

Commentary on candidate 3 evidence

Selected examples of marked questions for this candidate have been chosen to illustrate some key points.

The candidate produced two very low standard essays in section 3, and underperformed in this section of the question paper. The candidate attained 38 marks out of 66 available marks for section 1. For section 2, the candidate was awarded 13 marks out of 20 available marks. However, the essays only produced 3 marks out of 14 available marks resulting in an overall mark of 54 marks out of 100 available marks for the entire question paper.

Overall, this candidate performed at a level C. In a similar manner to most candidates, the candidate performed better in the new section 2 part of the question paper.

Straightforward questions

Examples:

Q1 (a)(i) The candidate was not awarded the mark for this opening recall question. The candidate was clearly uncertain about what a physical resource is because they had wind energy written down, but then scored it out. Wind energy would have been acceptable.

Q2 (a) (b) The candidate gained 0 marks for both of these questions. A number of candidates failed to give the expected response to part (a) (The Sun).

For part (b), the candidate was very close to getting a mark, but did not mention the critical point, which was that the arrow indicates the direction of energy flow.

Graph/Calculation questions

Examples:

Q6 (b) The candidate was awarded 1 mark and had shown their working. Although this is not entirely necessary for a 1 mark question, it is an example of good practice and should be encouraged.

Q4 (d) The candidate was awarded both available marks and again had shown their working.

Explain/Discuss/Evaluate/Justify ...questions

Examples:

- Q7 (a) (i) The candidate was unable to give an accurate definition for weathering. It is important that candidates learn the definitions within the mandatory content so they do not lose marks.
- Q9 (a) The candidate was awarded 1 mark. Ideally, 'invasive non native' was the preferred answer but the candidate had included the critical 'invasive', word.

Overall, the candidate attained high marks in Q9 (6/7). The standard of many of the answers would indicate that they were perhaps capable of attaining a higher mark for the whole paper.

Essay questions

It is unfortunate that the candidate wrote so much but did not attain many marks. (3/14).

It is worth emphasising to candidates that this is a science, and as such, the essay part of the paper still requires factual information. Candidates should take time to practice questions from past papers as this can help to prepare and develop a structure and pattern of response that they are comfortable with, and will gain marks.