

# 2024 DSE (B)

香港考試及評核局  
HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

香港中學文憑考試  
HONG KONG DIPLOMA OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION

## 答題簿 ANSWER BOOK

### 考生須知

- (一) 宣布開考後，考生須首先在第 1 頁之適當位置填寫考生編號，並在第 1、3、5 及 7 頁之適當位置貼上電腦條碼。
- (二) 每題(非指分題)必須另起新頁作答，並須在每一頁的相應試題編號方格填畫「X」號，以表示選答的題號(見下例)，並在第一頁之適當位置填寫作答的試題編號。
- (三) 紙張兩面均應使用，並應每行書寫。不可在各頁邊界以外位置書寫。寫於邊界以外的答案，將不予評閱。
- (四) 如有需要，可要求派發方格紙及補充答題紙。每一紙張均須填寫考生編號、填畫試題編號方格、貼上電腦條碼，並用繩縛於簿內。
- (五) 試場主任宣布停筆後，考生不會獲得額外時間貼上電腦條碼及填畫試題編號方格。

### INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) After the announcement of the start of the examination, you should first write your Candidate Number in the space provided on Page 1 and stick barcode labels in the spaces provided on Pages 1, 3, 5 and 7.
- (2) Start each question (not part of a question) on a new page. Put 'X' in the corresponding question number box on each page to indicate the appropriate question number (see the example below), and write the question number(s) of the question(s) attempted in the space provided on Page 1.
- (3) Write on both sides using each line. Do not write in the margins. Answers written in the margins will not be marked.
- (4) Graph paper and supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number, mark the question number box and stick a barcode label on each sheet, and fasten them with string INSIDE this book.
- (5) No extra time will be given to candidates for sticking on the barcode labels or filling in the question number boxes after the 'Time is up' announcement.

### 例 Example:

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2024 HKDSE  
Geography Paper 1  
Level 3 Exemplar 1

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每題另起新頁作答。  
Start each question on a new page.

### 3ai) Upper course

3aii) It have very steep gradient, as shown in the map the approximately top & bottom line is between 800m to 500m approximately. The discharge is very low as well since only a little water is shown in the photo 3a, also there are at only one tributaries shown in the map. The channel is very narrow since it is surrounded by large rock in the photo 3a, the sediment of the upper course is also large and irregular as shown in the photo 3a, multiple rock with different sizes and not smooth angle are displaced around the channel.

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3bi) The fluvial landform Y is waterfall waterfall, it is not appropriate for promoting water friendly activities. Because the slope gradient for upper course is very steep so it might be dangerous of people to walk on and there will be a risk of flooding since the location of Y are close to the river. The hydraulic action take place that led to the formation of waterfall might lead to collapse of rock again which might hit people.

3b)

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3(i) The section of Shing Mun River from Stage 2 has been widening to increase the water velocity speed and preparing to the increase water-holding capacity so that it can store more water during rainy days to prevent overland flow, also straightening to increase water flow so that the river water will only flow towards one direction only.

3(ii) No, .

It is time-consuming to build an underground stormwater storage tanks so it will be better if we just further modified the channel. It do not solved the flooding since the rainwater takes time to enter underground, and by the time it will already started flooding channel modification is combat the heavy rainwater first. And also it will require the channel mouth to direct the rainwater to the underground stormwater storage tanks so. And it will be difficult to empty the tanks once it is overflow with flood water.

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4a) There are abundant greenery and also more tall advanced building.

4b) The ~~Intert~~ international airport can attract talents from overseas ~~Boston innovation district~~. ~~The industrial landscape~~ will be a very convenient to travel around. There are also many ~~highways~~ so it good transportation since there are many highway located at the ~~ind~~ districts ~~so~~ the talents can move from one place to another place very quick and convenient and also less time-consuming.

In Boston there are also many ~~University~~ University with outstanding engineering and science faculties, which means there are many human resources ~~research~~ resources for the company when the student graduate from their study and the University can be borrowed for its facilities as well by the company. There are also the Boston innovation district with over 300 technology companies, which will led to industrial cluster so that people there can enjoy the agglomeration, where each company is located very near each other, the company can exchange their ideas with each other.

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4(d) Yes, company X will relocate back to US.

Because Company X wanted to adopt a higher level of automation in the assembly process, it will require people with a higher education level but the population with tertiary education in India is only 12.9% which is much less than the US with 30.8%. The growth rate of GDP in India is 7% which is higher than that of US 2%, so it means that US will have to pay more money to the workers there which do not reduce the ~~total~~ labour costs. There are also no more refined labour protection laws in India, meaning US will have to pay more or reduce the working hour, which all in all may bring burden to US as in labour supply and costs. There are also a reduced corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, meaning US ~~no longer~~ <sup>now</sup> need to pay a lower amount of tax which in compare ~~to the~~ <sup>do they with</sup> labour laws in India, going back to US will be much more convenient. And also ~~the~~ there are no need to outsource the robots production line as the ~~financial~~ <sup>the</sup> labour cost is still production cost in India increased a lot, which do not benefit US company X.

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(c) India is the one responsible with the assembling process, because she is a less developed country and US ~~the~~ outcome their production line to countries with ~~that~~ have less labour cost and high amount of labour, as well as less land rent, so they US are ~~multi~~ multi-point production. And the assembling process also do not need a very high level of education to do so, since it is mainly rely <sup>laborious and</sup> rely on labour. They also have lower share of sales revenue of 8%.

US is the processor because US have ~~the highest~~ share of a more advanced technology and also because it is where the headquarter is located. So the most talents will be concentrated there. And it showed that US have the higher share in sale revenue of 46% as well, meaning she is responsible for the

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ai) The trend is increasing.

$$\text{Overall \% change} = \frac{10951 - 4571}{4571} \times 100\% \\ = 139.57 \approx 140\%$$

$$\approx 140\% \text{ (nearest)}$$

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ii) The area of deforestation is increasing is because of the shift in diets and the <sup>globalized</sup> market, because nowadays people like to eat meat more so more cattle ~~are~~ ranching appears which lead to deforestation because they need ~~large~~ large area of flatland to feed and raise the cattle, the <sup>globalization</sup> of market is also one reason because now Brazil is open to the global market more meat is being export to overseas country.

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The poverty and government policy is another reason, because the government is in debt so the government will open their rainforest for the mult-national enterprise which they will use it for economic activities like cattle ranching which often requires deforestation, it shows that the government is ~~privately~~ "poorly-managed" economy.

Urbanization is another reason, because now the government face housing problems but they don't have enough capital, so they will encourage to people will not have to explore the rainforest and live there, as the poor man often move people live there; so the deforestation will increase since they need space to build a house.

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#bi) In short term, the soil will be damaged because of the large number of cattle stepping on it everyday, which compacted the soil making it hard to absorb litter and nutrient on top of surface top soil.

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In long term, because before deforestation needed for providing space for cattle ranching the burning of forest and cutting of rainforest will unbalance the ecosystem. Biomass will decrease rapidly which means there less nutrients for litter and soil will become infertile, which is not suitable for growing. And since there are less tree to absorb the rainfall, heavy rainfall will cause surface run-off meaning litter will be washed away and no nutrients for soil to absorb. And the reduce of Biomass also means the decrease in relative humidity or, meaning there are less tree to evapotranspiration the water to the air so it will not favor the formation of rain which mean there will be less rainfall to bring the nutrients in the air down to the soil. so in long terms the soil will be infertile.

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5(bi) The food chain will decrease and unbalanced. Since there is no enough producers which mean the plant, and this that were deforestation for cattle ranching. It means the consumer will have less food and nutrition which also means the following primary consumer will have a decrease of food resources. In total the meat animals and plants in rainforest will decrease. During the energy flow, energy are already losing due to respiration by consumer and heat by consumer in term of heat, when less there are less tree to cover the ground it means the ground will have to face intense sunlight at all time and that is bad for the soil, making it dry, so crops vegetation can not regenerate nor provide nutrition to the soil, so they will reduce the amount of producer growing in rainforest.

deforested area in

5(c) It is not effective.

Because there are only ~~or~~ a very small amount of harvested area in the Brazilian Amazon so it doesn't really make a difference in the deforestation problem in Amazon. And the remote monitoring technology also cost ~~is~~ it also very costly and since the government is already in debt it will only add more financial burden on them, which in term will move rainforest resources towards the ~~the~~ multi-national companies. And if it will require people with high education ~~for~~ to understand how to control or use the technology, but ~~the~~ Brazil do not have that since ~~she~~ is a low developed

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country, and if she have ~~the~~, she will need to hire talents with high costs as well.

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Southern California is located at the western coast of America at  $30^{\circ}$  to  $36^{\circ}$  N which is a very significant state of agriculture. And now will account for the physical constraints faced by farmers in Southern California.

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Finally, water shortage is one of the physical constraints. Southern California have a very uneven rainfall, of which annual rainfall being 500mm or lower than yearly - which with only one big water source of the Colorado River, and that is very not enough for ~~soil~~ the farmland, since water is very important for crops to grow and also maintain the moisture level of soil so it will not be degraded. Therefore, water shortage is one problem farms faced.

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Secondly, High annual temperature is one of the physical constraints. The high temperature in California ~~Peninsula~~ is very high, with an annual temperature of  $9^{\circ}\text{C}$  to  $33^{\circ}\text{C}$ , it will lead to a high evapotranspiration rate as well which evaporate the water <sup>in</sup> soil very quickly, ~~so~~ making it unfertile for crops to grow, also increase the risk of climate hazards like droughts. Therefore, with less water available in soil and water to use for irrigation ~~is~~ due to high evaporation rate it will lead to crop failure and thus reduce in crop yields in general.

Thirdly, The soil and relief of Southern California is one of the physical constraints. ~~Soil~~ The soil of Southern California is alkaline and infertile,

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the state relief is also very hilly with as it ~~excess~~ excess 400 mm. The scattered gravel and alkaline infertile soil added to little organic matter means there will be less nutrients given to the soil, making the soil infertile and unable to fallen and regenerate. so the soil will be deserted and cannot be used for farming. Therefore, the alkaline soil and the hilly relief are not a great place for farming but Southern California also lacks in flat land. Therefore, hills, hills and alkaline soil are the problem faced by farmers.

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The above are the ~~most~~ physical constraints faced by farmers in Southern California, and now will discuss whether other conservation measures adopted by the local farmers can alleviate these physical ~~constraint~~ constraints in the long run in the following.

Despite having such disadvantage on its agriculture, its physical conditions, Southern California still managed to be one of the most important agriculture states due to the government's support in capital and also technology. And ~~now not~~ ~~any more~~ Therefore, it solved the problem of the physical constraints in the long ~~run~~ run.

Firstly, Irrigation system is one of the measures adopted. Because of the limited water resources, Southern California build a dam to store rainwater.

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and also it is after water is sent so that it can be distributed to farmland by canals, to maintain a sustainable state of water resources, and to prevent water waste, farmers adopted the drip-drip-irrigation, gravity-film irrigation and sprinkler irrigation system to make sure every crops have the most exact amount of water they needed without over watering. Therefore, Irrigation system helps alleviate physical constraints in the long run.

Secondly, Precision farming is one of the measures adopted by farmers. To make sure grain crops growths to very good manner By using machine to measure and monitor the crops and the farm field moisture level, soil texture and water level it can ~~also~~ <sup>farmers</sup> using information technology devices like GPS, after collecting all the data it can let the machine to calculate the exact amount of resource needed so there will not be any wastage of it. Therefore, Water resources can be conserved using machinery to which help reduce the alleviate the physical constraint in the long run.

Thirdly, genetically-modified crops (GMO crops) is one of the measures adopted by farmers. By inserting useful genes from other organism into the crops it can make them resistant to cold or difficult conditions, for example insert cold resistant gene from salmon ~~carrot~~ Salmon / Salmon fish to strawberry can make sure strawberries to

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grow during winter, so that farmers can grow and produce strawberries round the year around. Therefore, GM crops can alleviate the physical constraints in the long run.

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ai) Siltstone

aiii) Clastic sedimentary rock P is formed by pre-existing therefore it will ~~consist~~ have fossil fuel inside the rock. The sedimentary rock is when sediment is deposited along shallow water area or bay, then ~~compacted~~ <sup>the weight of</sup> the sediment will be ~~composed~~ by ~~layer~~ of layering rock and it is called compaction, then if the compacted rock will undergo cementation where minerals compose such as silica will melt and cement the rock compacted rock together and then lithification will turn the to it into solid solid rock. So the rock will have ~~layering~~ structure and bedding plane as like if weakness, because of that sedimentary rock P is the most <sup>least</sup> ~~not~~ less resistant rock towards weathering.

b) Photo 1c is fotoconglomerate, the most resistant rock towards weathering <sup>because of its cement and compacted structure</sup> therefore it will form high hills and mountain. While photo 1b shows an sf siltstone which is the least resistant rock towards weathering since it have ~~it~~ is easy to penetrate water through bedding plane, that and minerals like mica are not stable during hot and dry climate therefore weathering happens ~~too~~ to early. So it can only form low lands like beach or bay.

ci) Honeycomb Weathering

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(ii) The physical weathering problem in (c)(ii) is located to a coastal area, because if that onshore wind would bring salt and seawater to the land and therefore it will seep into the line of weakness of the sedimentary rock at photo 1d, which overcome will ~~too~~ dry up by <sup>as crystal or</sup> sunlight and slowly enlarge the cracks inside the ~~stone~~ <sup>rock</sup>. When all ~~all~~ ~~water~~ the crystal or salt inside the ~~stone~~ <sup>rock</sup> is also evaporated by sunlight it will forms holes in the rock.

d) It is ~~impres~~ The geological characteristics of Area A is important in shaping the physical landscape of the sea. Area A is located at ~~coastal~~ near the sea and it is mostly consist of extrusive and sedimentary rock. Extrusive rock are the second most resistant towards weathering and erosion therefore, it helped to shape headland at the coastal area and extrusive rock's well-compacted structure made it more resistance to weathering so it is able to form high hills with rugged ~~and steep~~ relief, ~~or~~ and angular peak ~~and also steep~~. Therefore, the Elevation of Volcanic rock in Area A is ~~481 m~~ between are 481m and 608m compare to 203m at sedimentary rock.

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Granite is a kind of Intrusive Igneous rock that located at both side of ~~the~~ Victoria Harbour and the eastern part of Lantau Island. It is one of the most common rock in Hong Kong. And now will explain how the characteristic of Granite affect weathering and landslides in Hong Kong.

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Firstly, the formation of Granite is one crucial part of it. Intrusive Igneous rock was formed ~~under~~ ~~at~~ inside the earth crust where magma ~~erupted~~ ~~erupt~~ through ~~the~~ a crack inside earth crust. Slowly the magma will cool down and during crystallization occurs, and ~~since~~ it is its cooling time will be longer than extrusive one due to the fact that they have not ~~been~~ exposed to the surface and solidify immediately. Therefore, since there is a cooling longer time, the crystal formed will be ~~large and~~ larger than the extrusive one, so the interlocking will be weaker. Therefore, granite is not very resistant to weathering.

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Secondly, Granite resistance towards weathering is one factor affecting ~~weathering~~ weathering and landslides. Since granite have a well-jointed structure, water can easily penetrate down the cracks and carry out weathering, so it is very easy to let weathering occurs ~~no~~ matter it is physical or chemical weathering. Because of that landform like tors ~~and~~ and gullies are frequently found, as well as low hill land with gentle ~~rodden~~ <sup>like castle peak</sup> hills. Therefore, granite

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It is not very resistant towards weathering to soil favours weathering in Hong Kong.

Thirdly, granite resistance towards landslides in Hong Kong. As mentioned above, granite's well-jointed structure allows water to seep in and because of that it favours landslides formation. Thus during heavy rainfall, the penetrate in rock appeared after a ~~some~~ time the shear stress can not excess the shear strength and then the slope and overhanging rocks which speed up the collapse and therefore ~~the main cause~~ ~~water~~ ~~washing~~ will collapse due to gravity and accumulated at the foot of the slope. Therefore, Granite favours the landslides.

The above is explain how the characteristics of granite affect weathering and landslides in Hong Kong. And now will discuss whether the building of check dams is an appropriate slope management measure to alleviate the impact brought about by landslides around the granite slopes in the territory.

The purpose of slope management measure ~~is~~ <sup>are</sup> to make sure the shear stress will not excess shear strength so that the slope will not collapse. And the building of check dams ~~is~~ an appropriate slope management.

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Start each question on a new page.

~~Finally, it lacks direct the ability to prevent landslides. Since check dams is build around the slope~~

Firstly, Check dam can reduce damages ~~bring~~ brought by landslides. ~~that's~~ Check dam might not be able to prevent landslide since it is not installed ~~the~~ or on the slope ~~but~~ so it can catch or block falling fragment rocks or slope materials when landslides occurs which can prevent the nearby property and human life being threatened. It can also ~~be used as a buffer zone to~~ slow down the process of flooding and Therefore, check dam can alleviate the impact brought by landslides.

Secondly, Check dam can be used to monitor the slope. If people can ~~#~~:

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# 2024 DSE (B)

香港考試及評核局  
HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

香港中學文憑考試  
HONG KONG DIPLOMA OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION

## 答題簿 ANSWER BOOK

### 考生須知

- (一) 宣布開考後，考生須首先在第 1 頁之適當位置填寫考生編號，並在第 1、3、5 及 7 頁之適當位置貼上電腦條碼。
- (二) 每題(非指分題)必須另起新頁作答，並須在每一頁的相應試題編號方格填畫「X」號，以表示選答的題號(見下例)，並在第一頁之適當位置填寫作答的試題編號。
- (三) 紙張兩面均應使用，並應每行書寫。不可在各頁邊界以外位置書寫。寫於邊界以外的答案，將不予評閱。
- (四) 如有需要，可要求派發方格紙及補充答題紙。每一紙張均須填寫考生編號、填畫試題編號方格、貼上電腦條碼，並用繩縛於簿內。
- (五) 試場主任宣布停筆後，考生不會獲得額外時間貼上電腦條碼及填畫試題編號方格。

### INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) After the announcement of the start of the examination, you should first write your Candidate Number in the space provided on Page 1 and stick barcode labels in the spaces provided on Pages 1, 3, 5 and 7.
- (2) Start each question (not part of a question) on a new page. Put 'X' in the corresponding question number box on each page to indicate the appropriate question number (see the example below), and write the question number(s) of the question(s) attempted in the space provided on Page 1.
- (3) Write on both sides using each line. Do not write in the margins. Answers written in the margins will not be marked.
- (4) Graph paper and supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number, mark the question number box and stick a barcode label on each sheet, and fasten them with string INSIDE this book.
- (5) No extra time will be given to candidates for sticking on the barcode labels or filling in the question number boxes after the 'Time is up' announcement.

### 例 Example:

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2024 HKDSE  
Geography Paper 1  
Level 3 Exemplar 2

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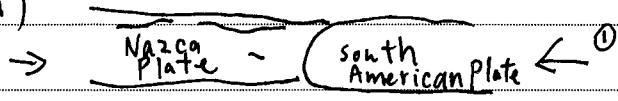
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每題另起新頁作答。

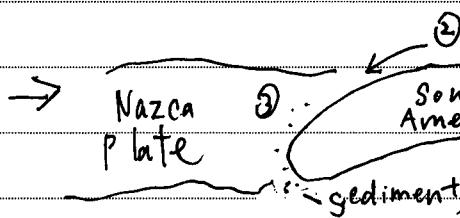
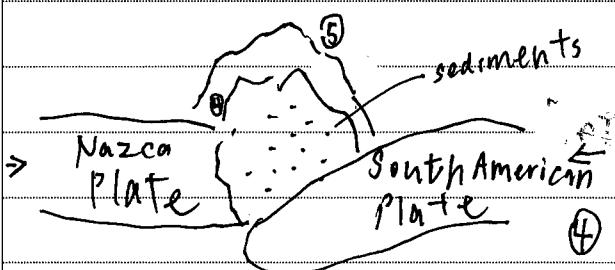
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(a) (i) fold mountain

(ii)



① The continental plate

and oceanic plate converge  
under the destructive  
plate boundary.② Under compressional  
force, the denser plate  
subducts underneath  
the less dense plate.③ Sediments are broken down  
due to the compressional force④ Over time, sediments accumulate  
between the two plates; folding occurs.⑤ As it builds up, exposed to the  
surface, a fold mountain is formed.

(iii) Country Y is located near the coast and is found located along side the destructive plate boundary between Nazca Plate and South American Plate. Earthquakes can trigger tsunamis to occur. Thus, when the two plates are under strong compressional force, an earthquake is possibly occurred if the epicentre has shallow depth from the surface. Also, the plates movement lead waves to inundate in shallow coast, causing high wave height. Tsunami is triggered.

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(b) Back in 2010, the tectonic hazard occurred at midnight 3:34 am., which means most people were asleep and not aware or prepared for the unpredicted natural hazard. Another reason would be the site as the epicentre was very close to a major city <sup>in</sup> of Country Y, meaning large amount of population were affected. Thirdly, the Richter scale was up to 8.8, the height of tsunami even reached 29 m, showing how severe and destructive the tsunami was. Nearly 30% of death toll was related to the tsunami. Lastly, country Y is a less developed country, it possibly didn't have enough capital and technology to monitor the natural hazard or carry out <sup>total</sup> preventive measures in 2010. Since then, the government has put more effort to prevent such high death toll.

(C) From table 2d, the government has taken actions in response to what happened in 2010. Their actions help raise awareness of the public on evacuation plans, better monitor tsunamis and stricter earthquake-resistant building standards. With all these actions, it certainly is useful in minimizing both live and economic loss. Higher-density development could pose risks of more damage caused when another natural hazard occurs even though the government has taken many actions.

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(a) The distract is found in Boston. From 4a, there's green open space, low-density building. Overall a pleasant working environment in the suburbs.

(b) The innovation district has close proximity to universities with outstanding engineering and science faculties. Company X can collaborate with expert teams from those universities to conduct research and development work for their smartphone products. Second, not only with the network of highway and close distance to the international airport, the convenience of this place allow employees and investors to commute easily, but also send related products to other parts of the world quickly as smartphone has a short product life cycle. Additionally, it is close to the coast and can enjoy agglomeration economy as the district has over 300 technology companies. Company X can work with experienced experts, get the latest information and partner with the other companies. Furthermore, headquarters are responsible for the marketing, executive management, design and research and development stages. As the district is in the U.S., there is economic incentive provided by the government, a pool of talent and good innovative copyright protection.

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(c) The component manufacturing process are done in more developed countries as the components require high-tech skilled labour. Each country is responsible to make one type of component. While the assembling process is repetitive, require abundant large supply of low-skilled cheap labour for the mass production. Hence, India, a less developed country where both land and labour are cheap. By having different components produced in different countries, it can be easier to limit mistakes made in the process. Assembling takes the most labour. Therefore, company X with <sup>an</sup> aim to maximise profit and minimise lower production cost chose India as their assembly plant. Smartphone is light, require high-tech and has short product life cycle, which is why this production mode is adopted.

(d) Higher automation will reduce reliance on labour supply. As India have refined the labour protection laws in 2018, it has become less favourable for companies who set up factories there. On the other hand, the U.S. has lower population, higher wages which is unfavourable. Luckily, the corporate tax in the U.S. has been reduced and have stable supply of electricity for the assembling process and might cut down transport cost. Yet India still has lower wages, lower cost of land.

and time to deliver to other areas of the U.S. which is <sup>total</sup> 46% of sales.

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(a) (i) The percentage change is nearly 140%. The trend is increasing significantly.

(ii) One is due to large multi-national corporations deforest the Brazilian Amazon to turn into pastureland in order to carry out large-scale cattle ranching, so that more beef are exported to meet the demand. In 2020, around 90 million cattle were found there and nearly 270 ten thousand tonnes of beef was exported. Other reasons are mostly related to human activities such as logging, plantations, oil drilling and so on. Humans are taking advantage of the natural resources in the Brazilian Amazon.

(b) (i) Huge amount of cattle strangle on top of the soil, it makes it more compacted and degradable. The original rainforest land is turned into pastureland, growing grass for cattle's consumption. This monoculture lead to soil receiving less nutrients from several types to one only. The litter has changed to abundant amount of manure from cattle. long term wise, the soil cannot be replenish, dry, compacted and provide insufficient nutrient. It will slowly degrade.

(ii) It used to be a vast range of species' habitat. Now, it has only grass and cattle. The species have greatly been eliminated due to human using agro-chemicals to get rid of other species and enhance the growth of grass. The food chain is disrupted and shortened, leaving mostly cattle as the consumer and grass as the producer.

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(C) Brazil is a less developed country, with corruption issue. Despite remote monitoring technology, illegal activities still happen. The Brazilian Amazon covers an extensive area, quite hard to be able to monitor every single activity even with the assistance of technology. Moreover, the main drive for illegal cattle ranching in restricted area is because of the profit earned from doing so, some believe the price of destroying the Amazon is less than gaining the profit which is wrong. The consequences of deforestation is almost irreversible, take thousand of years to replenish. On the other hand, these technology can capture evidence of these illegal activities, later arrest the criminals. At the same time, technology like these can discourage further human activities in restricted area as people know the legal consequences, risk of imprisonment and can be tracked down with the technology.

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Southern California faces several physical constraints when it comes to farming. The following are some of the major physical constraints.

Southern California has a Mediterranean climate, arid to semi-arid in nature. Not many crops can adapt to such climate, leading to a more narrow choice of crops to grow for farmers. In summer, it is very hot. While in winter, frost may occur, temperature drop to below 10°C. The difference in temperature between the seasons is extreme, shortening the growing season. Especially in winter, crop failure may happen due to the frost, lowering crop productivity.

Regarding water resources, winter rain occurs, but in the hot summer, rainfall is scarce. Southern California has slow annual rainfall. Even worse is there isn't any major river nearby. Hence, Southern California faces a serious problem of having insufficient irrigation water, decreasing crop yield and the occurrence of drought.

Furthermore, Southern California has a rugged relief which is not favourable to extensive farming activities. Flat land is usually more suitable for farming and makes planning of crop easier, utilise the whole farmland productively.

The soil in Southern California is alkaline, not all crops can be grown with it. In particular, under the hot sun during summer, there's higher rate of evaporation. As capillary action takes place, the irrigation water for the soil evaporates. As a result, the insoluble matter from the alkaline soil are left

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on the surface of the soil, forming a crust of salt. This process is called salinization, further making the soil too alkaline for crops to grow. Slowly making the soil erode, turning the farmland infertile and less productive.

In spite of these physical constraints, farmers have adopted water conservation measures in order to alleviate them.

First is by building aqueducts so that water can be transported from far away water source to the farmland. Farmers build a network of aqueducts, transport water from rivers, even the <sup>water</sup> from melted frost near the mountains. As a result, the supply of water is stable, increase crop yield in the long term.

Secondly, irrigation system switch from sprinkler to drip irrigation. Farmers in Southern California do not lack capital or the education level either. They have the capital and resources to install drip irrigation at their farm in an effort to reduce salinization and reduce the impact on crops. With scientific help from experts, the amount of water needed for each crop is precisely calculated and measured. Not only adding the most suitable amount of irrigation water to reduce waste of water, but also farmers can add agro-chemicals that can enrich the soil nutrients. This method is very sustainable and reduce <sup>the chance</sup> <sub>waste</sub> of waste.

Thirdly, some farmers pump up water stored below ground. Groundwater can be used as irrigation water when

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每題另起新頁作答。

Start each question on a new page.

rainfall is scarce. However, this lowers the water table, may be used up, causing the intrusion of seawater with it and even the collapse of surface if over-reliant.

Local farmers have the knowledge, government's support, the technology, capital and more to combat the physical constraints. They are not likely to be seriously affected by the constraints as they can easily find solutions and change their job unlike farmers in less-developed countries.

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# 2024 DSE (C)

香港考試及評核局  
HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AND ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

香港中學文憑考試  
HONG KONG DIPLOMA OF SECONDARY EDUCATION EXAMINATION

## 答題簿 ANSWER BOOK

### 考生須知

- (一) 宣布開考後，考生須首先在第 1 頁之適當位置填寫考生編號，並在第 1、3 及 5 頁之適當位置貼上電腦條碼。
- (二) 每題(非指分題)必須另起新頁作答，並須在每一頁的相應試題編號方格填畫「X」號，以表示選答的題號(見下例)，並在第一頁之適當位置填寫作答的試題編號。
- (三) 紙張兩面均應使用，並應每行書寫。不可在各頁邊界以外位置書寫。寫於邊界以外的答案，將不予評閱。
- (四) 如有需要，可要求派發方格紙及補充答題紙。每一紙張均須填寫考生編號、填畫試題編號方格、貼上電腦條碼，並用繩縛於簿內。
- (五) 試場主任宣布停筆後，考生不會獲得額外時間貼上電腦條碼及填畫試題編號方格。

### INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) After the announcement of the start of the examination, you should first write your Candidate Number in the space provided on Page 1 and stick barcode labels in the spaces provided on Pages 1, 3 and 5.
- (2) Start each question (not part of a question) on a new page. Put 'X' in the corresponding question number box on each page to indicate the appropriate question number (see the example below), and write the question number(s) of the question(s) attempted in the space provided on Page 1.
- (3) Write on both sides using each line. Do not write in the margins. Answers written in the margins will not be marked.
- (4) Graph paper and supplementary answer sheets will be supplied on request. Write your Candidate Number, mark the question number box and stick a barcode label on each sheet, and fasten them with string INSIDE this book.
- (5) No extra time will be given to candidates for sticking on the barcode labels or filling in the question number boxes after the 'Time is up' announcement.

### 例 Example:

試題編號 Question No. = 3

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2024 HKDSE  
Geography Paper 2  
Level 3 Exemplar 2

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每題另起新頁作答。

Start each question on a new page.

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(a)(i) For low-tech industries, such as textile and raw chemical materials manufacturing, the percentage <sup>v change</sup> dropped nearly 51% within 8 years. It decreased by 8%. For high-tech industries, computer and medicine manufacturing are some examples of it. In 8 years time, it increased by 8%, which the percentage change is around 16%.

(ii) Low-tech industries are <sup>in general</sup> more polluting, less value-added and labour intensive. In recent years with the Environmental Protection Tax implemented in Guangzhou, more and more industries change to high-tech as it is high-value added and <sup>capital and energy intensive</sup> less polluting. Plus, the research and development expenditure also raised by 1.2%, proving the growing significance of high-tech industries and <sup>amounted</sup> capital invested in it. The significance of low-tech industries is declining as wages in Guangzhou is not as low as before and the overall education level of people have rised too. Guangzhou shifted from low-tech dominant to high-tech dominant.

(b)(i) With Guangzhou changing from <sup>focusing</sup> focus on low-tech, polluting industries to high-tech, less polluting industries, the river water quality also improved. In 8 years time, the river water suitable for drinking rised by 17%, to 81%. This

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is evident that the industrial change was able to minimize water pollution, thereby the river water quality is more safe to drink and clean. <sup>the</sup> decline of low-tech industries means less <sup>industrial</sup> discharges in the <sup>local</sup> river. Before, waste from low-tech industrial process would be discharged illegally in the river, polluting the water quality. Luckily, high-tech industries is less polluting so, the water quality has since been less contaminated to the river,

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(ii) As the water quality has improved, the supply of drinking water has increased for citizens, providing more stable supply. Moreover, as the river water is more clean, people can go fishing or play with the water, the river serve <sup>can</sup> as a leisure place for all ages. People can enjoy the river scenery. For environmental impact, the ecosystem of the river is also improved, the reproduction of species, attract birds to catch fish there and more.

(c) Not only do the inter-city cooperation benefit Beijiang's river, but also cities located downstream like Guangzhou. River flow from upper course to lower. When inter-city cooperation similar to the Beijiang one, other places' water will be improved too because the water will eventually flow to theirs. It is essential for cities to unite to work towards river management. Rivers are all connected, if one place from the upper stream doesn't cooperate, the effectiveness of maintaining lower course

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will be reduced, and all efforts will be wasted.

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Since the 1990s, the Zhujiang Delta Region (ZDR) has turned the agricultural region to a <sup>highly</sup> urbanised industrial region, leading adverse impact on agriculture. Back in the days, it was mainly cultivating rice. Since then, ZDR has <sup>become</sup> highly populated urban region.

In 1997, China's Reform and Opening up led to many changes. There was no longer planned economy, <sup>large areas of</sup> land were converted to industrial and urban use. Another factor is the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) setup by the government brought in migrants and oversea investors. These are the background information which played a role in the negative impact on agriculture.

As aforementioned, ZDR went through rapid urbanisation, it caused the loss of farmland. Commercial and residential buildings had higher bid price than farmland. Some farmers saw the opportunity to sell their farmland and convert into urban use. At the same time, urban areas have higher living quality, more job opportunities and higher income. Some farmers left their farmland to work in the urban areas for those reasons. This contributed to many farmland abandoned and converted for urban use, causing a huge decline of farmland.

With the farmers and other people looked for jobs and settled down in urban areas, there was left with few labour for agriculture. Most people find farming labour intensive and earn less income compared to working

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in other fields. The rising living standard made tertiary industry the most important out of all types of industry. As for the importance of agriculture, it continued to fall.

In terms of government policy in recent decades, the importance of high-technology innovation zones is one of the government's main focus. Even in the 80s, <sup>the government offered</sup> SEZs economic incentives and invested huge capital in this area. The agricultural development in ZDR has been neglected as it doesn't generate as much income than newer innovative industries.

Additionally, the rapid urbanisation brought mainly water and soil contamination problems to remaining agricultural land in ZDR. ZDR used to be known for its fine and alluvial fertile soil. However, due to urban activities creating more waste. For instance, more sewage because of higher population and construction waste from <sup>constructing</sup> buildings. These all impact the water and soil quality, making the environment less favourable for agriculture. It affects the quality, quantity of crop and productivity of the land.

With the advancement of sustainable farming technologies, agriculture still remains in ZDR.

Firstly, hydroponics is one kind to deal with the pollution caused by urbanisation. Nutrients, chemicals are added

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to the crops and easily control the growth of crops indoor. Ensuring a suitable environment for them to grow.

Secondly, vertical farming is carried out to combat the problem of loss of farmland<sup>and high land price</sup>. As layers of crops are grown vertically, it can maximize the crop yield within limited space. Thus, ~~maximise the profit~~.

Thirdly, the mechanization of agriculture is able to substitute the lack of labour supply. This way agriculture is less labour intensive and at the same time farmers can easily monitor the growth of crops. Steps like irrigation can be done by machinery.

All in all, there's several advanced technologies that are cost-effective and sustainable to be carried out in ZDR. They increase the crop yield per hectre, reduce the reliance of labour, reduce the chance of crop failure and remain less impacted by urbanisation.

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