



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Level Examination  
January 2011

# Geography

# GEOG3

## Unit 3 Contemporary Geographical Issues

Tuesday 25 January 2011 9.00 am to 11.30 am

**For this paper you must have:**

- an AQA 12-page answer book.
- You may use a calculator.

**Time allowed**

- 2 hours 30 minutes

**Instructions**

- Use black ink or black ball-point pen. Pencil should only be used for drawing.
- Write the information required on the front of your answer book. The **Examining Body** for this paper is AQA. The **Paper Reference** is GEOG3.
- Answer **three** options: **one** from each section. In **Section C**, you must **not** answer the same option as those chosen in **Sections A** and **B**.
- Use sketch maps, diagrams and specific examples, where appropriate.
- Do all rough work in your answer book. Cross through any work that you do not want to be marked.

**Information**

- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 90.
- You will be marked on your ability to:
  - use good English
  - organise information clearly
  - use specialist vocabulary where appropriate.

**Advice**

- You are advised to spend about 45 minutes on each of **Sections A** and **B** and about 60 minutes on **Section C**.

## Section A

Answer **one** option from this section.

**You must not answer the option that you will answer in Section C.**

### Option 1 Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards

Total for this option: 25 marks

0 1

Study **Figure 1**, a map showing a variety of tectonic features in the Philippines.

Comment on the degree to which the area of the Philippines might be subject to tectonic hazards. (7 marks)

**Figure 1**



- 
- 0 2** Outline the formation of hot spots and explain their relationship to plate movement. *(8 marks)*
- 0 3** With reference to **two** volcanic events that you have studied from contrasting areas of the world, compare the nature of the volcanic hazard and its impact. *(10 marks)*

**Turn over for the next option**

**Turn over ►**

## Option 2 Weather and Climate and Associated Hazards

Total for this option: 25 marks

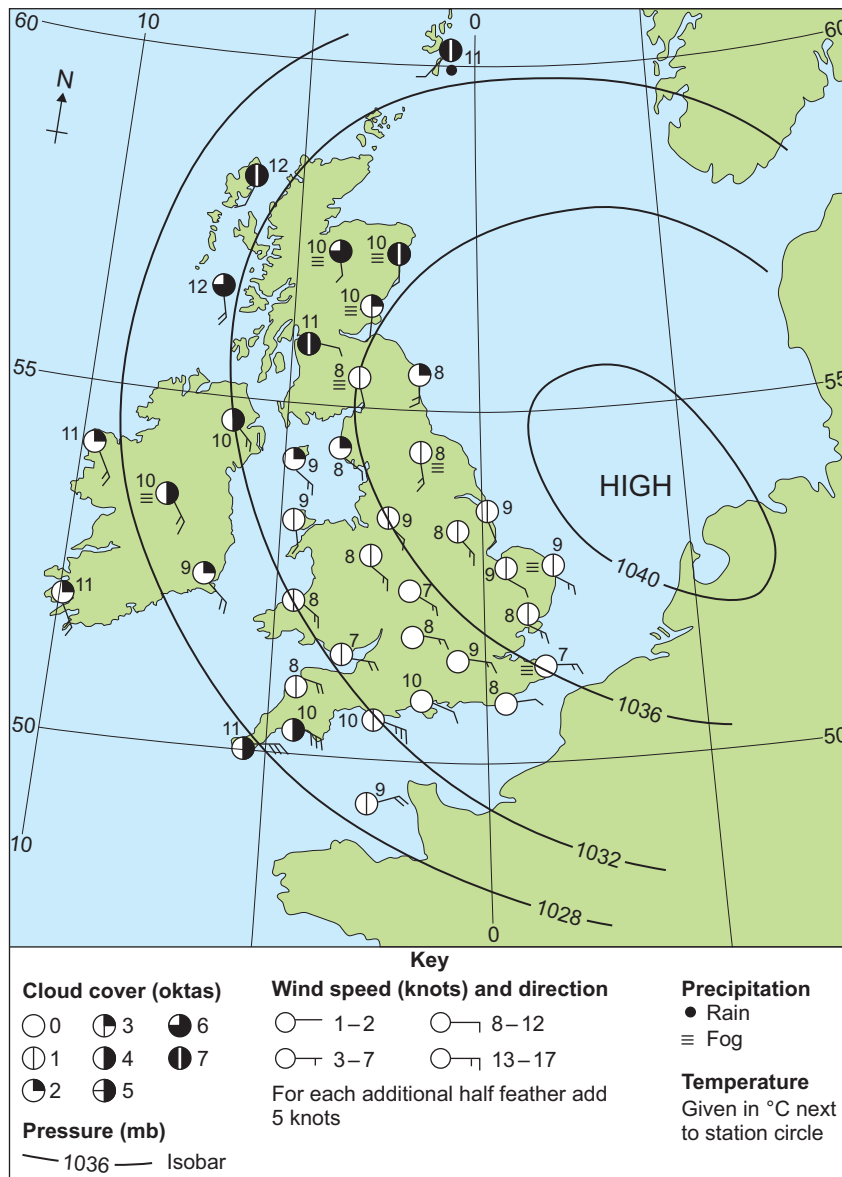
0 4

Study **Figure 2** which shows a synoptic chart of the British Isles at 0800 hours on a day in October.

Describe and explain the weather that eastern England experienced.

(7 marks)

**Figure 2**



0 5

Outline air masses that affect the British Isles and describe the weather associated with them.

(8 marks)

0 6

Explain both the origin of depressions and the weather associated with them as they move across an area.

(10 marks)

**Option 3 Ecosystems: Change and Challenge****Total for this option: 25 marks****0 7**Study **Figure 3**, a photograph of a woodland in the British Isles.Describe and comment on the characteristics of the vegetation shown in **Figure 3**.*(7 marks)***Figure 3**

Source: photograph by JANE BUEKETT

**0 8**Describe and explain **one** of the following plant successions in the British Isles: lithosere, psammosere, hydrosere or halosere.*(8 marks)***0 9**With reference to **one** plagioclimax that you have studied, assess the impact of human activity on plant succession.*(10 marks)***End of Section A****Turn over ►**

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**Section B**

Answer **one** option from this section.

**You must not answer the option that you will answer in Section C.**

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**Option 4 World Cities****Total for this option: 25 marks**

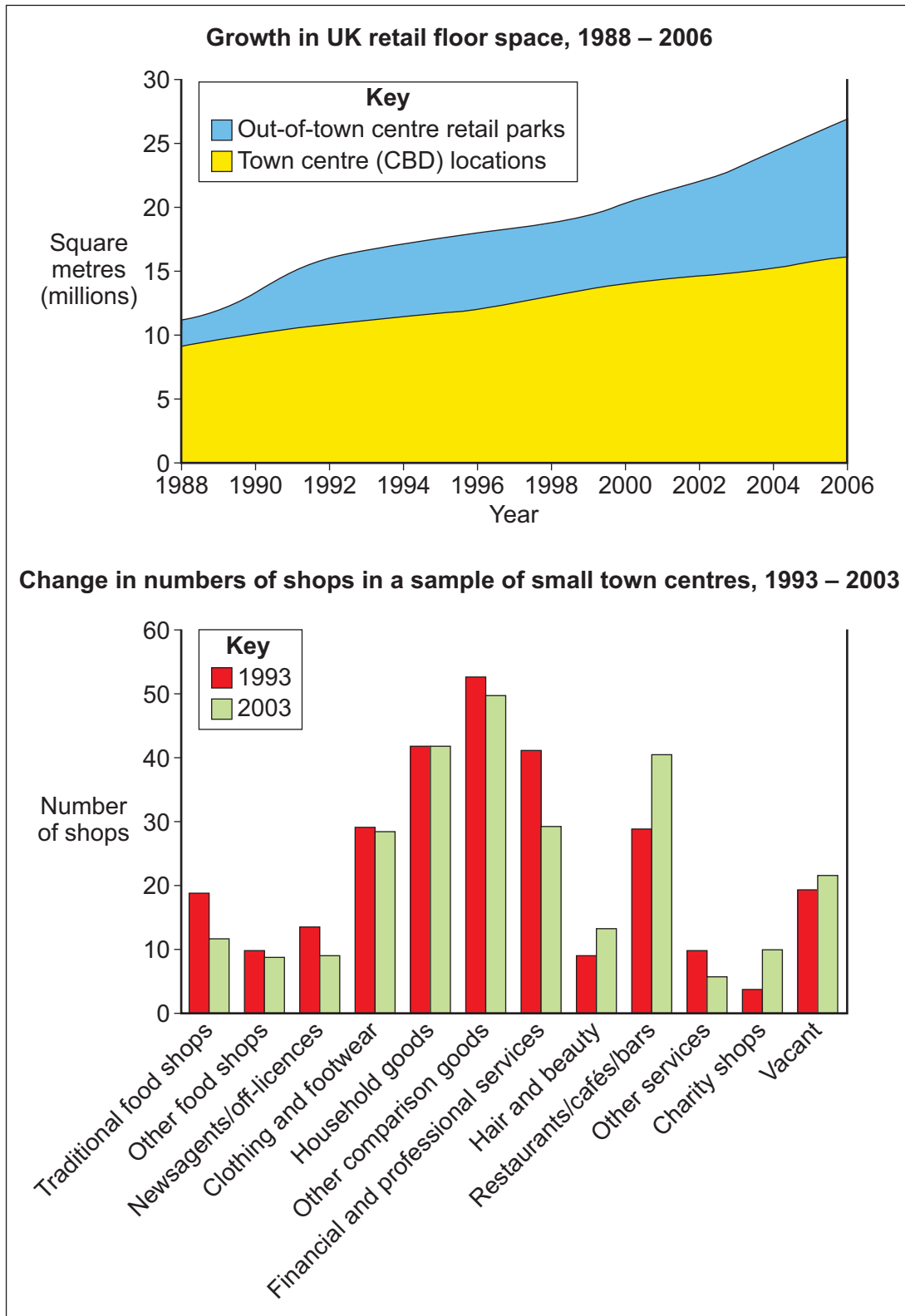
- |   |   |
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 Study **Figure 4** which shows a number of trends concerning changes in retailing and other services.
- Comment on the trends shown in **Figure 4**. *(7 marks)*
- |   |   |
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 Outline the characteristics of **one** out-of-town centre retailing area that you have studied. *(8 marks)*
- |   |   |
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| 1 | 2 |
|---|---|

 With reference to **one** or **more** example(s), evaluate the success of redevelopment of urban centres in response to recent trends in retailing. *(10 marks)*

Figure 4



Growth in UK retail floor space: Source: CB Richard Ellis (2003 to 2006 estimated)

Change in numbers of shops: Source: *The Role and Vitality of Secondary Shopping – A New Direction*, National Retail Planning Forum, 2004

## Option 5 Development and Globalisation

Total for this option: 25 marks

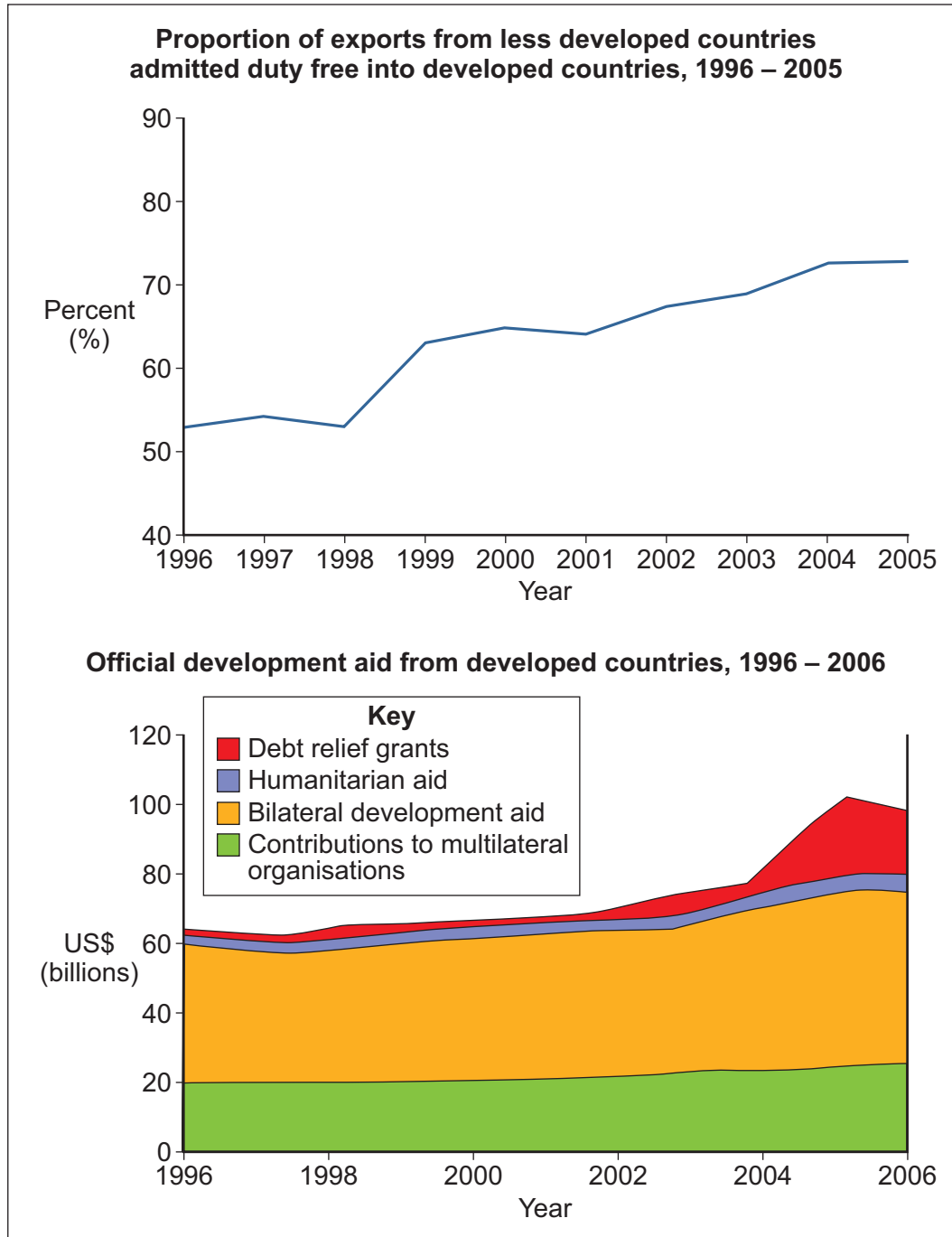
1 3

Study **Figure 5** which shows information regarding trends in both trade and aid between developed countries and less developed countries.

Comment on the trends shown in **Figure 5**.

(7 marks)

**Figure 5**



Source: *The Millennium Development Goal Report, 2007*, © United Nations, Reproduced with permission.



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**1 4** Outline and suggest reasons for the issues facing countries at very low levels of economic development. *(8 marks)*

**1 5** Discuss **one** of the following development issues:  
**either** 'Economic sustainability versus environmental sustainability'  
**or** 'Sustainable tourism – myth or reality?' *(10 marks)*

**Turn over for the next option**

**Turn over ►**

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**Option 6 Contemporary Conflicts and Challenges****Total for this option: 25 marks****1 6**

Study **Figure 6** which shows the geographical distribution of ethnic groupings within Nottingham.

Compare and contrast the patterns shown in **Figure 6**. *(7 marks)*

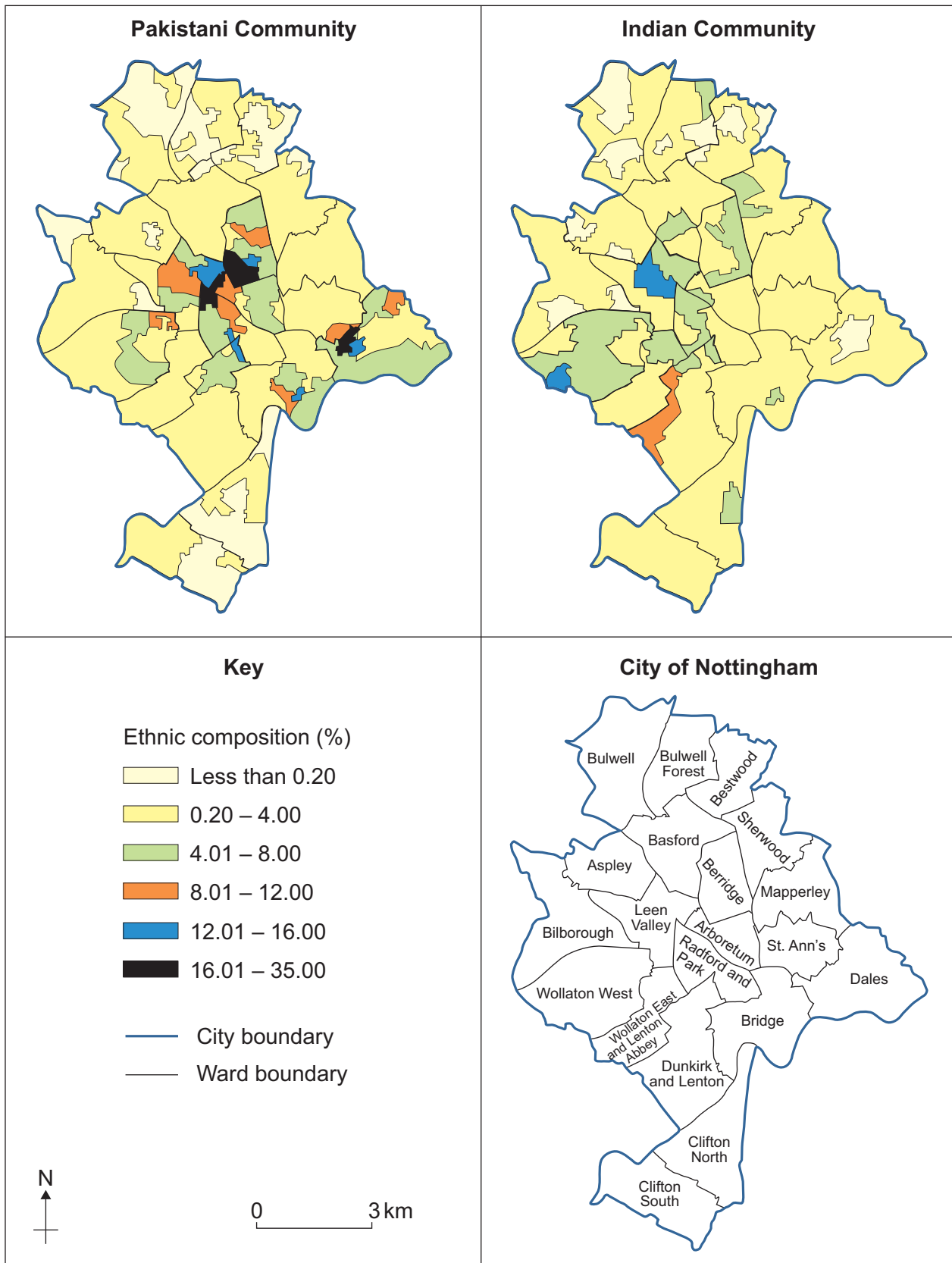
**1 7**

Suggest reasons for the development of multicultural societies in the UK. *(8 marks)*

**1 8**

With reference to examples, discuss the issues related to multicultural societies in the UK. *(10 marks)*

Figure 6



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End of Section B

Turn over ►

## Section C

Answer **one** option from this section.

**You must not answer the option answered in either Section A or Section B.**

### Note to Candidate

You should bear in mind that the essay questions below are synoptic in nature. In your response to these questions you are required to show your knowledge and understanding of different aspects of geography, the connections between these different aspects and, where relevant, of human perspectives upon geographical themes and issues.

#### Option 1 Plate Tectonics and Associated Hazards

1	9
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“Volcanic and seismic events are major pieces of evidence towards proving that plate tectonics theory is valid.”

Discuss the extent to which you agree with this statement. (40 marks)

#### Option 2 Weather and Climate and Associated Hazards

2	0
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“Up and down, up and down – that is how temperature and climate have always gone in the past and there is no proof they are not still doing exactly the same now. In other words, climate change is an entirely natural phenomenon, nothing to do with the burning of fossil fuels.” *David Bellamy*

Discuss the extent to which you agree with this statement. (40 marks)

#### Option 3 Ecosystems: Change and Challenge

2	1
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“Conservation and exploitation are incompatible goals in the management of fragile environments.”

With reference to examples, discuss the extent to which you agree with this statement. (40 marks)

#### Option 4 World Cities

2	2
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With reference to examples, evaluate the success or otherwise of urban regeneration schemes in combating the causes and consequences of urban decline. (40 marks)

#### Option 5 Development and Globalisation

2	3
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Assess the role of social and economic groupings of nations in the world today. (40 marks)

#### Option 6 Contemporary Conflicts and Challenges

2	4
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Analyse the causes of poverty in the world and evaluate attempts to address it on a global scale. (40 marks)

### END OF QUESTIONS

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