Chapter 8: Climate and vegetation

QUESTION 1: Cambridge IGCSE Geography 0460/11 Q4 November 2009

(a) Study Fig. 7, which shows the location of areas with a tropical rain forest ecosystem.

(i) What is meant by the term ecosystem? [1]

(ii) Describe the distribution of areas with a tropical rain forest ecosystem. [2]

(iii) Explain why areas of tropical rain forest have a high annual precipitation. [3]

(iv) Explain the effects of climate on the natural vegetation in tropical rain forests. [4]
(b) Study Fig. 8, which shows deforestation of an area of tropical rain forest.

Describe and explain the likely effects of deforestation on:

(i) food chains; [3]
(ii) rivers. [5]

(c) Name an area of tropical desert which you have studied. Describe and explain the main features of its climate. [7]

[Total: 25 marks]
QUESTION 2: Cambridge IGCSE Geography 0460/01 Q3 June 2008

(a) Study Fig. 5A, which shows the location of the Mojave Desert, along with Fig. 5B, a graph showing its climate.
(i) Estimate the total annual precipitation in the Mojave Desert. [1]

(ii) What is the annual temperature range in the Mojave Desert? You must show how you worked out your answer. [2]

(iii) Describe the location of the Mojave Desert. [3]

(iv) Explain why tropical desert areas, such as the Mojave Desert, are hot and dry. You may use labelled diagrams or sketch maps in your answer. [4]

(b) Study Photograph D (Insert), which shows vegetation in part of the Mojave Desert.

(i) Describe the main features of the vegetation shown in Photograph D. [3]

(ii) Explain the effects of climate on the natural vegetation in tropical desert areas. [5]

(c) Many areas of natural vegetation are at risk from human activities. Name either an area of tropical rain forest or tropical desert which you have studied and explain why and how it is at risk from human activities. [7]

[Total: 25 marks]