2.7 Hot Deserts: Test Pack

AQA 8035 · Calculator allowed · about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions. Show all your working.

1 Describe ONE way that animals are adapted to survive in a hot desert environment.

(Total for Question 1 is 3 marks)

2 Explain TWO strategies that can be used to reduce the risk of desertification.

(Total for Question 2 is 4 marks)

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3 Explain TWO challenges of developing hot desert environments.

(Total for Question 3 is 4 marks)

4 Give THREE reasons why some hot desert areas, such as the Thar Desert, can support a relatively large population, despite the harsh climate.

(Total for Question 4 is 3 marks)

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Mark scheme · 2.7 Hot Deserts: Test Pack

Question 1

adaptation named, e.g. being nocturnal (active at night) / having large ears (e.g. a fennec fox) / being able to store fat and go without water for long periods (e.g. a camel), oe **B1**

linked detail, e.g. large ears have a big surface area, which helps the animal lose excess body heat, oe **B1**

further linked detail or a second correct point, oe **B1**

Answer: For example, many desert animals are nocturnal, staying in burrows during the extreme daytime heat and only becoming active at night when it is cooler.

Question 2

strategy 1, e.g. planting trees and shrubs (shelter belts) along the desert edge, oe **B1**

linked detail, e.g. their roots bind the soil together and they reduce wind speed at ground level, slowing erosion, oe **B1**

strategy 2, e.g. using appropriate, water-efficient technology such as drip irrigation, oe **B1**

linked detail, e.g. this delivers water directly to plant roots with little waste, allowing farming without over-using scarce water supplies, oe **B1**

Answer: For example: planting shelter belts of trees, whose roots bind the soil and which reduce wind speed, slowing erosion; and using drip irrigation, which delivers water efficiently to crops without wasting scarce supplies.

Question 3

challenge 1 identified, e.g. extreme temperatures; limited and unreliable water supply; inaccessibility and remoteness; shifting sand, oe **B1**

linked explanation of challenge 1, e.g. extreme temperatures make it difficult and dangerous for people to work outdoors; limited water restricts where people can live and farm; remoteness with few roads makes transport of goods, workers and equipment difficult and costly; shifting sand can bury roads, railways and infrastructure, oe **B1**

challenge 2 identified, a different challenge from challenge 1, oe **B1**

linked explanation of challenge 2, oe **B1**

Answer: For example: extreme temperatures make outdoor work difficult; and a limited, unreliable water supply restricts where people can live and farm.

Question 4

reason 1, e.g. irrigation canals bring in water from wetter regions, allowing farming and settlement, oe **B1**

reason 2, e.g. mineral resources and energy projects create jobs, attracting people to live and work there, oe **B1**

reason 3, e.g. some desert areas have long-established trade routes or cities that developed before the modern period and have simply continued to grow, oe **B1**

Answer: For example: irrigation canals bring in water for farming and settlement; mineral, energy and tourism industries create jobs that attract people to live in the area; and some desert areas have long-established trade routes or cities that have continued to grow.

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