



# **Examiners' Report June 2024**

**GCE Geography 9GE0 03**

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## Introduction

As specifications get older so, all other things being equal, does candidate performance improve. It's incremental and year on year not so easy to see but comparing the performance of the 2019 cohort with the 2024 generation quickly demonstrates that centres and their candidates are better prepared. This is not so much anything to do with an improvement in AO1 knowledge and understanding but much more obviously a better appreciation of how to respond to questions 3,4,5 and 6. This year the mean was up by over a mark.

The following is a purview of how the longer 'essay' answers might be categorised to aid performance:

### Type 1 answers

These are essays that are dominated by AO3, especially the 'interpretation' of data drawn from the resource booklet (RB). Some of these essays simply rewrite material drawn from a limited range of resources, very often a few quotations from the text that accompanies most of the figures. There is very little or no attempt to analyse or evaluate, just interpretation. They are often highly selective in their sifting of the resource booklet material and only rarely include the more complex material. The levels quoted here are appropriate for Q5 and Q6.

*Marks Q5 – These are most likely to be in Level 1.*

*Marks Q6 – These are most likely to be in Level 1.*

### Type 2 answers

These differ from Type 1 essays in that, although still heavily reliant on the RB they go beyond simple interpretation to add some analytical points and even, in answers to Q5 and Q6, occasional attempts to evaluate the evidence drawn from a wider selection of RB figures than Type 1 essays. There still little or no identifiable AO1 or AO2. These are most likely to be in Level 2.

*Marks Q5 – These are most likely to be in Level 1/low Level 2 depending on range.*

*Marks Q6 – These are most likely to be in Level 1/low Level 2 depending on range.*

### **Type 3 answers**

These essays do all that type 2 essays do but add a little AO2 and perhaps a little AO1. They frequently assert rather than argue a particular point of view but they do engage with the question set. The AO1 material offered may compare an RB process or scenario with something that they have covered in class, perhaps a definition of a keyword in the question. AO2 is still limited on that the contention in the questions is not deconstructed. Some, but not all of these will have enough AO1 and, albeit weak AO2 for Level 3.

*Marks Q5 – These are most likely to be in the top of Level 2.*

*Marks Q6 – These are most likely to be top of Level 2 or even low Level 3 depending on range.*

### **Type 4 answers**

The candidates who produce type 4 essays make a serious attempt to answer the question set. In other words, there is some meaningful AO2 whereby the question asked is being answered at a level above that of simple unsupported statements. AO1 varies from negligible to modest but will be there in the form of material drawn in from elsewhere including iterations of previous versions of this paper, perhaps used in a 'mock' examination. This may not be much more than a few definitions of, for example 'sustainable' development or 'colonialism' but it will be there.

*Marks Q5 – These are most likely to be in Level 3.*

*Marks Q6 – These are most likely to be top of Level 3 or even low Level 4 depending on range.*

### **Type 5 answers**

These essays will have strong AO2 in that the evidence drawn from both AO3 and (some) AO1 will be interpreted (generally correctly) as part of an argument. Evidence from one part of the RB might be compared with evidence from another part of the booklet to point out tensions and/or weaknesses in the case being made. The strongest responses will add qualifications and complexities to their answers; for example, long term/short term, rural/urban, externalities both positive and negative.

*Marks Q5 – These are most likely to be towards the top of Level 3.*

*Marks Q6 – These will be Level 4 with the most comprehensive at the top of that level.*

## Question 1

The most popular reason offered was, in many different versions, the search for cheap labour to reduce production costs. Only a minority underpinned this by pointing out that the primary motive of TNCs is to make a profit. Some got a little bogged down with why this has become possible through containerisation or breakthroughs in connectivity which indeed facilitate globalisation but are not in themselves benefits. Others covered globalisation and deregulation which allows inward investment, although bizarrely China was frequently used as an example. The mean mark was 2.8 and the modal score was three which, as is hoped for, made this an accessible question for most candidates.

1 Explain why transnational corporations (TNCs) benefit from globalisation.

One reason for this is that one aspect of globalisation is the increase in availability and ease of trade, therefore making it easier and more accessible for TNCs to trade globally and expand their audience. Another reason for this is because globalisation also involves sharing culture across the world. An example of this is McDonalds which ~~is~~ was originally an American fast food restaurant but globalisation has enabled them to open in locations all across the world offering authentic and original food to all (Total for Question 1 = 4 marks) which they benefit from massively as they are accessing a much larger audience.



In this answer, although awkwardly, the candidate writes about the idea of a globally shared culture (1) and how this may allow companies (specifically McDonald's) to benefit from massively accessing a larger 'audience' (1)

It is a pity that they don't develop the point or take a different idea and develop it, which is perfectly acceptable.

It scored 2 marks.

1 Explain why transnational corporations (TNCs) benefit from globalisation.

one reason why TNC's benefit from globalisation is because it allows them to outsource more efficiently. This is because of the advancements made in technology, the advancements mean it is easier to communicate globally through phones and the internet. An example of this is Apple, through the internet they shared their idea and now they are a huge TNC.



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Examiner Comments

The answer correctly states that it allows them to outsource more effectively (1) because of 'advancements' making it easier to communicate (1)

Another single idea developed once. In this case further development could come from why this is beneficial for TNCs.

1 Explain why transnational corporations (TNCs) benefit from globalisation.

One reason why TNC's benefit from globalisation is that they can outsource parts of their company to countries with cheaper labor like China. This means that the TNC makes more profit and doesn't need to pay workers as much as they would in their own country, allowing the TNC to grow. Furthermore TNC's can also benefit from the spread of culture that comes with globalisation, eg McDonald's an American TNC has become huge due to globalisation and the spread of the American culture, meaning the TNC's becomes more popular and makes more capital.



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Examiner Comments

This answer starts with outsourcing to cheaper labour (1) therefore more profit (1), allowing the TNC to grow (1), globalisation involves the spread of American culture (1) which allows them to 'make more capital' (1). Please remember that the question is why TNCs benefit from globalisation, so for example, 'containerisation' doesn't explain why this benefits TNCs without an additional comment about it reducing transport costs or speeding up the process and increasing their profits.



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Examiner Tip

Please remember that globalisation is an automatic process. It requires decisions and policies enacted by governments.



## Question 2 (a)(i-ii)

As is usual the test of mathematical and statistical skills was successfully tackled by the majority of candidates. Although most have the requisite skills to find the right answer many fewer understand what that means. In this case with a result close to 0 it should have shown them that, with this evidence, the result was very clear. However, that doesn't mean that it was/is reliable.

## Question 2 (b)

The 2(b) question has generally been one that encourages the candidates to reflect on the data that they've generated from their calculation carried out for 2 (a) (i) and 2 (a) (ii). In the 2024 version, whatever the the outcome of their own calculation, they were told what message the result carried with the 'scaffolding' provided. They were told that 'The result suggests that the **null** hypothesis should be accepted at the 99% confidence level'. Some candidates did not know what that meant and little of what they wrote made sense. Those that did, who were in the majority, sometimes muddled reliability with accuracy but quickly saw that there were some obvious issues over the data that was presented. It has been an interesting classroom transformation to empower students to critique the material that they have in front of them. That is a thread in the mark scheme descriptors as it is at GCSE and is a skill that has, for the most part, been learnt well.

Explain why this result may not be reliable.

(4)

This result may not be reliable as ~~Table~~ Table 1 shows the United States GDP per capita as \$62,866 to a 300 (EVI) score compared to Columbia for example with a GDP per capita of \$6,630 and an (EVI) score of 296. This shows there is not a significant relationship between GDP and EVI. However, this is not always reliable because it can also determine on the country's location and how subject they may be to threats both human and natural. For example Haiti and Jamaica have very high EVI scores due to their location, financial position, political position and more. This suggests there is no direct link between GDP per capita and a country's EVI score.

(Total for Question 2 = 8 marks)



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Examiner Comments

The first sentence shows understanding that the USA has a very much larger GDP in comparison to most countries in table, but similar EVI. This is credited as well as the next sentence that recognises it is not a significant relationship (which is the first point in mark scheme). The remainder of the answer is not considered creditworthy.



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Examiner Tip

Make sure that you can distinguish between the accuracy of data and its reliability. Measuring noise may be carried out very accurately but if you do that during the Notting Hill carnival it is not reliable because it is not replicated on most days of the year.

Explain why this result may not be reliable.

(4)

There may be anomalies in the data which ~~cause~~  
<sup>affect</sup> the confidence level and therefore the validity of  
the data. The sample size ~~may~~<sup>is</sup> too  
small with only 12 nations taken into account.  
Countries used are all in ~~or~~<sup>at</sup> close  
proximity to one another and may face similar  
risks. The test was not done on a global  
scale and therefore the data may not  
represent a global issue. Only one highly developed  
nation was used in the data.



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Examiner Comments

The idea of anomalies is credited in the first sentence. Small sample size credited in second sentence. Narrow spatial range of countries gets credit in third sentence. Last sentence also credited as it recognises only one highly developed economy in the table. So a thorough answer scoring 4 marks.

### Question 3

The modal mark on this question was 5 and the mean mark 5.7. That suggests that candidates were largely successful in deconstructing the question and bringing some of their own knowledge and understanding to help them answer this question. The AO1 that candidates could bring to their answers would largely be rooted in their work on Topic 3 (Globalisation). As previewed in the overview the strongest responses addressed the relationship between social and economic challenges. Some candidates recognised that the economic challenges of poverty and unemployment will inevitably have social consequences and that those impacts, for example ill-health and low levels of literacy, will have economic consequences. In other words they were able to explore the complexity of this relationship. Even more impressive were answers that exploited figure 2 to illustrate this complexity; many of the answers used the data for the Dominican Republic, Haiti's nearest neighbour to make unfavourable comparisons between the two countries that share the same island and by extension many of the same environmental 'challenges'. A very small number made the point that the wealthy 1% were unlikely to be facing the same challenges given that their wealth would afford them the possibility of avoiding many of the challenges of low income.

3 Study Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3 in Section A of the Resource Booklet.

Analyse the evidence that the people of Haiti face greater economic and social challenges than their neighbours.

1324

(8)

Some say it is facing greater social challenges. "40% of the population still live in rural areas", which could lead to high numbers of residents becoming isolated, and may lead to the development of declining rural settlements - these regions discourage investment. So, rural-urban inequalities develop, and social polarisation is caused by residential sorting.

But, some challenges face countries that Haiti doesn't experience, e.g. a declining population. Cuba has the lowest fertility rate at 1.6 - that's 1.3 below Haiti. Plus, net migration is an outflow. So, population decline in Cuba is a major issue, putting pressure on working people to support financially dependent members of society. Since they are also below the replacement rate (2.1), this will only get worse. Fortunately, Haiti doesn't have this problem.

Economically, Haiti is in a very bad state. Not only does it have the lowest GDP per capita on figure 2 at US\$1819, it also has the lowest growth rate, at roughly 200% nominal increase since 1990 (fig 3), whereas Cuba, for example, has seen GDPpc increase by 227% to 250%. In addition, its extreme corruption rating of 170 will mean government spending is extremely inefficient, which is linked to the fact that Haiti hosts a "small economic elite" with "multimillionaires". High level corruption diverts funds away from development, which might address the social challenges e.g. "malnutrition", and contributes to high inequalities and economic difficulty.

Food insecurity in Haiti leads to higher child mortalities, meaning women feel pressured to have more children. This reinforces maternal stereotypes & excludes women from the workforce.



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Examiner Comments

A Level 3 response that was awarded 8 marks. AO3 from all three resources is used. The coherent interpretation of the data addresses the greater economic and social challenges faced by Haiti. This interpretation draws on meaningful AO1, such as rural isolation, dependency ratio and the impact of inequality on development spending. Moreover, paragraph two recognises that some neighbours have greater challenges in specific areas, which is good analysis.



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Examiner Tip

Remember that these 'analyse' questions expect you to review the material using your own knowledge and understanding to interpret them.

01 2 0 1 2

3 Study Figure 1, Figure 2 and Figure 3 in Section A of the Resource Booklet.

Analyse the evidence that the people of Haiti face greater economic and social challenges than their neighbours.

(8)

It is evident that Haiti is suffering from, socially, economically and environmentally from poverty. Haiti is located at the western end of the Caribbean along a tectonically active region meaning its risks are incredibly high and is 3rd most affected country by storm hits may be due to its unfortunate landscape of steep slope and tropical climate allowing for more devastation amongst its 40% rural population. In figure 2 it is evident that Haiti's poverty levels are higher amongst its neighbour at 29% of its population living on less than \$5.50 a day meaning they will have limitations to development and a poor quality of life due to its food insecurity and lack of services in rural areas. Haiti's corrupt government and poor human development are closely linked as the corruption will negatively benefit any advancements socially, increasing out migration to - 3.2 as neighbours such as Costa Rica evidently have a much improved standard of life, as only 11% of her population are below \$5.50 a day. Haiti also face challenges through her low skilled population contributing to a low GDP per capita at 1.8 thousand in 2020 in comparison to Cuba 9.5 emphasising how limited development has ultimately allowed for increased risk and challenges.





Not quite as strong as its predecessor. This was considered a level 2 response. It was awarded 6 marks. There is good coverage of the resources, with AO3 being presented to interpret the economic and social challenges faced by Haiti compared to its neighbours. This interpretation was not always coherent. There is good linkage between data and some AO1: impact of corruption on human development and low GDP linked to low investment in skills. But this AO1 is not developed and was not considered to be 'throughout' the answer.

## Question 4

The intention is that there is an incline of difficulty through this paper with mean and modal scores reflecting that. Q4 should be a little more challenging than Q3 and so it proved to be, albeit not by much. The mean was 5.28 (Q3 was 5.46). However this question had a significantly larger standard deviation suggesting that it discriminated well. The AO1 might come from Topic 1 (Tectonic processes and hazards) and both Topic 5 (the water cycle and water insecurity) and Topic 6 (the carbon cycle and energy security). The resources identified in the question are rich in information but needed some work from the candidates to unlock them and apply them to the question. For example, Figure 4 shows that there are very few places in Haiti that are more than a few kilometres from transform faults. Given that Haiti is described as 'criss-crossed' with 'several transform faults' and candidates are, one would hope, already aware that the country is small the impact of earthquakes was likely too severe in all parts. However, some locations are more vulnerable than others; for example Port-au-Prince is identified in the text as being only 25km from the epicentre. The focus on landscape was an invitation for candidates to pay attention to the text included with Figure 6, both to address the impact of severe storms and tectonic activity on a country dominated by steep slopes. They were also invited to address the challenge(s) posed by climate change. Some suggested that this was a particular problem in coastal areas given sea-level rise.

4 Study Figure 4, Figure 5 and Figure 6 in Section A of the Resource Booklet.

Analyse the impact of tectonic and hydrometeorological hazards on the landscape and people of Haiti.

(8)  
Tectonic hazards such as the earthquake of 2010 has led to many negative impacts on Haiti. For example, it led to the airport becoming extremely busy and backlogged so aid couldn't reach those who needed it. It also decreased the already low tourism so many jobs were lost, putting even more people in extreme poverty of less than \$1.90 per day. It also led to damage to the landscape due to the transform faults being moved slightly, causing more deaths also.

Tropical storms also hit Haiti such as Hurricane Sandy in 2012. Since many of the urban population live on the coastal lowlands, around 200,000 were left homeless due to the damage. This is because hurricanes have the most energy at the coast and gradually lose it as they move inland. This also caused high levels of rainfall which led to soil erosion on the steep mountains which have been deforested by locals, making the soil less fertile.



This was considered a level two response, awarded 4 marks. The first paragraph is less strong compared to the second. There is some AO1 that is mostly relevant to tectonic impact on people and landscape, but thin AO3 around which to build an interpretation. The second paragraph has clearer AO3 to support the interpretation of the impact of hydrometeorological hazards, with some AO1 addressing impacts on people and the landscape. It is quite brief and the first paragraph is limited, so it was located at the lower end of the band.



Don't repeat the question in your answer – it wastes valuable time.

4 Study Figure 4, Figure 5 and Figure 6 in Section A of the Resource Booklet.

Analyse the impact of tectonic and hydrometeorological hazards on the landscape and people of Haiti.

(8)

Haiti being located in a tectonically active region has had a substantial impact on its landscape and the people living there. The earthquakes on Haiti often having an extremely shallow focus has a substantial impact on the infrastructure of the country as the earthquakes will enact significantly more damage on critical infrastructure like roads and hospitals as well as thousands of people's homes collapsing due to being built without any regulation. This slows down the movement of aid and supplies, which has an impact on the death toll as well as leading to outbreaks of diseases such as Cholera in the wake of the 2010 as groundwater supplies were contaminated, killing more people. The frequency of the earthquakes is also extremely impactful for people living there as it forces them to rebuild their entire lives every time one occurs and means the country never fully recovers as since 2009, Haiti has been subject to 3 major tectonic events, all causing a large number of deaths, the most being 316,000 in 2010 and leaves millions homeless.

In terms of hydrometeorological events like tropical storms, Haiti is frequently impacted by them with 3 occurring between 2012 and 2020 all causing widespread damage to homes and infrastructure and killing many. The problems created by

tropical storms are exacerbated by the rural population's widespread deforestation to use charcoal as an energy source for 85% of the island's energy. The lack of trees on slopes leads to mud slides in the event of high rainfall like tropical storms, damaging more buildings and killing more people. Climate change is only making things worse as for each 1°C of warming results in 6-17% more rain from tropical storms, it will also make winds up to 8% faster and make them more frequent as the ocean temperatures are optimal for longer.

(Total for Question 4 = 8 marks)



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Examiner Comments

This is a confident level three response awarded 8 marks. AO3 is drawn from all the relevant resources. The interpretation is coherent: impacts of tectonic and hydrometeorological hazards on people and landscape are both addressed. AO1 is accurate and relevant throughout.

## Question 5

The first of the high tariff essays was an invitation to candidates who had just been analysing both Haiti's relative developmental state when compared with its neighbours and its vulnerability to tectonic and hydrometeorological challenge. In answering the two essays on Paper 3 candidates have a different task than the one on the other two papers. That is because, to move up the levels, they need to weave together both AO3 and AO1 material. Then, they must use their AO2 skills to apply that knowledge and understanding to the 'different context' of the scenario outlined in the Resource Booklet to 'interpret, analyse and then evaluate' the question posed.

The modal mark was 13 with a mean of 11.99 and an SD of 2.74, so quite a narrow range.

When planning their response to this question candidates had not yet encountered much of Haiti's astonishing and shocking back story. Candidates came to this question armed with material that they had covered in Topic 3 (Globalisation) and Topic 7 (Superpowers) as well as material from their chosen Topic 8 option. They had (at least in theory) an understanding of the dominant yet incommensurable and incompatible modernisation and dependency theories. They had three resources in their knowledge of Haiti; not a complete knowledge given the quasi-universal use of the 2010 earthquake as a case-study at both GCSE and A level. That in itself gave candidates an AO1 platform to build on. In the preamble to this report two questions are posed that might have been a useful starting point for the candidates. Development is a highly contentious term and needed to be unpacked here with, perhaps, a comment that it is an amalgam of social and economic variables but not political. Many students noted that (most of) the Haitian population have been victims of a toxic mix of colonialism, neo-colonialism and internal corruption, in large part a consequence of its colonial history. The failure of the international aid agencies since the earthquake was noted by most. The most impressive answers introduced a debate in which countries with similar physical challenges (Q4) have done so much better when compared to Haiti. That more forensic analysis of the linkages between the scenes depicted in Figure 9 and the story told in Figure 7 allowed candidates to point out that the debt burden was enormous and, in so far as they knew, unique to Haiti. The most impressive answers came to a view that apportioned blame to both the colonial history and the more recent neo-colonial history pointing out that other Caribbean states (often Jamaica) had similar challenges but not the same debt burden. A few raised the issue of IMF imposed ESAPs (enhanced structural adjustment programmes) to drive their point home.

5 Study the resources in Section B of the Resource Booklet.

Evaluate the view that Haiti's colonial past is the main reason for its current level of development.

(18)

People may agree with this view as Haiti is a victim of debt-trap diplomacy. In figure 7 we can see that the money Haiti lost in economic growth is more than 37x greater than the money Haiti paid to France in compensation for slavery, an illegal, unethical and racist practice. This may explain Haiti's current lack of development as it scores 170/180 on the HDI rank seen in figure 2. This is because Haiti was forced to take loans from the french which meant less money could be spent on public services such as education which further hindered Haiti's economic development as people were trapped in an intergenerational cycle of poverty and lacked social mobility to escape it and therefore they were less economically productive, generating less tax for government spending. Therefore due to the large state loan Haiti was forced to take out due to its colonial past Haiti is not very developed.

Other people may disagree and argue that Haiti's current level of development is a consequence of their own corrupt government. The government's corruption may explain why unemployment ~~was~~ ~~is~~ doubled from 1995 to 2009, over 10 years (figure 8).



As we saw in figure 2 Haiti ranks 170/180 on the corruption index. This may explain Haiti's lack of development as corrupt leaders have put their own interests above the country and mismanaged finances such as shown in figure 9 where 5 billion was painted over in an effort to appear more attractive when this money could have been spent on building social housing for those 80,000 residents. Therefore Haiti's corrupt government mismanaging finances and making ill choices may be more to blame for Haiti's current development than its colonial past. However the data shown in figure 9 may be criticized as photos show merely a snapshot of Haitian life and are likely unrepresentative of Haiti as a whole.

Other people argue Haiti's colonial past is its main reason for current lack of development as it is now subject to neocolonial mechanisms of control. Haiti's lack of economic development can be shown in figure 9 which shows unemployment began to rise again recently ~~from 13.8%~~ by 1.8% from 2019. This can be explained as the USA controlled the terms of trade with Haiti, setting their own prices for Haitian commodities and forced Haiti to remove ~~subsidy~~ tariffs on US products such as rice which led to Haiti becoming reliant on the US which

The US exploited as it lead to Haitian farmers losing their jobs so the government had less tax revenue to attract FDI so there is a lack of business investment to this day in Haiti which also explains the high unemployment levels. Therefore Haiti's colonial past may be the most influential reason for its current development. However data in figure 8 may not be reliable due to Haiti's corrupt government the data we are shown may not be accurate and could be biased, as well as this due to Haiti's lack of development the data may not have been accurate or robust.

Another view of the cause of Haiti's current level of development is that it is caused by location. In figure 9 it mentions that in "1988 65% of Haitians were farmers", meaning that only 34% of the population were not reliant on ~~traps~~ the climate for their income. As mentioned in section A Haiti lies in the path of hurricanes. These hurricanes bring storm surges which contaminate the ground with salt water and reduce agricultural yields for farmers. Therefore these farmers are spending less so there is no multiplier effect in place and the Haitian economy does not grow. Therefore the reason for Haiti's current level of development may be its

In summary I ~~believe~~ agree with the view Haiti's colonial past is its main reason for its current level of development as it has been a long term issue continuing well past Haiti's independence and continuing to present day when French continue to control ex-colonies through loans and subsidies.



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Examiner Comments

In common with many others this candidate adopts an argument and counter-argument approach in an attempt to address the 'main reason' steer in the question. Page 11 is largely devoted to the case for the prosecution with some useful AO1 k and u: 'trapped in an intergenerational cycle of poverty' which is largely blamed on its colonial past. There is a little AO3 here too, drawn from the HDI material and the French debt. The second paragraph covers the view that the corruptions of its own government is the 'main reason' – the best section of this answer is how the money spent on Jalousie might have been better spent on 'social housing'. They end the paragraph with a thoughtful comment about the potential bias of the chosen photographs, which directly addresses the fifth point on the AO descriptor mark scheme. A third view is then offered which also mixes some AO3 on figure 9 and development through AO1 k and u and AO2 evaluation. That is especially prominent in the material covered on page 13 which goes on to add another possible 'main cause', namely its 'location'. The conclusion is disappointing and the evaluation limited to an assertion that colonialism is the main reason because it is long-term, an idea which required further clarification. The answer, therefore, was in the top level but not at the very top.



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Examiner Tip

Pick up the keywords in the question when you make your plan.

5 Study the resources in Section B of the Resource Booklet.

Evaluate the view that Haiti's colonial past is the main reason for its current level of development.

(18)

Some evidence does point towards Haiti's colonial past being the main reason for its current level of development such as Haiti's dependancy on France causing their economy to collapse after they achieved independance. Despite becoming "the first black republic in the world" Haiti were ~~only the richest~~ French ~~colony~~ was only a world's leading producer of sugar and coffee when it was under French colonialism as France bought ~~£~~ €2.5 billion in trade every year from Haiti. Therefore, Haiti was very dependant on France for their economic gain which created high levels of vulnerability when they gained independance. The loans that ~~amounted~~ Haiti had to use to repay France created US \$21 billion in debt therefore Haiti cannot focus on socio-economic development ~~when the~~ and increasing their GDP. For example, other countries may be hesitant to trade with Haiti as it has a stigma that it cannot repay debts so these countries may see Haiti as <sup>financially</sup> irresponsible and ~~unable to~~

This means that it may be trade that is the main reason for Haiti's low development levels. For example, the USA - a global superpower - blocked trade with Haiti.

This means that the USA have less soft power over Haiti so their cultural influence in Haiti is decreased. This decreases the westernisation of Haiti which despite having some positive effects such as a lack of cultural erosion, can actually lead to Haiti becoming less economically developed. This is because Western cultures value economic success and monetary gain and often transmit these values onto countries which they trade with. In turn, this helps these ~~countries~~ LICs and NEEs to favour their economic gain over anything else. Due to the USA's absence in Haiti these values aren't transmitted so Haiti struggles to increase their global significance in a Western world. Therefore it could be argued that there are more important factors than Haiti's colonial past.

For example, Haiti's weak and corrupt governance can lead to fractured priorities as seen in Figure 9 as government money is spent on increasing the curb appeal of Jalousie over increasing the ~~social~~ social and environmental condition. Jalousie is similar to Sharti Towns meaning the overpopulation <sup>(80,000)</sup> leads to poor unsanitary conditions where disease can spread very quickly and crime levels are very high - often murders and kidnappings for sexual crimes. The local phrase 'le Botox' shows how the Haitian government are prioritising how Jalousie looks ~~to~~ as it is

visible from the wealthy district of Pétion-Ville" instead of addressing the problems. For example, water taps could be added to lower cholera rates and increase the sanitation or the government could allow Jalousie adequate access to electricity to stop illegal access being ~~achieved~~ attained through cutting the wires - which is dangerous and can lead to death via electrocution. Therefore, weak governance in Haiti may be inhibiting its ~~economic~~ developments the most because it doesn't prioritize the well-being of Haitians and decreases their quality of life. Due to a low quality of life, Haitians may not be able to work and contribute to Haiti's working population who generate an income.

Therefore it isn't only the colonial part of Haiti which leads to its low levels of development today but this colonial part is often a major influence on other factors which inhibit growth. For example, the low tourism levels are because Haiti's history of political instability creates an unattractive appeal for tourists.



This answer plunges straight in with 'Some evidence does point toward Haiti's colonial past ...' followed by a paragraph that is dominated by a narrative that is largely lifted without qualification or comment from the Resource Booklet. The paragraph ends with a more thoughtful link between the debt and socio-economic development which is followed by the mistaken idea that 'countries would hesitate to trade' because of 'the stigma that it cannot repay its debt', which of course it did. The second paragraph begins by stating that trade is 'the main reason', followed by a vague idea of 'soft' power, and a section on cultural erosion which is unrelated to any Resource Booklet source and AO1 is hard to apply in this particular scenario. The idea promoted here is that Haiti has not adopted 'western values' and 'the USA's absence in Haiti' is responsible for its current situation. That is incorrect. The penultimate paragraph loses focus on the question and addresses the poor living conditions and the corruption which tended to explain why areas were poor because of weak governance. What was absent was any attempt to tie that to its history. The conclusion, again quite brief, added a comment regarding tourism, as an afterthought. A level 2 answer.



Essay writing is a skill but it is a learnable skill.

## Question 6

The final question on the paper provided a very wide range of responses. This year, as previously, there were a significant number of 0 mark answers because the candidate had not attempted the question. Given the time allowance and the number of questions to answer, it would be surprising if all these nil-response scripts were a consequence of running out of time. A significant number of those who did make a start showed a reliance on AO3 with insufficient AO2. For example, the characteristics of the Level 1 responses tended to be a careful but incomplete repetition of some of the resources, often word for word, followed at the top end of that level with an assertive statement with limited use of evidence. In other words largely AO3, and little AO2 with 'rarely logical connections', 'limited relevance or support' and 'unsupported or generic conclusion' that 'is unbalanced or lacks coherence'.

The modal mark was 14 and the mean very close to it at 13.46. The Standard Deviation was significantly larger than Q5 at 4.14 (not forgetting the higher mark on Q6).

As we move up the mark scheme to higher levels the deconstruction of the question improved with candidates paying attention to one or more of three sub-questions posed in the preamble to this report.

Q6 – What is meant by 'future' – next year, next decade, next century?

Several candidates profited from the idea that in the short term the 'prosperous future' might not be obvious to all the population but in the long term it would be. That was often delivered by exploring the actions of the IMF, World Bank and WTO. Some developed this idea by suggesting that some Haitians might profit from such policies whilst others would not.

Q6 – What does sustainable mean?

Sustainable development was defined by some but not all. Those that did so generally wrote about the inter-generational equity route and that profited them because they could suggest that some short-term solutions might generate immediate returns in terms of a 'prosperous future' but not in the long term. Some suggested that tourism could boost the economy in the immediate future but that this might impact negatively on the environment. Candidates should be made aware that there are few, if any, wasted words in question and it is reasonable to expect all the words to be addressed in the answer. That is of course the virtue of deconstructing questions. A good revision exercise is to allow students to trawl through past questions and identify questions that they might ask to clarify the focus of the question.



Q6 – What constitutes ‘international’ action – who are the stakeholders?

Drawing on their superpower material candidates were often able to distinguish between ‘soft’ and ‘hard’ power and comment on their results, often negatively. A few, mindful of the often omitted or forgotten 5<sup>th</sup> bullet point, made ‘valid judgments’, often ‘about the value and reliability of quantitative and qualitative data/evidence throughout’.

To move away from the language of the level descriptors there were some very impressive essays in high level 3 and level 4. These often had the following characteristics:

- i) Strong AO2 in that the evidence drawn from both AO3 and (some) AO1 will be interpreted (generally correctly) as part of an argument with linkages made.
- ii) Evidence from one part of the Resource Booklet might be compared with evidence from another part of the booklet to point out tensions and/or weaknesses in the case being made.
- iii) The strongest responses will add qualifications and complexities to their answers; for example, long term/short term, rural/urban and externalities (both positive and negative).

6 'If the Haitian population is to have a prosperous future it needs international action to build a sustainable economy'. Evaluate this view.

(24)

As shown in Figure 10, Haiti is ranked amongst the lowest amongst its neighbours with regards to globalisation. The average from Figure 10 for Haiti and its neighbours with regards to globalisation is 90 (1 being most globalised), whereas Haiti is ranked 195 - double the figure. Figure 5 shows the impacts that natural disasters have had on Haiti. From 2010-2016, 735 000 people were left homeless due to hurricanes and earthquakes. Undoubtedly, this has impacted Haiti's economy and it is certainly necessary for international governments, INCs and organisations, to ~~have~~ intervene in Haiti's economy, in a way that is sustainable and beneficial and doesn't just benefit 'Haiti's elite'. (Figure 2).

Figure 2 provides valuable insights into factors which affect Haiti's economy and compared to its neighbours, Haiti is much further behind socially, economically and due to corruption, some may say politically. Haiti has the lowest GDP per capita of all its neighbours at \$1819 compared to the US which is \$62 866 - almost 60 times less year. From this we can notice this triggers a multiplier effect, wherein, it is ranked the worst out of its

neighbours in HDI, and has one of the highest levels of corruption. So, it is certainly an agreeable statement that Haiti needs international action to support a sustainable economy. This can be seen as all of its neighbours have significantly higher GDP per capita, possibly barring Venezuela. Although some of these countries have high corruption, many development theories such as Rostow's Development theory, show how economic development is always needed before social, political or environmental developments; however, Haiti doesn't have this. And through its debts to France, (Figure 7) of \$21 billion, this is more than <sup>what</sup> one country can sustain whilst working on <sup>improving</sup> its economy. So it's absolutely imperative that international action is taken as Haiti's economic suffering are largely due to ~~all~~ debts. Plus, we see that the \$13 billion in aid it was given <sup>in 2010 (Figure 7)</sup> has made no difference to its economy - unemployment has increased and as of 2021 was just under 16%. Figure 3 depicts Haiti's GDP per capita growth ~~is~~ ~~was~~ ~~is~~ in relation to its neighbours with a stark contrast in economic growth; Haiti's has fluctuated and declined between 2019-2020. Another point ~~to note~~ which further reinforces the view that international action is needed, is COVID-19. This undoubtedly would have knocked Haiti's economy ~~or~~ even further just as it did to economies of developed <sup>countries</sup>, but this may also refute the argument that Haiti needs international action, as even economies of developed countries in recent times

have suffered.

However, on the other hand it is essential to recognise that international governments and IGO's and TNCs, may not always act in a <sup>economically</sup> developing countries best interests. So, international intervention may even further hinder growth. TNCs look to countries where labour / production and manufacturing costs are cheaper and use this to give more jobs to locals. However to note, usually there is an element of environmental ~~degradation~~ <sup>degradation</sup> and economic policies, which hinder any further economic growth ~~now~~ that's not within a TNC's best interests. For example, companies such as Shell in Nigeria, that were extracting oil, caused oil spills which damaged the natural landscape <sup>(marsh)</sup> and caused tensions with indigenous groups. Thus, we can see international action, may not always be what's best for vulnerable economies. Figure 9 mentions farmers abandoning land because of 'policies imposed on them by the USA'. The USA as one of the largest superpowers and a country which holds dominance on the world stage, socially, economically, environmentally and politically through IGOs such as the IMF and TNCs, are capable of taking action. However as of yet no noticeable differences have been seen in Haiti's economy. In fact, 'international action' such as privatisation, free trade policies and foreign investment have all taken place (Figure

10), however Haiti still remains the least globalised. Economically, socially and politically. Although the role of the US has been 'central' there has been no huge difference to Haiti's economy. Often times, economic policies such as these only benefit TNCs and local elites rather than focusing on primary and secondary sectors such as raw materials, production, manufacturing and even educating people with the necessary beneficial skills to further sustain economic development.

What is also important to note is that, the correct initiatives need to take place in order to benefit Haiti in the long run. i.e. France and other IGOs such as the IMF could cancel debts that are hindering Haiti's economic development. Figure 11 shows the <sup>main</sup> imports and exports in ~~the~~ <sup>Haiti</sup> country however there's no mention towards the informal economy which many times is what supports a country's population in face of governmental corruption.

In conclusion, international action is very much needed however this has to be in a manner that's sustainable for Haiti and also its rural population wherein there's no corruption or ulterior economic motives from other TNCs and more developed countries.



This impressive answer starts with an imperfect/incomplete review that ends with a clear statement that it 'it is certainly necessary that... international governments... intervene in Haiti's economy, in a way that is sustainable and beneficial and doesn't just benefit Haiti's elite'. The very long, and not always coherent, second paragraph covers a lot of ground. Rostow and modernisation theory are confused but most of page 16 is well-focused and includes references to COVID (AO1) and a good deal of interweaving of Resource Booklet material with own knowledge (AO1). Page 17 presents an articulate and well-evidenced argument that a whole gamut of players and stakeholders may be working against the best interest of the people of Haiti. There isn't much reference to sustainability, although the environment gets a mention at the bottom of page 17. Page 18 addresses the issue of inequalities and the role of local elites in the question of development. What is done here is done well and whilst not at the top of L4 it remains a very strong essay.



These questions need very careful deconstruction.

6 'If the Haitian population is to have a prosperous future it needs international action to build a sustainable economy'. Evaluate this view.

(24)

One reason why I agree with this statement is because as Figure 7 said previously countries like France colonised the areas and ~~the~~ destroyed the local economies of the country countries they were colonising. Haiti paid \$560 million back to France when the true cost to Haiti in lost economic growth was US \$21 billion.

Another reason why I agree with this statement is because the European powers and the USA blocked all trade with Haiti for many years and between 1857-1934, the US government interfered in Haiti's governance, on many occasions. This step has led to the country here diminished the sovereignty of the Haiti by interfering with its affairs one after the other.

~~A third reason why I agree with this statement is because the European powers used their naval bases or imperial subsidies US use this~~

One of the had, one reason why I disagree with the statement is because as seen in Figure 9, Haiti could benefit from the tourism industry which would mean that the country would see more increased revenue like other places like Miami (Florida), USA. As some beaches, for example are heavily polluted and some are empty it would take a clean up to ensure that the beaches are safe and clean for people to visit.

Another reason why I disagree with the statement is because as seen in Figure 11, Haiti could export a raw product which is in high demand and could gain a profit if they sell enough, meaning they could specialise their products in this area. This could help the economy grow as they would be receiving increased revenues.

In conclusion, I ~~think that~~ agree with the statement as most of the damage was done by ~~cont~~ colonial powers in the past e.g., France and Great Britain, and more recently the USA. It would be easier for ~~country~~ Haiti to develop if it had more economic assistance ~~to reach~~ ~~period~~ as it has struggled to develop over the last 90 years after <sup>the</sup> colonisation the period has ended.





This is a very weak response. The first page is dominated by unsupported statements which are not discreditable but basic and largely unsupported by evidence from either AO1 or AO3. The answer leans heavily on the Resource Booklet with little comment other than a last statement that 'This shows how other countries have diminished the sovereignty of Haiti by interfering with its affairs time after time'. These clearer AO2 links are intermittent. As is quite common tourism is offered as a potential route to prosperity but this is offered as evidence to reject the proposition of the title without commenting on how international travel and better connectivity would be needed for any growth in that sector. The same can be said of the comments regarding Haiti's ability to 'export a product which is in high demand'. The proposition in the title is not explored by anything much more than unsupported assertions.



Please remember that costs and benefits fall very unevenly.

6 'If the Haitian population is to have a prosperous future it needs international action to build a sustainable economy'. Evaluate this view.

NO, neocolonialism same as colonialism Fig. 7

yes, need immigration -3.2 Fig 2

Fig 6. depopulation.

Fig 10

no, profits go elsewhere, Fig (24)

→ import skills

The view that international action is imperative to the prosperous future of Haiti is false, due to the negative impacts of neocolonialisation, failures of past action and the inequality of benefits from action. The only way international action could be justified is due to environmental degradation.

Firstly, the view is wrong due to the past failures of international action. This can be seen with rising unemployment in Figure 8, as well as Figure 10 stating 'Haiti is in a poorer situation than it was in 2010' showing that international action does not help Haiti. Figure 10 also states 'the role of the US has been central' which exemplifies how international interference in globalisation, the economy and international action has clearly not helped Haiti.

Secondly, the view is wrong also due to the wrongful destination of profits and benefits. Figure 11 states 'main beneficiaries have been wealthy superpowers' which presents the intervention as pointless to helping Haiti. 'Wealthy superpowers' cannot be seen as altruistic as they may invest in order to gain profits in the long run with repayments of debts, as seen with France. On the whole, benefits go to already developed nations when international action is used to 'build a sustainable economy in Haiti.' Profits do not go to the poor and unemployed, showing that international action may actually be a hindrance to a sustainable economy which can support itself with a stabilised political system and public services.

Thirdly, the prosperous future of Haiti cannot be correlated with international action to ~~to~~ create a sustainable economy due to the effects of neo-colonialism. Figure 7 states Haiti became a new colony due to US military occupation in 1934. Neocolonialism

due to international action can be seen with money given to Haiti as employment under wealthy countries supply lines. Globalisation allows TNCs to outsource their goods to countries with cheaper labour such as Haiti. As seen in Figure 11, Haiti's exports have a total value of 1.2B USD compared to their ~~expo~~<sup>import</sup> values at more than 3x this, meaning they make a net loss. International action to give Haiti an income with the outsourcing of the textile industry, with exports of T-shirts, knitted sweaters and suits, have ~~caused~~ caused Haiti to lose profits, which go to TNCs instead. International economic action under the WTO, World Bank and IMF has caused neocolonialisation, worsening the plight of Haiti. This makes the view that international action is the key to a prosperous future of Haiti woefully misguided and naive.

The only way international action may be actually useful is with the reversal of environmental degradation. As seen in Figure 6, the similar landscapes of Haiti

and the Dominican Republic show stark differences in vegetation levels, with Haiti using deforestation for fuel acquisition and domestic uses. International action could be useful to replant lost vegetation, to ensure their local offset of carbon due to their heavy industry with textile manufacture. A sustainable economy could be built from the carbon taxation and replanting of vegetation, lowering the high unemployment as seen in Figure 8. Environmental degradation as a justification for international action can only be deemed necessary due to beach pollution, as referenced in Figure 9.

International action could promote a sustainable industry of waste collection and recycling. A prosperous future for the Haitian people can only be done under the presence of environmental regeneration which could lead to a sustainable economy.

To conclude, if the population of Haiti is to have a prosperous future under a sustainable economy, this will not be due

to international action. This is proved by multiple past failures of international action which have only managed to weaken Haiti's vulnerable state, as referenced in figure 7 with 'some economists suggest that Haiti is in a poorer situation than it was in 2010, despite 13B USD of aid. This proves international action, as encouraged by the WTO, World Bank and IMF, cannot be seen as the sole key to Haiti's possibility of a sustainable economy and prosperous future.



This essay begins with a very clear statement followed by a coherent argument. The candidate argues that only when addressing the environmental challenges facing Haiti is international action likely to be helpful. In every other socio-economic theatre the lessons of the past and present suggest that international action is a primary cause of Haiti's current state of development and best avoided. The introductory statement ends with 'The only way international action could be justified is due to environmental degradation.' This essay is polemical and maintains a clear focus on its argument. Each of the four core paragraphs starts with a clear statement, presents evidence that is supported by AO1 and AO3 material. The argument is qualified but the focus remains: 'On the whole benefits go to already developed nations when international aid is used to build a sustainable economy in Haiti'. This essay is impressive and is clearly in level 4. The mark reflects its qualities but also its lack of balance – it isn't comprehensive (bullet 6 in the mark scheme descriptors) because its polemical approach is obviously selective in order to make its points. Very good but not 24/24.



Always make a plan for these longer essays – it will only take a couple of minutes but will be worth it.

## Paper Summary

Based on their performance on this paper, candidates are offered the following advice:

- For Q3 ask themselves 'What are social and economic challenges?'
- For Q3 ask themselves 'Do **all** the "people of Haiti" face the same challenges?'
- For Q4 ask themselves 'Do "tectonic and hydrometeorological hazards" impact equally across the country?'
- For Q4 ask themselves 'In this context what is meant by its "landscape"?'
- For Q5 ask themselves 'How do you measure the various reasons for Haiti's (lack of) development?'
- For Q5 ask themselves 'What should I include in current levels of development?'
- For Q6 ask themselves 'What is meant by "future" – next year, next decade, next century?'
- For Q6 ask themselves 'What does "sustainable" mean?'
- For Q6 ask themselves 'What constitutes "international" action – who are the stakeholders?'



## **Grade boundaries**

Grade boundaries for this, and all other papers, can be found on the website on this link:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/support/support-topics/results-certification/grade-boundaries.html>

