

Oxford Revise | Geography | Answers

Chapter 41 Oil

All exemplar answers given are worth full marks.

1. a)

i) 2022

ii) 2016

iii) The average price has fluctuated significantly since 2006, but the overall trend was for prices to increase. The lowest was 40.76 US\$ in 2016 and the highest price was 105.1 US\$ in 2022, which is more than double. The largest single increase was between 2020 and 2022. 2020 saw a reduced energy demand because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

iv) 1. There is increased demand for energy globally because of industrialisation in emerging economies such as in China.
2. Increased wealth in the emerging economies of Asia leads to higher levels of car ownership and so an increased demand for energy.

b)

i) CPC Pipeline

ii) The oil fields are located across the Caspian Sea region in three linear belts. These are along the south-eastern shoreline of the Caspian Sea following the line of the CPC Pipeline and a line along the Russian and Kazakhstan border. There are some isolated oil fields to the east of the Caspian Sea. The refineries are close to pipelines on or close proximity to the shoreline of Caspian Sea. There are three refineries close to Baku.

iii) The oil refineries are close to the oil fields to reduce the cost of transporting oil from field to refinery. They are located near to clusters of oil fields, so that when one oil field runs dry there are others close by, allowing for a continuous supply.

2. a)

i) When a country buys more oil from other countries than it sells to them over a given period

ii) 1. Petrol and diesel to use in cars and lorries
2. Petrochemicals

iii) Oil consumption increases

iv) A rising consumer market increases oil consumption because it creates increased demand for products made using oil, such as toys, domestic appliances, digital devices, clothing, and medicines. It also results in increased car ownership, which drives up oil consumption in the form of fuel. This demand for consumer goods also leads to industry growth to meet the demands, which causes greater oil consumption when fossil fuel energy is used to power factories.

b) This question is level-marked:

Level	Marks	Description
3	6–8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accurate understanding of concepts and the interrelationship of places, environments and processes. • Applies understanding to deconstruct information and make logical connections throughout. • A balanced, well-developed argument. Judgements are supported with evidence throughout. • Uses geographical skills to obtain accurate information that supports arguments.
2	3–5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some understanding of concepts and the interrelationship of places, environments and processes. • Applies understanding to deconstruct information and make some logical connections. • Imbalanced argument with mostly relevant information. Judgements are occasionally supported with evidence. • Uses geographical skills to obtain accurate information that occasionally supports arguments.
1	1–2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated elements of understanding of concepts and the interrelationship of places, environments and processes. • Attempts to apply understanding to deconstruct information but this is flawed. • Unbalanced or incomplete argument with limited understanding. Judgements are supported with limited evidence. • Uses some geographical skills to obtain information with limited relevance and accuracy.
	0	No acceptable response

Example answer: *Changing international relations very much affect the availability of supply and the price of oil. Most oil-producing countries belong to OPEC, and they can decide to increase or decrease the amount of oil they produce. If they want to increase the price of oil, these countries decide to reduce the amount of oil they allow onto the world market. Political unrest and wars can affect the supply of oil. During the war with Ukraine, Russia threatened to cut the supply of oil to the West. Western countries decided not to buy oil from Russia. Both actions pushed up the price.*

The rising consumer market is strongly linked to increasing wealth. This has increased demand for products made from oil, particularly those linked to petrochemical industries. This is happening in the emerging countries of south-east Asia, like Thailand and Indonesia. Examples of these items sold in shops include a wide range of plastics, such as toys, domestic appliances, digital devices, clothing, and medicines. The rising consumer market in China led to increased car ownership and so increased fuel consumption. Consumer products will contribute to increased levels of industrialisation. New and growing industries will need increased energy and this demand may be met by oil. Industrialisation is a sign that a country is developing, so several African countries' demand for oil is increasing.

3. a)

- i)** 1. The burning of the oil would likely have caused an interruption in oil production, causing Iraq to lose revenue.
2. There would likely have been wider global impacts too, as reduced availability of oil would have caused global prices to rise.
- ii)** There may have been a negative impact on air quality. Carbon emissions would have increased, leading to a greater release of carbon dioxide which contributes to climate change. Aquatic ecosystems may have been damaged, as oil can run off into water channels, causing pollution. When oil spills on the surface of the soil, it leaves an oily residue, so habitats may have been damaged and local wildlife may have been killed.