

Oxford Revise | Geography | Answers

Chapter 7 What makes a landscape distinctive?

All exemplar answers given are worth full marks.

1 (a)

- (i) what we see when we view the surface of the Earth, whether it is natural or the result of human actions
- (ii) There are the natural features such as the rocks, landforms, rivers, and lakes. The human features are the land uses, the built environment, and the infrastructure. The biological landscape covers the plants, animals, and the different ecosystems and habitats.

(b)

- (i) C
- (ii) They are formed from materials eroded and deposited by rivers and the sea.

(c) Lowland areas of the UK generally consist of more easily eroded sedimentary rocks.

(d) This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
3	6–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thorough knowledge, understanding or analysis of the issue, process or concept. • Uses well-developed ideas and line of reasoning is clear and logically structured. • Information presented is relevant and substantiated.
2	3–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasonable knowledge, understanding or analysis of the issue, process or concept. • Uses developed ideas and line of reasoning with some structure. • Information presented is mostly relevant and supported by some evidence.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic knowledge, understanding or analysis of the issue, process or concept. • Uses simple ideas with no developed points made. • Information is basic, unstructured, and supported by limited evidence.
	0	No response or no response worth of credit.

Example answer: *The Lake District and the Weald in Kent and Sussex both contain some sedimentary rocks. The Lake District, however, is an upland area compared with the lower land of the Weald. This is because most of the rocks of the Lake District are more resistant to erosion, consisting of sedimentary shales, some of which has been turned into metamorphic slate which is even more resistant. There are also areas of resistant limestone. This has created a mountainous landscape which includes the highest mountain in England. The Weald is lower because its geology is dominated by less resistant sedimentary chalk, clays, and sandstones. This has resulted in a gently rolling lowland landscape of hills and valleys. The Lake District's landscape was greatly affected by glaciation during the Ice Age. Glaciers created deep U-shaped valleys now filled with ribbon lakes and misfit streams. Freeze-thaw and mass movement has created scree slopes at the bottom of the slopes on the side of the valleys. Different rates of erosion have*

created a landscape of scarps and vales in the Weald. The more resistant chalk forms the escarpments with the less resistant clay eroded down to vales. The main processes involved in the formation of the landscape was chemical weathering of the chalk and river erosion in the vales.

2

- (a)** Average rainfall in the UK varies markedly, from less than 600 mm a year in the east of England to over 2 400 mm a year in north-west Scotland. Upland areas, such as the North-West Highlands, Grampian Mountains and Southern Uplands of Scotland, the Cumbrian Mountains and Pennines in England, and the Cambrian Mountains in Wales, all have rainfall totals exceeding 1 800 mm, with over 2 400 mm in some parts of north-west Scotland. In contrast, much of the rest of England except the south-west has less than 800 mm of rain a year, with eastern England, including the Fens, having less than 600 mm a year.
- (b)** Farming supported by the thick, fertile soils associated with lowland landscapes is distinguished by the presence of farms and field patterns bounded by hedges, ditches, and walls. In addition, there are the farm buildings and stores for machinery. In parts of the country like East Anglia, the hedges and fences have been removed to produce larger fields.
- (c)** There will be economic activities such as agriculture, forestry, quarrying, and manufacturing. Settlements will include farms, hamlets, villages, towns, and cities There will be evidence of the transport infrastructure, such as roads, railways, ports, and airports.
- (d)** Climate refers to long-term weather conditions averaged over 30 years, whereas weather refers to day-to-day temperatures, precipitation, humidity, and wind speed.

Questions referring to previous content

3

- (a)** The evidence for past climate change can come from ice cores from Antarctica and Greenland, a study of landforms shaped by ice during cold glacial periods, tree ring analysis, and old diaries, photos, paintings, and harvest records.
- (b)** The Earth's climate has changed naturally and regularly throughout the past, most notably following a regular cycle of warm periods and cold periods, some of which became Ice Ages. Glacial periods, and especially Ice Ages, have had a huge influence on UK landscapes, such as the Highlands of Scotland, the Welsh Mountains, and the Lake District, with glaciers creating deep U-shaped valleys and hollows now filled with lakes. The lowland areas were covered by ice sheets which melted when the temperatures rose and deposited large amounts of glacial till or boulder clay. During the cold periods, freeze-thaw weathering processes dominate, but chemical and biological weathering processes were more important in the warm periods.