OXFORD AQA

INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Please write clearly in block capitals.

Centre number | | | | | | Candidate number | | | | |

Surname _____

Forename(s) _____

Candidate signature _____

I declare this is my own work.

INTERNATIONAL A-LEVEL

GEOGRAPHY

Paper 4 Human Geography 2

Friday 16 January 2026 07:00 UK Time Time allowed: 1 hour 30 minutes

Materials

For this paper you must have:
- a ruler with millimetre measurements
- a calculator, which you are expected to use where appropriate.

Instructions
- Use black ink or black ball-point pen.
- Fill in the boxes at the top of this page.
- Answer **all** questions.
- You must answer the questions in the spaces provided. Do **not** write outside the box around each page or on blank pages.
- All working must be shown.
- If you need extra space for your answer(s), use the lined pages at the end of this book. Write the question number against your answer(s).
- Do all rough work in this answer book. Cross through any work you do not want to be marked.

Information
- The marks for questions are shown in brackets.
- The maximum mark for this paper is 80.
- You may use a bilingual dictionary for this exam.
- You may **not** use an English dictionary.

For Examiner's Use	
Question	Mark
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
TOTAL	

Do not write outside the box

Section A – Changing Places

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

You must answer **all** questions in **Section A**.

Only **one** answer per question is allowed.

For each question completely fill in the circle alongside the appropriate answer.

CORRECT METHOD

WRONG METHODS

If you want to change your answer you must cross out your original answer as shown.

If you wish to return to an answer previously crossed out, ring the answer you now wish to select as shown.

0 1 . 1 Which of the following quotes describes an insider perspective on a place?

[1 mark]

A 'I live in a different country from where I was born, but people speak the same language as me and I feel like I belong here.'

B 'I'm visiting a place on holiday but feel uncomfortable as the culture is very different from that in my own country.'

C 'The pictures of the college I want to go to look great on its website. I can't wait to visit!'

D 'The stories that my parents tell me about the town they grew up in make it sound like a very boring place.'

0 1 . 2 Which of the following describes changing demographic characteristics of a place?

[1 mark]

A The construction of a new railway has reduced the amount of traffic in an area.

B The increase in crime in an area has caused people to feel unsafe at night.

C The increase of university students in an area has caused older people to move out.

D The opening of new offices has increased employment opportunities in an area.

Do not write outside the box

0 1 . 3 Which of the following are **both** examples of investigating places using qualitative data?

[1 mark]

A Conducting a traffic survey in a place **and** analysing a painting of a place. ⬭

B Interviewing a person about a place **and** counting the number of people shopping in a place. ⬭

C Reading a poem about a place **and** listening to a song about a place. ⬭

D Studying a photograph of a place **and** comparing the recycling rates of places. ⬭

0 1 . 4 Which of the following is an example of how continuity in a place has affected the lives of people living there?

[1 mark]

A A factory in a town has provided employment to four generations of the same local family. ⬭

B A housing estate has been built on the edge of a village, blocking views of the countryside for some residents living close by. ⬭

C An abandoned farm has now become a summer camp, providing outdoor education to visiting pupils. ⬭

D An airport has been recently opened in a city, reducing travel time to other parts of the country for local residents. ⬭

Question 1 continues on the next page

Do not write outside the box

0 1 . 5 Which of the following are **both** exogenous factors contributing to the character of a place?

[1 mark]

A Attracting many international students **and** having buildings made of local stone. ⬭

B Being located in a desert region **and** attracting high numbers of immigrants. ⬭

C Having an economy based on manufacturing **and** being located next to a river. ⬭

D Relying on foreign imports **and** being visited by many tourists. ⬭

5

Do not write outside the box

Turn over for the next question

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE
ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED

Do not write outside the box

Figure 1a shows a climate graph for the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Figure 1a

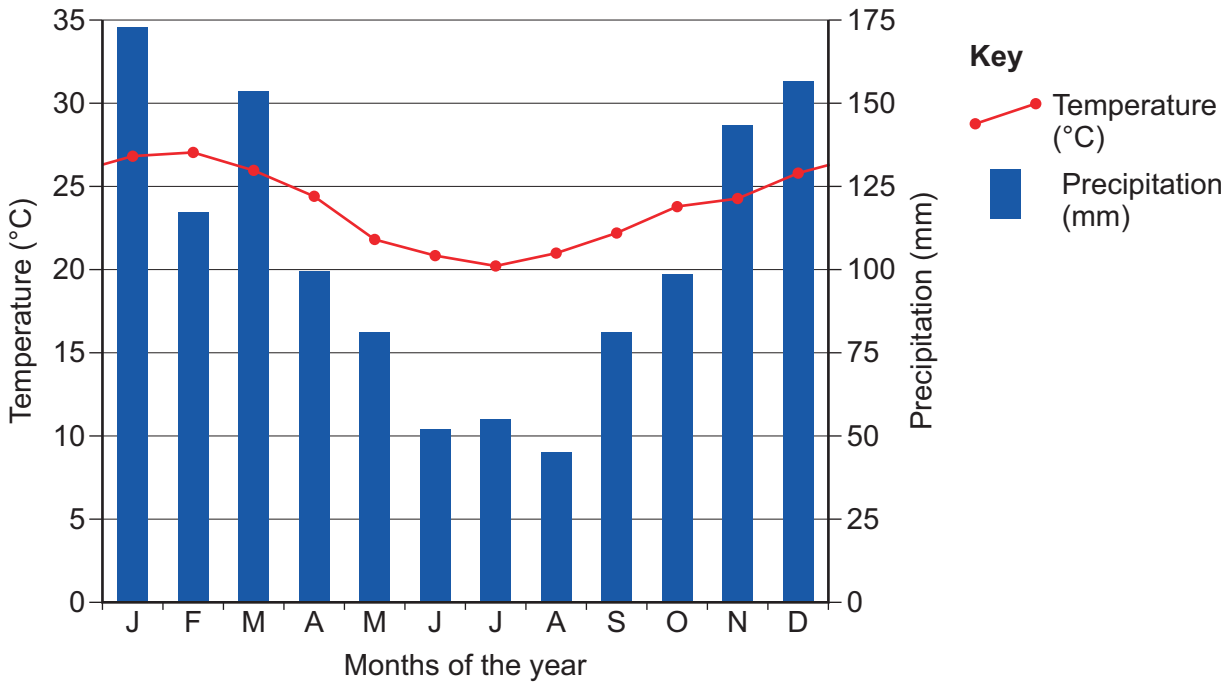
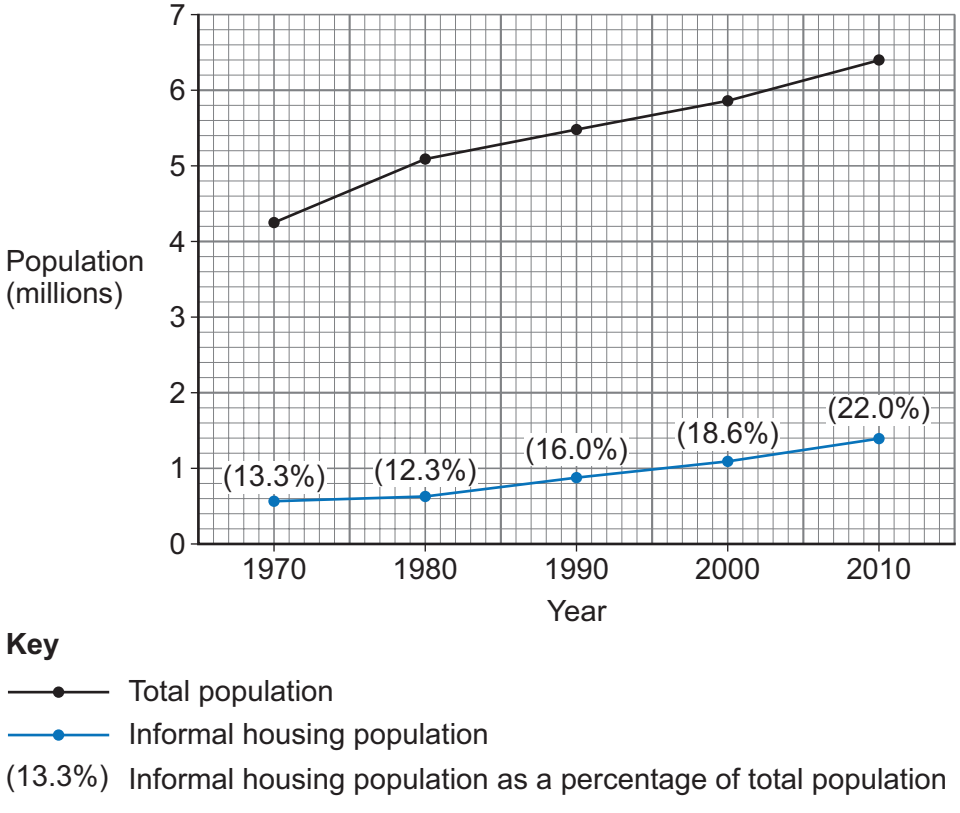


Figure 1b shows total and informal housing population change in the city of Rio de Janeiro between 1970 and 2010.

Figure 1b



Do not write outside the box

Figure 1c shows selected statistical data about the city of Rio de Janeiro.

Figure 1c

Average number of days with precipitation per month	9.3 days per month
Average hours of sunshine per day	8 hours
Average annual income per person (compared with national average)	$23 700 ($20 809)
Total Gross Domestic Product [GDP] (compared with % of national GDP)	$285.9 billion (7%)
Annual tourist numbers	5 million
Population at risk of flooding and landslides (compared with national rank)	444 893 (Ranked 3rd out of 5570 Brazilian cities)

0 2 Using **Figure 1a**, **Figure 1b** and **Figure 1c**, analyse how the data represents the characteristics of the place.

[6 marks]

Extra space

Do not write outside the box

6

0 3 Examine the role of external agencies in creating place meaning.

Refer to **one or more** places you have studied in your answer.

[9 marks]

Do not write outside the box

Extra space _____

9

0 4 To what extent are people's present lived experience of place more positive than their past lived experience of that place?

Use **either** your **local or distant place** example to support your answer.

[20 marks]

Do not write outside the box

Do not write outside the box

Extra space

END OF SECTION A

20

Do not write outside the box

Section B – People and Contemporary Urban Environments

Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided.

You must answer **all** questions in **Section B**.

Only **one** answer per question is allowed.

For each question completely fill in the circle alongside the appropriate answer.

CORRECT METHOD

WRONG METHODS

If you want to change your answer you must cross out your original answer as shown.

If you wish to return to an answer previously crossed out, ring the answer you now wish to select as shown.

0 5 . 1 ‘The spreading out of people, services and employment towards the edge of an urban area.’

This is the definition of which of the following?

[1 mark]

A Counter-urbanisation

B Deindustrialisation

C Suburbanisation

D Urban resurgence

0 5 . 2 Which of the following describes the characteristics of the informal sector of an urban economy?

[1 mark]

A High income employment (eg a politician), with no sick pay.

B Low income employment (eg a shoe-shiner), with strict environmental laws.

C Regularly paid employment (eg a police officer), with fixed hours.

D Unreliably paid employment (eg a street trader), often paying no tax.

Do not write outside the box

0 5 . 3 Which of the following describes the characteristics of a post-modern city?

[1 mark]

A A city with a large central business district and clearly defined urban zones. ⬭

B A city with a historical core containing buildings such as a castle or a large religious building. ⬭

C A city with large areas of informal housing and an economy dominated by manufacturing. ⬭

D A city with multiple centres and an unusual mix of architecture with different styles. ⬭

0 5 . 4 Which of the following are **both** characteristics of urban precipitation compared to its surrounding rural area?

[1 mark]

A Higher total precipitation **and** higher chance of thunderstorms. ⬭

B Lower chance of thunderstorms **and** fewer days with snow lying on the ground. ⬭

C Lower total precipitation **and** more days with snow lying on the ground. ⬭

D More days with rain **and** lower chance of thunderstorms. ⬭

0 5 . 5 Which of the following is a common environmental impact of energy recovery from waste?

[1 mark]

A Increased air pollution, including ash particulates and increased carbon dioxide emissions. ⬭

B Increased amounts of uncollected waste in housing areas, which attract rats. ⬭

C Increased risk of groundwater supplies not being safe to drink, as a result of burying hazardous waste. ⬭

D Increased volumes of waste going to landfill, leading to a reduction in green space. ⬭

5

Do not write outside the box

Figure 2a shows the global distribution of world cities in 2000.

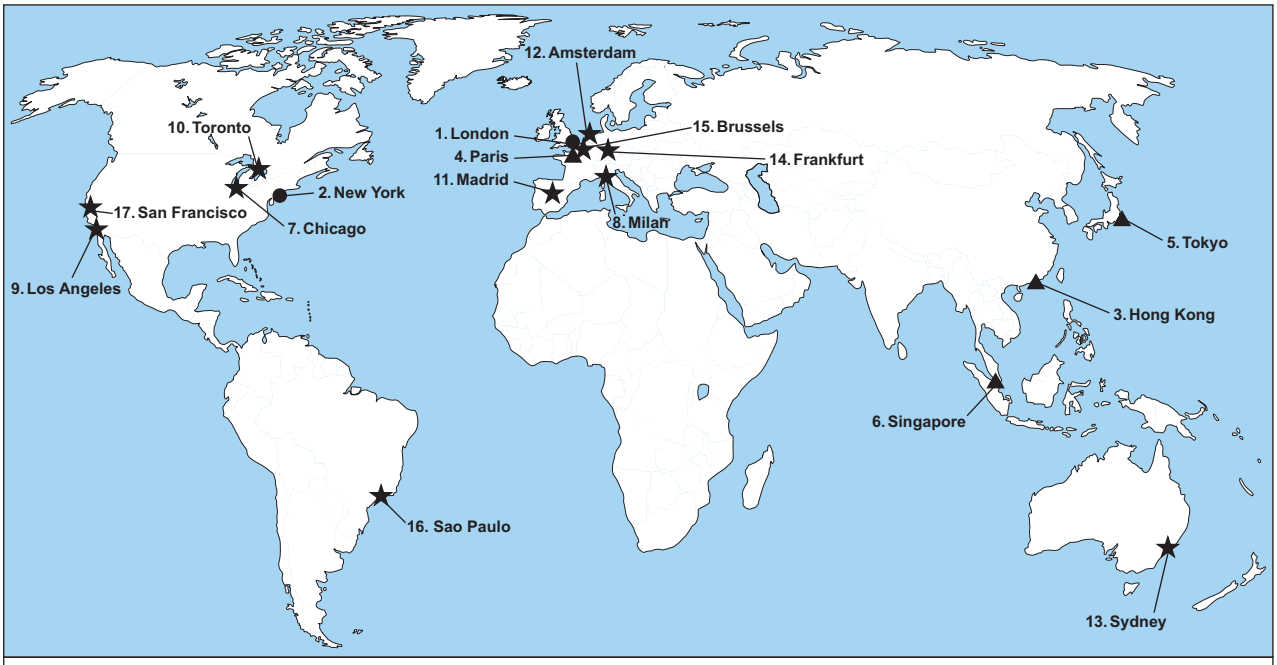
Figure 2b shows the global distribution of world cities in 2024.

Alpha++ world cities are the most important cities in the global economy.

Alpha+ world cities are extremely important in the global economy but not as important as Alpha++ world cities.

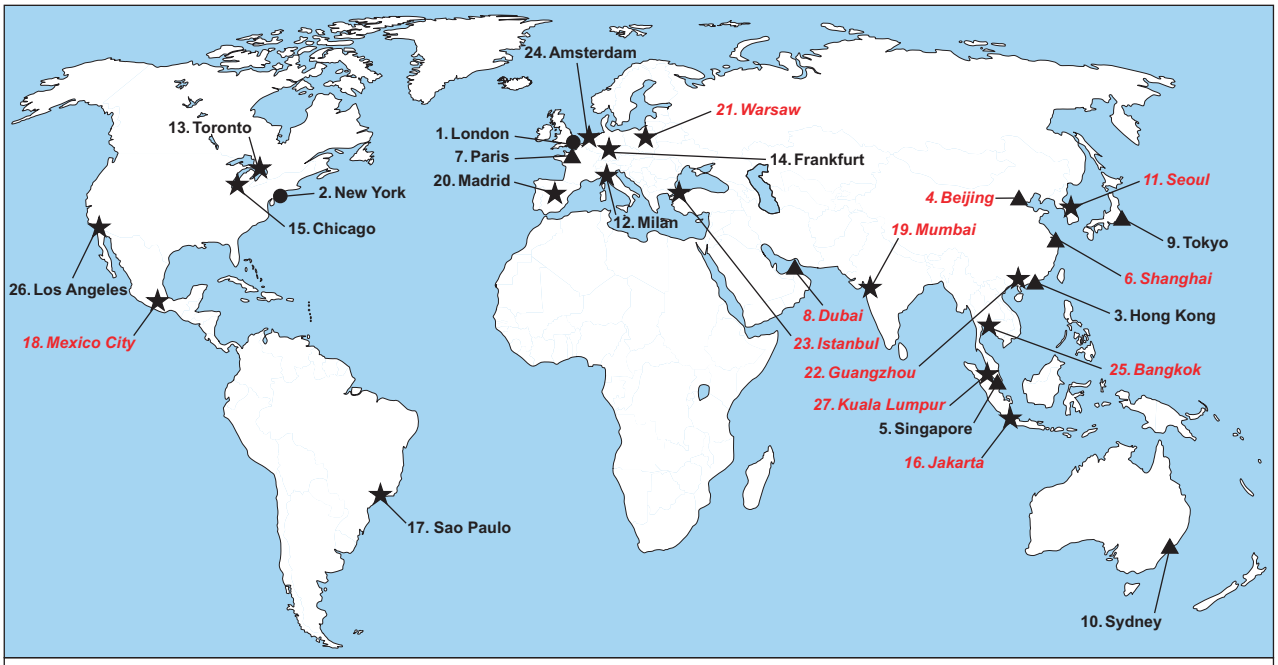
Alpha world cities are very important in the global economy but not as important as Alpha+ or Alpha++ world cities.

Figure 2a



Do not write outside the box

Figure 2b



Key: ● = Alpha++ world city ▲ = Alpha+ world city ★ = Alpha world city

1. = Overall world city ranking *16. Jakarta* = New entry in 2024

0 6 Analyse the changes in the global distribution of world cities from 2000–2024, shown in **Figure 2a** and **Figure 2b**.

[6 marks]

Do not write outside the box

Extra space _____

6

0 7 Examine the role of economic processes in encouraging urban growth.

Use **one or more** urban areas you have studied to support your answer.

[9 marks]

Do not write outside the box

Extra space _____

9

0 8 Assess the opportunities and challenges in making cities sustainable.

Use examples from contrasting urban areas to support your answer.

[20 marks]

Do not write outside the box

Do not write outside the box

Extra space _____

END OF QUESTIONS

20

Do not write outside the box

There are no questions printed on this page

DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE
ANSWER IN THE SPACES PROVIDED

Do not write outside the box

Question number	**Additional page, if required.** **Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.**

Do not write outside the box

Question number	**Additional page, if required.** **Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.**

Do not write outside the box

Question number	**Additional page, if required.** **Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.**

Do not write outside the box

Question number	**Additional page, if required.** **Write the question numbers in the left-hand margin.**

Copyright information

For confidentiality purposes, all acknowledgements of third-party copyright material are published in a separate booklet. This booklet is published after each live examination series and is available for free download from www.oxfordaqa.com

Permission to reproduce all copyright material has been applied for. In some cases, efforts to contact copyright-holders may have been unsuccessful and OxfordAQA will be happy to rectify any omissions of acknowledgements. If you have any queries please contact the Copyright Team.

Copyright © 2026 OxfordAQA International Examinations and its licensors. All rights reserved.