

Criteria B

Geography E-Assessment

Statement of Inquiry Examples:

- Urban areas can be better managed when local people are involved.
- Communities work together to bring about change
- The extraction of natural resources can have a great impact on human and natural environments.
- Human activities can change the natural environment.

Sample Questions

These will all be based on a statement of inquiry given to you on the exam. Sample answers can be found in the marking scheme at the end of this document.

- With reference to the statement of inquiry, formulate a clear and focused research question. (2)
- Justify the relevance of your research question to the statement of inquiry. (4)
- List one relevant source of primary data. (1)
- List one relevant source of secondary data. (1)
- Outline how the source of primary information/data you stated would help your investigation (2)
- Outline how the source of secondary information/data you stated in would help your investigation (2)
- The internet is one source of information. Outline how you would check the reliability of sources on the internet. (2)
- Outline one problem or challenge you might face when carrying out your research (2)
- State two sub-questions relevant to the investigation. (2)
- State one piece of equipment you would need to complete this form of data collection. (1)
- List two stakeholders who might have an interest in your investigation. (2)
- Justify why one of the individuals or groups you listed above would have an interest in your investigation. (2)
- The internet is one source of information. Outline how you would check the reliability of sources on the internet. (2)
- Outline one further step you would take to complete the action plan. (2)
- Evaluate geographical investigation completed by other students. (USE STRENGTHS - LIMITATIONS - APPRAISAL as titles to guide you) (8)

Sample 1:

Question 2a – Criterion B

Formulate a clear and focused research question to investigate the statement of inquiry:

"Urban areas can be better managed when local people are involved."

(4 marks)

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	
1–2	The student formulates a research question that is clear and/or focused, with a limited connection to the statement of inquiry.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (2 marks) . "How can pollution in Beijing be reduced?" Note: If the statement of inquiry is simply changed into a question, (1 mark) can be awarded.
3–4	The student formulates a research question that is clear and focused with a clear connection to the statement of inquiry.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (3 marks) . "How can the air quality in Beijing be improved?" The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (4 marks) . 'How can local communities help to improve air quality in Beijing?'

Question 2b – Criterion B

Justify the relevance of your research question to the statement of inquiry.

(4 marks)

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	
1–2	The student states the relevance of the research question.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (2 marks) . "It is relevant because pollution has a negative effect on the health of the people who work there."
3–4	The student justifies the relevance of the research question.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (3 marks) . "It is relevant because air pollution has a negative effect on the health of the people who work there. If the air quality is not improved companies could move elsewhere." A response that mentioned this resulting in a loss of jobs could be awarded (4 marks) .

Question 2c – Criterion B

List **two** individuals or groups who might have an interest in your investigation.

(2 marks)

Responses **may** include:

- company owners
- government health officials
- commuters
- environmentalists.

Accept any other valid response that refers to individuals or groups who could be clearly linked to the investigation.

Question 2d – Criterion B

Justify why **one** of the individuals or groups you listed in part (c) would have an interest in your investigation.

(2 marks)

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	
1	The student states why one individual or group would have an interest in their investigation.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (1 mark) . Company owners should be interested because if their employees are unhealthy they are more likely to be absent from work.
2	The student justifies why one individual or group would have an interest in their investigation.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (2 marks) . Company owners should be interested because if their employees are unhealthy they are more likely to be absent from work, which could negatively impact on output or profit.

Question 2e – Criterion B

State one method of primary information/data collection you would use to help investigate your research question.

(1 mark)

Responses **may** include:

- questionnaire
- measuring air pollution
- taking photographs
- environmental quality survey (EQS).

Accept any other valid response.

Question 2f – Criterion B

Outline how the method* of primary information/data collection stated in part (e) would help you investigate your research question.

(2 marks)

Note: The response should make the connection between the method and the validity of the data collected in respect of the investigation.

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	
1	The student states how the method of primary information/data collection would help their investigate their research question.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (1 mark) . "A questionnaire can be designed to fit your own purpose."
2	The student outlines how one method of primary information/data collection would help investigate their research question.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (2 marks) . "A questionnaire can be designed to fit your own purpose and is a relatively quick and easy way to collect data."

Question 2g – Criterion B

State one source of secondary information/data you would use to help investigate your research question.

(1 mark)

Responses **may** include:

- government statistics
- satellite imagery
- media coverage
- NGO research.

Accept any other valid response.

Question 2h – Criterion B

Outline how the source of secondary information/data you stated in part (g) would help your investigation.

(2 marks)

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	
1	The student states how the source of secondary information/data would help their investigation.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (1 mark) . "Government statistics can provide reliable data."
2	The student outlines how the source of secondary information/data would help their investigation.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded (2 marks) . "Government statistics can provide reliable data over a period of time on a range of indicators."

Sample 2:

Question 4

Now that you have evaluated the consultant's action plan in question 3, you will take on the role of a researcher who has been asked to plan an investigation into issues relating to natural resource management.

The following is the statement of inquiry you need to base your investigation on:

"The extraction of natural resources can have a great impact on human and natural environments."

Question 4a

With reference to the statement of inquiry, **formulate** a clear and focused research question.

(2 marks)

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	
1	The student formulates a research question that is clear and/or focused, with a limited connection to the statement of inquiry	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 1 mark . To what extent is the extraction of fossil fuels from the sea impacting marine life? <i>In the example above, the RQ is clear (you can easily understand the intention of the investigation) and is connected to the statement of inquiry. However, the question lacks focus as it doesn't, for example, specify a location or time period.</i>
2	The student formulates a research question that is clear and focused with a clear connection to the statement of inquiry.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 2 marks . To what extent is the drilling for natural gas in the Caspian Sea impacting the production of caviar? <i>In the examples above, the RQ is clear (you can easily understand the intention of the investigation) and is connected to the statement of inquiry. The RQ focuses on a place so both merits 2 marks.</i>

Question 4b

Justify the relevance of your research question to the statement of inquiry.

(4 marks)

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	
1	The student states the relevance of the research question to the statement of inquiry.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 1 mark . My research question refers to the extraction of a natural gas in the Caspian Sea. <i>No detail is required. This is likely to be a single sentence response that makes a simple connection between the Sol and the RQ.</i>
2	The student outlines the relevance of the research question to the statement of inquiry.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 2 marks . My research question refers to the extraction of a natural gas in the Caspian Sea. This causes pollution, which affects communities living on and around the Caspian Sea. <i>Likely to be a single sentence with two clauses or two/three short sentences that provides brief detail (or a single factor) on why the RQ is relevant to the Sol.</i>
3	The student describes the relevance of the research question to the statement of inquiry.	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 3 marks . My research question refers to the extraction of a natural resource , gas, in a particular location (the Caspian Sea). This type of economic activity causes pollution, which threatens the production of caviar and affects communities living on and around the Caspian Sea. <i>At least one argument/factor should be considered in detail without providing reasoning why the RQ is relevant to the Sol</i> <i>To provide the required level of detail for (3 marks), a short paragraph is likely to be required.</i> <i>More important than the length of the response, is the quality and depth provided.</i>

4	The student justifies the relevance of the research question to the statement of inquiry.	<p>The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 4 marks.</p> <p>My research question refers to the extraction of a natural resource, gas, in a particular location (the Caspian Sea). This type of economic activity causes pollution, which threatens the production of caviar and affects communities living on and around the Caspian Sea. It could also lead to the extinction of species, affecting the marine ecosystem.</p> <p><i>At least one argument/factor should be considered in detail, along with reasoning why the RQ is relevant to the Sol.</i></p> <p><i>To provide the required level of detail for (4 marks), a short to mid-length paragraph is likely to be required.</i></p> <p><i>More important than the length of the response, is the quality and depth provided.</i></p>
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Question 4c

List **two** relevant methods for collecting information/data for your investigation.

(2 marks)

Responses **may** include:

- Interviews
- Questionnaire/survey
- Library/internet research

Award (1 mark) per relevant method up to a maximum of (2 marks). Accept any valid response.

Question 4d

Outline how **one** of the methods listed in part (c) could be useful to your investigation.

(2 marks)

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	

1	The student states how the chosen method would be useful to their investigation	<p>The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 1 mark.</p> <p>The skype interview will provide me with primary data from an expert.</p> <p><i>For 1 mark, students would provide a statement/fact about usefulness of the method.</i></p>
2	The student outlines how the chosen method would be useful to their investigation	<p>The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 2 marks.</p> <p>The skype interview will provide me with primary data from an expert who would know about the impacts of extraction on human and natural environments.</p> <p><i>For 2 marks, students would elaborate on the usefulness of the method with some brief detail.</i></p>

Question 4e

Outline one challenge you might face while collecting information/data for your investigation.

(2 marks)

Marks	Descriptor	Notes
0	The student does not achieve a standard described by any of the descriptors given below.	
1	The student states one challenge that would be faced while collecting the data	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 1 mark . I might not be able to find reliable data. <i>For 1 mark, students would provide basic information about a possible challenge.</i>
2	The student outlines one challenge they may face while collecting information/data	The following is an example of the type of response that would be awarded 2 marks . I might not be able to find reliable data on the impact of gas drilling on marine life in the Caspian Sea because companies and governments may not always publish it. <i>For 2 marks, students would elaborate on the possible challenge with some brief detail.</i>