

Oxford Revise | Geography | Answers

Chapter 10

All exemplar answers given are worth full marks.

1.1 A

1.2 This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
2 (clear)	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound, organised and relevant throughout, using supporting evidence and examples • Communicates good knowledge and understanding • Communicates using developed statements and ideas (e.g. uses connectives) • Uses geographical terms and vocabulary
1 (basic)	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic throughout with limited supporting evidence and/or examples • Communicates limited knowledge and understanding • Explanations are partial • Little or no use of geographical terms and vocabulary
	0	No relevant content

Example answer: *Hot deserts are found 30° north and south of the equator where the Hadley and Ferrel cells meet. Close to the equator, temperatures are hot because there is relatively high insolation and the sun's energy is concentrated. It is dry because there is sinking air creating an area of high pressure with few clouds. This creates a dry climate.*

1.3 Rainfall in Salah is low throughout the year. The highest rainfall is in **November** where there is **5** mm of rain. There is no rainfall between March and July and September and October. The maximum temperature is high throughout the year, reaching a peak of 41°C in **July / August**.

1.4 **Accept** June, July, or August

1.5 8°C

1.6 6°C

Working:

Temperature values in ascending order: 28, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 35, 36, 36, 36

Median: $(32 + 34) \div 2 = 33$

Median of top half: $(35 + 36) \div 2 = 35.5$

Median of bottom half: $(29 + 30) \div 2 = 29.5$

Inter-quartile range: $35.5 - 29.5 = 6^\circ\text{C}$

1.7 6.6 mm

1.8 79 mm

1.9 Deserts are cold at night because there are no clouds to trap any heat.

2.1 **Accept any of:** low biodiversity; very hot temperatures; low precipitation

2.2 Soils are dry with few nutrients.

2.3 This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
2 (clear)	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound, organised and relevant throughout, using supporting evidence and examples • Communicates good knowledge and understanding • Communicates using developed statements and ideas (e.g. uses connectives) • Uses geographical terms and vocabulary
1 (basic)	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic throughout with limited supporting evidence and/or examples • Communicates limited knowledge and understanding • Explanations are partial • Little or no use of geographical terms and vocabulary
	0	No relevant content

Example answer: *The soils gain their nutrients from decaying dead plants and animals. In turn, the soils provide nutrients for plants to grow, which then provide food for animals. Plants also help to bind the soil together and their leaves help keep moisture in the soil, which is needed for plant growth.*

2.4 Hot deserts have high atmospheric pressure and very dry climates. This leads to soils being dry with little vegetation and few animals. They therefore have low biodiversity.

2.5 This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
2 (clear)	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound, organised and relevant throughout, using supporting evidence and examples • Communicates good knowledge and understanding • Communicates using developed statements and ideas (e.g. uses connectives) • Uses geographical terms and vocabulary
1 (basic)	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic throughout with limited supporting evidence and/or examples • Communicates limited knowledge and understanding • Explanations are partial • Little or no use of geographical terms and vocabulary
	0	No relevant content

Example answer: *Biodiversity can be influenced by climatic factors like rainfall. Where there is little rainfall, there tends to be low biodiversity because plant life requires water to thrive. This is true in hot deserts where the high temperatures combine with low rainfall to leave these ecosystems with little variety of plant life. This tends to lead to few animals because there are few plants to support a lot of animal life.*

2.6 Camels have adapted to the sandy environment by having wide feet that do not sink into the sand.

Accept other suitable examples.

2.7 This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
3 (detailed)	7–9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough, detailed, organised, and relevant throughout with supporting evidence and examples • Communicates detailed, clear knowledge and understanding • Communicates using developed statements and ideas (e.g. uses connectives to fully explore ideas) • Good use of geographical terms and vocabulary
2 (clear)	4–6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound throughout with some supporting evidence and examples • Communicates some knowledge and understanding • Communicates using linked statements and ideas (e.g. uses connectives, but needs further development) • Some use of geographical terms and vocabulary
1 (basic)	1–3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic throughout with limited supporting evidence and/or examples • Communicates limited knowledge and understanding • Communicates using simple statements that are not developed • Little or no use of geographical terms and vocabulary
	0	No relevant content

3-marks: SPaG (spelling, punctuation, grammar, and specialist terminology)

Marks	Description
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate spelling and punctuation • Rules of grammar followed • Effective control of meaning • Uses wide range of specialist terms
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally accurate spelling and punctuation • Most rules of grammar followed • General control of meaning • Uses good range of specialist terms
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasonably accurate spelling and punctuation • Some rules of grammar followed – errors do not hinder meaning • Some control of meaning • Limited use of specialist terms
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writes nothing • Does not relate to question • Basic grasp of spelling, punctuation, and grammar prevents clear meaning

Example answer: *Hot deserts provide a difficult environment for plants and animals. Temperatures are extremely hot, there is little rainfall, and soil quality is poor with little vegetation for animals to feed on. Some plants like cacti have adapted to this environment by storing water in their stems and having long root systems so that they can access water from a wide area. Their waxy skins also help to reduce the amount of moisture lost to transpiration. These adaptations allow them to thrive in low rainfall and hot environments.*

Animals like jerboas are nocturnal, so they avoid the heat of the day and are awake at night when it's cooler. Other animals like camels have adapted to the environment by having leathery mouths that allow them to eat spiky plants containing water. The hump of camels is a fat store, so that they can survive for long periods of time without food or water. This is important because of the sparse hot desert environment where there are not many food and water sources. Finally, the wide feet of camels allow them to walk easily in the desert without sinking into the sand. This means they expend less energy when walking around the desert.

3.1 Tundra ecosystems have low lying vegetation like moss.

Accept other suitable answers.

3.2 This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
2 (clear)	3–4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sound, organised and relevant throughout, using supporting evidence and examples • Communicates good knowledge and understanding • Communicates using developed statements and ideas (e.g. uses connectives) • Uses geographical terms and vocabulary
1 (basic)	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic throughout with limited supporting evidence and/or examples • Communicates limited knowledge and understanding • Explanations are partial • Little or no use of geographical terms and vocabulary
	0	No relevant content

Example answer: Plants in tropical rainforests face a challenge of accessing light. The vegetation is so dense in the rainforest that the forest floor is very dark. Plants are therefore in a constant battle for light and rely on adaptations to survive. They must also survive in an extremely wet environment. This means their leaves might rot if the regular rainwater is left sitting on them. Adaptations like drip tip leaves can help them survive in this environment.

3.3 Subsistence agriculture is when local people use land to grow food for themselves and their families. It is causing rainforest deforestation because of the large numbers of farmers clearing land to grow crops. As the soils quickly lose their nutrients, farmers must clear more land. Subsistence agriculture accounts for about 25% of deforestation in the Amazon.