importance of NGOs and international government organisations in enhancing protection of Antarctica. 

AO1 – 10 marks

AO2 – 10 marks

Antarctica is a global common which means that it is not under political control by any one country. It is a very fragile ecosystem and therefore needs careful conservation to protect it from damage.

International government organisations have been very successful at protecting Antarctica from damage or exploitation in recent years with the Antarctic Treaty (formed in 1959) regarded as one of the most successful international agreements. It was originally drawn up to ensure that there was no development, conflict or territorial claims in the region but since the Madrid Protocol in 2001 has encompassed a huge range of things including a ban on all mining in the region.

This agreement between governments has been largely stuck to but in the future there may be increased pressure testing its strength. One of the main problems may come around the mining ban which is going to be renewed in 2068 and may be overturned. This is because as ice retreats and minerals become more scarce elsewhere mining will become more viable in Antarctica, especially on the Antarctic Peninsula. So while the Antarctic Treaty has been very successful at protecting Antarctica’s fragile ecosystem to this point it is sure to be tested in the future. This makes this agreement of upmost importance and it is the single most important thing protecting Antarctica as without it it may be open to exploitation.

NGOs also play a role in protecting Antarctica but in my opinion a less significant role as they have less authority to impose legally binding rules about how Antarctica should be managed. The Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition is a collection of NGOs including WWF and Greenpeace which aim to protect Antarctica and ensure the Antarctic Treaty System is being stuck to. These organisations are important as they put pressure on governments to stick to their obligations and can suggest new policy such as the Polar Code which they might implement which would improve the protection of Antarctica by controlling shipping in the area. Non government organisations, such as the International Whaling Commission, have been very successful and meeting their targets with wale populations many brought back to sustainable levels in the Southern Ocean. However, NGOs while important are less significant than international government organisations due to their lack of authority.

On a global scale intergovernmental organisations can also tackle things which are indirectly affecting Antarctica such as the enhanced greenhouse effect. The Paris Summit in 2015 shared good progress in limiting the effects of climate change which is causing the West Antarctic Ice sheet to retreat rapidly. However, while this is a good start some would say that it is not effective due to it not being legally binding and the USA withdrawing.

We can see that enhancing the protection of Antarctica is very important and BGOs and international government organisations are both important in this process. However, international government organisations are the most important as the have the authority to bring about significant change and the Antarctic Treaty is an example of this being done successfully. More work needs to be done on tackling the problem
of climate change, however, as the attempts of both NGOs and IGOs have both been largely effective.

A detailed account of the extent to which NGOs and IGOs can protect Antarctica. It considers a detailed example of both. Evaluation is at the forefront throughout. Relative importance is considered in the conclusion and in the body of the essay. Scale is also considered through discussion of an international agreement such as the 2016 Paris Agreement. Temporal change is highlighted looking at future prospects for mineral exploitation. Overall, this is a detailed response. Some minor knowledge errors do not detract from an accomplished response.

20 marks
Section B

Question 2: Changing Places

Figures 3a, 3b and 3c show information about the residents of Weston-super-Mare Central ward in North Somerset.

**Figure 3a** shows a word cloud produced as a result of a recent health survey asking: ‘What factors do you feel most influence your health and wellbeing?’

**Figure 3b** shows the ward’s population structure in 2011.

**Figure 3c** shows the reasons for residents not being in employment in the ward in 2011.

Analyse the data shown in Figures 3a, 3b and 3c. [6 marks]

A03 – 6 marks

Central Ward has a large proportion of residents unemployed due to long term sickness or disability, 13%, 3.25 times the North Somerset average. From the Wardle, we can see that factors such as ‘exercise’, ‘stress’, ‘depression’ and ‘arthritis’ are key in influencing health and well-being, which support the notion that a large percentage of people are sick or disabled as these factors may be part of their life. Despite Central Ward having a higher proportion of 20-39 year olds, common ages for raising a family, than the national Somerset average, they still have an equal percentage of people unemployed since they are looking after a family. However, sometimes the age ranges do match up with suggestions from the reasons of unemployment, for example Central Ward, like the North Somerset average, has 4% of residents unemployed since they are a student, with Central Ward having more 20-24 year olds than the average, and less 15-19 year olds than average, this appears to explain the equal percentages.

A very thorough analysis of all resources. The student focuses on patterns, rather than isolated data points, for example looking at a range of age divisions such as 20-39 in 3b. The student manipulates data rather than simply lifting from the resources, for example stating that unemployment due to sickness is 3.25 times the North Somerset average. Connections are made between figures for example, the word cloud and bar graph. [6 marks]
Figure 4 shows lyrics from ‘Wickerman’, a song about Sheffield performed by the band Pulp.

Using Figure 4 and your own knowledge, assess the usefulness of sources such as this in representing a place.

AO1 – 2 marks
AO2 – 4 marks

This source is useful in representing a place as the representation of a place is how a person portrays to another what the area is like, this source gives descriptions of particular areas in Sheffield and what the conditions are like “The water was dirty and smelt like industrialisation” this tells us that the water was contaminated which may be due to the presence of factories or due to poor disposal of waste and sewage and other line such as “Beneath the old trebor factory that burnt down in the early seventies”, this gives information on the history of the area. However this source is also not useful as the lyrics are from the writers personal interpretation and experience this may not provide a true representation of the area lines such as “the place where we first met” shows sentimental attachment to the memories and therefore portrayed a biased opinion of the place aswell as this the song lyrics are based on a memory that the writer had which does not represent the area as it is in modern day and how it has developed. This is supported by the hymn ‘Jerusalem’ which talks about ‘dark Satanic mills’, not really representative of England today. Overall songs are useful in providing an insiders opinion of the place as it tells you about the location and gives a brief history of the area.

AO2 application of knowledge and understanding is a real strength in this response. There is clear interpretation of the song lyrics, followed by explicit assessment of the usefulness. For example, the student picks up on themes such as ‘sentimental attachment to memories’. There is also AO1 knowledge shown through the use of ‘Jerusalem’ which is creditworthy as the question refers to ‘a place’, allowing students to bring in their own examples. The student also shows understanding about the limitations of this sort of data and representation of place. A very knowledgeable and evaluative approach which is well-deserving of full marks.

6 marks
## 20 mark questions

### Mark scheme – level descriptors

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Level and marks</th>
<th>Description</th>
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| **Level 4 16-20** | • Detailed evaluative conclusion that is rational and firmly based on knowledge and understanding which is applied to the context of the question.  
• Detailed, coherent and relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding throughout (AO2).  
• Full evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2).  
• Detailed, highly relevant and appropriate knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments used throughout (AO1).  
• Full and accurate knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change throughout (AO1).  
• Detailed awareness of scale and temporal change which is well integrated where appropriate (AO1). |
| **Level 3 11-15** | • Clear evaluative conclusion that is based on knowledge and understanding which is applied to the context of the question. Interpretations are generally clear and support the response in most aspects (AO2).  
• Generally clear, coherent and relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding (AO2).  
• Generally clear evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2).  
• Generally clear and relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments (AO1).  
• Generally clear and accurate knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change (AO1).  
• Generally clear awareness of scale and temporal change which is integrated where appropriate (AO1). |
| **Level 2 6-10** | • Some sense of an evaluative conclusion partially based upon knowledge and understanding which is applied to the context of the question (AO2). Interpretations are partial but do support the response in places.  
• Some partially relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding (AO2).  
• Some evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2).  
• Some relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments which is partially relevant (AO1).  
• Some knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change. There may be a few inaccuracies (AO1).  
• Some awareness of scale and temporal change which is sometimes integrated where appropriate. There may be a few inaccuracies |
| Level 1 1-5 | • Very limited and/or unsupported evaluative conclusion that is loosely based upon knowledge and understanding which is applied to the context of the question.  
• Interpretation is basic (AO2).  
• Very limited analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding. This lacks clarity and coherence (AO2).  
• Very limited and rarely logical evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2).  
• Very limited relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments (AO1).  
• Isolated knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change. There may be a number of inaccuracies. (AO1).  
• Very limited awareness of scale and temporal change which is rarely integrated where appropriate. There may be a number of inaccuracies (AO1). |
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<td>• Nothing worthy of credit.</td>
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Evaluate the role of one or more external forces in changing lived experience in the local or distant place you have studied.

External forces might include:
- government policies
- multinational corporations
- international and global institutions.

[20 marks]

AO1 – 10 marks

AO2 – 10 marks

Stratford is a town centre located in the East London borough of Newham. Ever since Stratford won the bid, in 2006, to host the Olympic games, Stratford has undergone a major £9 billion regeneration project to bring it in line with other London boroughs such as Chelsea, and to attract new investors and people to come and live there. External forces, such as the government and MNC (eg Westfields Corporation) have been very effective at changing lived experiences in Stratford.

On the one hand, government policies have been very effective in changing lived experiences in Stratford and this has come from the state led gentrification whereby nearly 2000 social housing properties were sold to the private housing company ‘Telford Homes’. As the government want to completely rebrand Stratford, one of their ways of doing so was to get rid of the Carpenters Estate and to build 20,000 new homes, a big technology hub and 5 new schools. As a result, already 80% of the residents in Carpenters Estate have been relocated to housing or Bread and Breakfast’s all over the country. As a consequence this has greatly affected and changes the lived experiences of the local residents because 88% of them value community and in many interviews by the BBC the residents, especially the white British Cockney residents feel as though they have lost a sense of place and no longer feel like they belong to their area because of what they call ‘social cleansing’. Effectively, the locals no longer identify with Stratford as their new home of even see it as the place it once used to be hence why the population of White British residents decreased from 58% in 2001 to 17% in 2011. Therefore, no government policy has been very effective at changing the live experience of locals in Stratford.

However, to a small extent, the government policies have been ineffective at changing everyone’s lived experience because 10% of the 17% of remaining White British population said that nothing had changed in the slightest because they were still living their normal lives like they did before the regeneration project. But although their lived experience didn’t change as a result of the government regeneration project, they did state that they no longer feel safe in Stratford because the introduction of Westfield shopping centre which was introduced by the multinational corporation ‘The Westfield Corporation’. This is because as a result of introducing the new shopping mall, the number of knife stabbings and shootings has increased by 60% and there are reported 400 crimes every month. Therefore man local people now no longer see Stratford in a positive friendly light but more a dangerous area where you must always stay vigilant. Therefore, whilst the government policy has not seen effect at changing the lived experience for all, the multinational corporation ‘Westfield Corporation’ has certainly been effective at doing so.

In conclusion, external forces such as government policies and multinational corporations have been very effective at changing lived experiences of people in
Stratford. This is seen through government policies causing state led gentrification and displacing residents out of their homes make them lose a sense of place and belonging. Also through the introduction of a Westfield Shopping Centre whereby crime has increased greatly which has made local people fear Stratford more and not feel safe as they once did. However, if the government decides to completely destroy Carpenters estate then it will likely, in the future, effect many peoples lived experience of the place they once liked to identify with and call home.

Very detailed and thorough knowledge of an appropriate place – Stratford, East London. The place has obviously been studied in detail through either primary and/or secondary data collection. The student successfully demonstrates their knowledge and understanding of Stratford’s characteristics and the lived experience of the residents. Temporal change is considered both through looking at Stratford in the past and also projecting into the future. Detailed and thorough links are made between external forces such as government policy and the impact on lived experience. The response is evaluative and there is thorough consideration of the extent to which external forces have changed lived experience. Overall, an outstanding response which successfully addresses all the assessment criteria to a high standard.

20 marks
Section C

Question 3: Contemporary urban environments

With reference to two contrasting urban areas, assess the role played by the process of suburbanisation in creating patterns of economic and social wellbeing.

[20 marks]

AO1 – 10 marks

AO2 – 10 marks

Suburbanisation is the process of the increasing proportion of people moving to smaller suburb areas outside of urban areas rather than living in the inner city. In contrasting areas of Mumbai (LIC) and Los Angeles (HIC) this plays a different role in the patterns of economic and social wellbeing as suburbanisation is occurring more in HICs than in LICs.

In the American state of Los Angeles, there are smaller cities making up this area. Los Angeles is dominated by TNCs which provide jobs for high skilled workers leading to high levels of unemployment in more deprived areas where residents are often unskilled over recent years. TNCs have been moving to more suburban areas due to there being more land available for cheaper prices. This has led to citizens following these TNC’s to suburban areas for more job opportunities. This has created edge cities, such as San Bernardino, where cheaper land allows people to have large homes often with swimming pools.

However, large Mexican, Hispanic and other ethnic minority groups cannot afford to move to these more expensive areas. This leads to slight social segregation whereby richer people are living in the suburbs, leaving behind these ethnic minority groups where there are few job opportunities and increasing crime rates. For example South Central has the highest number of crack users in the USA. Deprivation has also led to conflict such as the Watts Riots. There is also racial tension as many ethnic minorities and immigrants can’t afford to move to the suburbs. South Central’s population is 55% Latino for example. Many of these communities feel left behind with poor well-being. Suburbanisation has made this unequal balance between suburban and inner city areas much more prevalent in the state of Los Angeles.

In terms of Mumbai, suburbanisation doesn’t really play that big of a role in creating patterns of social and economic well being as this process hasn’t begun to occur yet as it has on the scale of the HIC’s. Mumbai is a rapidly urbanising city and so this is what has caused patterns in socio economic well being. With 1000 new migrants a day, new areas are constantly being added to Mumbai on dangerous land and has also lead to the doubling of the population to 24 million since 2011. In terms of socio economic well being, this process of urbanisation plays a much larger role that suburbanisation. For example, 50% of the citys population lives in slums or on the streets on only 8% of the land. In comparison the city is home to 2700 multi millionaires living in developments such as Malabar Hill right next to slum developments. This shows a pattern of large disparities between economic well being with only 1/6 th of the slum dweller having access to clean water, when the city’s average is 52%. People living in these slums also have no legal rights when it comes to their homes as they are often built on illegal land. In this case, suburbanisation
doesn’t have any role at all in creating these unequal patterns of economic and social well being in this city.

Overall, I think suburbanisation plays a very large role in creating patterns of economic and social well being due to the fact that they have already urbanised and moving to the suburbs show signs of wealth and the process of deindustrialisation. Whereas, in the city’s such as Mumbai in LIC’s suburbanisation is a process that isn’t really occurring on as big of a scale as in HIC’s and it is more the process of urbanisation which is causing these patterns in social and economic well being.

A well-crafted, detailed and thorough response. There is detailed place knowledge for both Los Angeles and Mumbai. The answer is relevant and directed at the question throughout. There is thorough understanding of the concept of suburbanisation and the student realises that it doesn’t really apply to patterns of wellbeing in Mumbai, or at least not to the same scale as Los Angeles.

20 marks
Section C

Question 4: Population and environment

‘As more and more countries exceed their carrying capacity, soil problems will inevitably increase and there is very little that can be done to mitigate this.’

To what extent do you agree with this statement? [20 marks]

AO1 – 10 marks

AO2 – 10 marks

Carrying capacity is defined as the maximum number of individuals that a given environment can support sustainably. The quote in the question takes a malthusian pessimistic view in that if the carrying capacity is exceeded then this will lead to soil problems which cannot be mitigated unless the carrying capacity is no longer succeeded. However to a great extent, I do not agree with this view because as the optimist, Boserup states ‘necessity is the mother of invention’ and so if the carrying capacity of an area has been overshooted then humans will use technology and mitigation strategies to increase the carrying capacity reducing soil problems.

On the one hand, the statement is incorrect to a great extent and this can be shown by efforts and mitigation strategies in India. For example, the Green Revolution, which originated in Mexico in the 1940s, was introduced to India to help increase agricultural yields and thus increase food production especially after many areas in Southern India (eg in the rural parts of New Delhi) were suffering from soil erosion due to growing population causing intensive irrigation resulting in the carrying capacity being exceeded and so causing the soil to become infertile. The scheme was highly effective at increasing yields of maize and rice by 60% because of the use of technologies and fertilisers to aid paedogenesis (the formation of soil) as well as revitalising previously destroyed arable land. Therefore the Green Revolution has allowed for mitigation of soil problems in India and thus mitigating against soil problems to allow the carrying capacity to increase in line with population growth.

However, to a small extent, I do agree with the statement because of the fact that not all countries have a high enough GDP to fund rejuvenation projects, such as the Green Revolution and so the soil problems cannot be mitigated against. For example, Southern Libya has seen its population grow by 30% since the 1960s and this is attributed to a fertility rate of .6. Consequently in many places, like a village called Ouyagonga, the carrying capacity has been overshooted as farmers are not taking care of protecting there crop from major disease which is having an effect on the soil because it becomes exported which results in wind erosion. Additionally, the Sahara desert is encroaching onto the land of farmers as a consequence of desertification. However, as Libya is one of the worlds poorest country with nearly 3 million living less than $1.90 a day, they cannot afford mitigation strategies to protect the soil and prevent these soil problems. Therefore to a small extent, the statement is correct.

On the other hand, the statement to a great extent is not true especially if countries in sub-saharan Africa (where nearly all are LEDCs) come together to tackle soil
problems like desertification. For example, all countries in the Sahel region of Africa have contributed to building 'The Great Green Wall' which is where countries will plant thousands of trees across their countries to build a long 1000km well stretching across the Sahel region to prevent desertification and to rectify land to make it arable. This is especially effective since the population of the Sahel region has increased by 30% since 2000. Therefore, to a great extent the statement is not true.

In conclusion, although countries may exceed their carrying capacity and this may cause soil problems (eg soil erosion of desertification), these problems can be mitigated against, especially if more is global and regional cooperation and all countries come together to migrate against these soil problems. This is shown by the success of Green Revolution as well as the 'Great Green Wall' across the Sahel region of Africa. In the future, and with the global warming causing more evaporation of ground stores of water, countries will have to work increasingly harder to mitigate against soil problems but none the less they must mitigate from.

A knowledgeable and thorough response. The student tackles all aspects of the question in detail from showing knowledge about population pressure in countries such as Libya through to an understanding of techniques used to mitigate against soil problems. The response has a strong focus on evaluation and is very explicit in linking back to the question. Detailed and thorough links are made between population pressures and resulting soil problems and a country’s ability to manage these. The student also considers the scale of the problem and links to economic viability. Overall, a very successful response in assessing the extent to which they agree with the quote.

20 marks
Section C

Question 5: Resource security

‘Increasing demand for energy and/or mineral ores is inevitably leading to an increase in the importance of geopolitics.’

To what extent do you agree with this statement? [20 marks]

AO1 – 10 marks
AO2 – 10 marks

Demand for mineral ores is increasing due to their importance in modern projects such as electronic devices. For example, in the case of the rare earth elements (REEs) production of them began in the 1960s when colour TVs were first introduced, and today, demand is continually on the rise for products such as iPhones, which each contain 8 of the 17 rare earth elements, and also sustainable future products such as electric cars and wind turbines. Thus it is clear that REEs are vital to the modern society. Increasing importance of REEs leading to increased importance of the geopolitical relationship, international negotiations to ensure that demand are met. For example, China has 50% of the world’s REEs and in 2013, produced 90% of global production. This suggests the importance of countries with a high demand for REEs having strong geopolitical relationships with China. However, the danger of one producer dominating the market was illustrated in 2010 when China withheld supplies of REEs to ensure that they had enough to meet their own needs. This is an example of China, a rapidly developing country, driving global trade to its economic advantage as the reduced supply meant prices rose considerably. This inspired other countries to explore their REE potentials so that the world would be less reliant on China. For example, by 2013, Australia has 31% of the REE market. Therefore, it is clear that strong geopolitical relationships are needed to ensure that demands of many countries can be met who have likely already depleted their own mineral reserves in the past 50 years.

Increasing demand for energy is also leading to increased importance of geopolitical relationships. Energy consumption per capita is increasing by 10% per year with improved standards of living, and with population growth still prevalent, it appears unlikely that demand will curb anytime soon. Many countries have to import energy supplies to meet the demands of their population if they lack sufficient supplies themselves. For example, the UK and Norway have a strong relationship regarding gas – 40% of the UK’s overall gas consumption is Norway imported gas. As countries deplete their own resources of energy more relationships are inevitably going to have to be formed, likely between developing and developed countries as developing countries will have more resource frontiers, areas which are being exploited for the first time due to economic and technological developments, than developed countries which are more likely to have depleted their resources. This will fuel development in currently less developed countries as they will generate income from exporting the energy which will likely mean that in future, geopolitical relationships will become more fair on currently less developed countries have less power in negotiations. This should mean that more countries will have a fairer situation in regard to meeting the energy demand of their population, so geopolitical relationships should be more successful particularly for less developed countries. Therefore, overall, improved
geopolitical relationships are certainly vital to meeting increased demand in both developing and developed countries.

Ultimately, I agree with this statement to a large extent because special mismatch in availability of both mineral ores and energy supplies, both due to physical geography and previous human exploitation, will certainly result in more geopolitical relationships being required to meet growing demands around the world as both standards of living and the scale and spread of the use of electronic devices increase.

A knowledgeable and accomplished response. Detailed and thorough AO1 knowledge and understanding of the increasing demand for mineral ores shown through rare earth elements and energy resources such as gas. Scale is also addressed looking at global and national demand. There is a thorough understanding of the concept of geopolitics and this is successfully applied to the demands of the question. The response does consider extent (albeit rather one-sided) and suggests that geopolitics will become increasingly important. This is substantiated by a wide range of evidence in support. Overall, an outstanding essay that thoroughly addresses the assessment criteria.

20 marks
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