2.2 Causes, Impacts and Management of Desertification: 10-minute Pack

AQA 8035 · Calculators not allowed · about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Show all your working.

1 Define 'desertification' in the context of land degradation in semi-arid regions such as the Sahel.

(Total for Question 1 is 2 marks)

2 Give TWO human causes of desertification in marginal dryland areas such as the Sahel region.

(Total for Question 2 is 2 marks)

3 Name a specific area within the Sahel region used as a case study of desertification, and give the country and a relevant date or decade when droughts increased pressure on the land.

(Total for Question 3 is 2 marks)

4 Describe how overgrazing by livestock can lead to desertification in semi-arid regions such as the Sahel.

(Total for Question 4 is 3 marks)

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk

Mark scheme · 2.2 Causes, Impacts and Management of Desertification: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

land degradation in dryland areas due to a combination of natural and human factors, oe **B1**

resulting in loss of vegetation, reduced soil fertility and reduced productive capacity of the land, oe **B1**

Answer: Desertification is the process of land degradation in dryland or semi-arid regions caused by natural and human factors, leading to loss of vegetation, reduced soil fertility and a fall in the land's productive capacity.

Question 2

overgrazing by livestock, oe **B1**

removal of fuelwood or deforestation, oe **B1**

Answer: Overgrazing by livestock; removal of fuelwood or deforestation.

Question 3

named area, e.g. the Sahel region in Niger or Mali, oe **B1**

date detail, e.g. severe droughts in the 1970s and 1980s, oe **B1**

Answer: For example, the Sahel region of Niger (or Mali), where severe droughts in the 1970s and 1980s increased pressure on the land.

Question 4

overgrazing removes protective vegetation cover, oe **B1**

soil becomes exposed to wind and water erosion, oe **B1**

this leads to loss of topsoil and reduced plant regrowth, contributing to land degradation, oe **B1**

Answer: Overgrazing removes protective vegetation cover, leaving soil exposed to wind and rain; exposed topsoil is eroded away and the land loses its ability to support plants, leading to ongoing degradation and desertification.

© Revision Library | revisionlibrary.co.uk