

These answers have not been through the AQA approval process.

3 GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

Example answers

1 Outline and explain **two** ways in which official aid may assist the development of poorer countries.

[10 marks]

STUDENT RESPONSE

Aid for poor countries can come in a variety of different forms and provide a range of help.

One way in which aid may assist poorer countries is through multilateral aid from organisations such as UNESCO and the World Bank. This sort of aid usually comes in the form of a grant or a loan to help a country out of a period of poverty, or an LEDC country to help it develop. For example, the World Bank currently has over 600 projects in operation in India alone that total over 100 billion US dollars of aid.

Another form of aid could be through a non-government organisation (NGO) that generate its money from the goodwill of the general public and charity events. One such example is OXFAM, which raises money in its shops by selling second hand goods whilst employing volunteers. This money is then distributed to various places around the world, such as to help fund clean water projects in Africa.

TEACHER COMMENTS

A common mistake for many students is that they concentrate on good knowledge and understanding but forget how the other marks are awarded. This answer has good knowledge, some examples and some clear interpretation. However, there is no real evidence of analysis or evaluation. Can you think how to add analysis to the points that have already been made and how to gain some evaluation marks too?

2 Read **Item A** below and answer the question that follows.

ITEM A

Most development sociologists are agreed that countries with high rates of illiteracy and gender gaps in educational attainment tend to be poorer and underdeveloped. The education of females has the effect of reducing fertility rates and slowing population growth. Infant and child mortality rates also fall and family health improves. Moreover, educated women are more likely to go out to work and contribute to family income. Educated women are also more politically active and better informed about their legal rights.

Applying material from **Item A**, analyse **two** reasons why educating females is regarded as crucial to development.

[10 marks]

STUDENT RESPONSE

The gender related development index (GDI) identifies a clear link between the improvement of female literacy and the improvement of health and childcare. Feminists such as Mitter note that in order to understand childbirth, contraception, sexual infection and abortion, females need to be well educated with access to such information. As mentioned in Item A, in countries where female education has flourished there is a noticeable improvement in both fertility rates and population issues. However, Marxist-Feminists argue that educational development is not providing equality and is simply using educated females as another means to fuel capitalism.

Therefore, although there is evidence that female education is important to development, it is not without its flaws and criticisms from some theorists.

TEACHER COMMENTS

This answer is strong in giving one reason as to why educating females is crucial for development. The paragraph uses good knowledge, builds on and references the item, includes some sociological theory, mentions a key sociologist and includes some analysis of the point at the end of the paragraph, though this could be developed further. Can you repeat this same format and formula for a second paragraph?

3 Read **Item B** below and answer the question that follows.

ITEM B

Most countries of the developing world aspire to the economic growth and wealth experienced by Western nations. However, the evidence suggests that if developing societies ever achieved the West's current level of economic and industrial development, it would put an intolerable strain on the world's resources and ecological stability.

Applying material from **Item B** and your knowledge, evaluate the relationship between development and the environment. [20 marks]

STUDENT RESPONSE

As stated in Item B, it is the aim of developing countries or LEDCs to achieve the economic development achieved by MEDCs. Most notably, those countries in the West act as a model to copy. However, many sociologists identify that the environment of the country itself has an impact on the amount of development and progression that can actually be made.

The first link between development and the environment can be seen in the size of the country, location and its natural resources. For example, some countries have access to oil or the correct climate in order to develop industry. This often acts as a hindrance to some countries if they have areas such as desert. Therefore, a landlocked African country such as Niger would not have the same natural environment to build an infrastructure like the UK. Therefore, some theorists believe that worldwide development is near impossible.

Likewise, in order for industrialisation to occur, there must be access to natural resources as the process creates air, water and land pollution. In some countries this is not possible as the environment is too harsh or there is not access to clean water. It is estimated that almost one billion people still have no access to safe piped water. The air pollution that results from industrialisation would also be far too unsafe in some countries. The effects on some cities in China is a testament to the damage that can occur.

The land and rainfall of a country is also key to development. European countries are cooler than African countries with larger amounts of regular rainfall and so the land can be used to grow crops and harvest. Many African countries suffer what is known as desertification whereby the over-cultivation of land leads to exhaustion and eventually desert. Many fear that this attempt to develop is affecting biodiversity and the extinction of plants, animals and other life forms. The environment of some countries is suitable for this development but for others it is simply not the case.

The effects of urbanisation also differ from place to place. This is where large numbers of the population move from rural areas into the cities. Some countries have the capacity to deal with this as they can continue expanding outwards as the city grows. However, many LEDCs cannot cope with the influx of people, especially if there is a lack of water supply and sanitation. There also needs to be access to technology to reduce air pollution and provide clean air. For many poorer countries, this is not possible.

Marxist theorists believe that this inability to have worldwide development stems from the imbalance in financial power. Many LEDCs do have access to natural resources but they have been impacted by colonisation so that the distribution of wealth has become hugely polarised. This has caused many poorer countries to become reliant on the power of MEDCs and they are often in debt to these nations. This means any money generated tends to be spent on debt rather than being able to reinvest on development.

Therefore, lots of sociologists believe that the only way for countries to develop is through sustainable development rather than rapid development. Marxists believe that the environment and economy of a country has a huge impact on its ability to develop, therefore the issue of financial inequality must be tackled as a priority first before the development of LEDCs can take place.

TEACHER COMMENTS

This essay has lots of good ideas in it but lacks the theory and sociologists to back it up. Other than a brief mention of Marxism there are no specific sociologists used and no other sociological perspectives are mentioned. Can you identify which other theories need to be applied here?

Niger, China and the UK are mentioned in this essay but it would be beneficial to consider some other countries or cities to back up the points that are being made. Can you identify other places you could use to back up the ideas on both industrialisation and urbanisation? Which other examples could be used in the paragraph on Marxism?