





# a-level exam questions & answers:

## changing places (section b) >

### mark scheme | 20-mark question #4



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Q.:	Sp. Ref.:	Information For Markers:	B'down:	Marks:
1)	3.2.2.1	<p><b>Assess the relative importance of endogenous and exogenous factors in developing the character of your local place.</b></p> <p><b>AO1</b> – Knowledge and understanding of the concepts surrounding endogenous (internal) and exogenous (external) forces shaping the character of places.</p> <p><b>AO2</b> – Applies this knowledge and understanding to be able to analyse and evaluate the extent to which their local place study has been affected by both &amp; / or either endogenous or exogenous factors. Responses should include reference to place specifics.</p> <p><b>Notes for answers</b></p> <p>Candidates answering this question should focus explicitly on only one local place study. Markers should credit use of any further references at their own discretion.</p> <p><b>AO1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Knowledge and understanding of the concept of place, as a location with added meaning. Place character describes the emotional and physical connections people have with a place, these can be based on insider and outsider perspectives as well as experience.</li><li>• Knowledge and understanding of the differences between endogenous factors and exogenous factors affecting how we interact with place.</li><li>• Endogenous, in the context of place, refers to characteristics inherent in the place itself, or factors which have originated internally. These can be physical, such as location and topography, or human, such as land use, built environment, infrastructure, economic and demographic.</li><li>• Exogenous, in the context of place, refers to relationships with other places, external agencies and factors which affect a place from the outside. These can include flows of capital, resources, and people.</li><li>• Knowledge that areas within the United Kingdom have been shifted over time, particularly in recent years, by these factors, and that processes of globalisation have</li></ul>	AO1=10 AO2=10	20

increased the role of widespread exogenous factors in many areas.

## AO2

- Analysis of the relative importance of both exogenous and endogenous factors. Many towns and cities in the UK are significantly impacted by their physical features. These can be topographical, for example the large, navigable River Tyne straddling Newcastle, which has given the area its distinctive atmosphere, as well as been a key influence its historical development as an industrial trading city.
- Evaluation to include the fact that in recent years, physical factors are becoming less influential in the presence and location of various places. For example, the gleaming skyline of Canary Wharf in London was constructed artificially by building networks of canals, rivers as well as land reclamation. Modern advancements in technology and infrastructure have limited the need for cities to fit within their physical moulds, whilst new infrastructure such as the London Underground / Crossrail / London City Airport have removed many of the barriers in terms of connectivity.
- Analysis of land use giving areas character. These are influenced by physical factors (such as flood plains, rivers, topography etc..) This has an impact on built environments and many areas are still very historical in this sense. Students may mention local 'landmarks' or 'monuments' which act as focal points for the community and its historical connection with the land, a key endogenous factor.
- Analysis of the role of people and / or demographics in terms of their impact on place character. Some areas are multicultural vs. others being primarily ethnically homogenous, some are younger, others older. Some are family-oriented commuter settlements, like much of the outer greenbelt surrounding London whilst others are tailored to young professionals, such as Northern Quarter in Manchester. Others may point to the role of exogenous bodies such as Universities as key influences in the character of their places.
- It could be argued this is due to increasingly exogenous factors such as our membership in the EU and free movement, but also endogenous, such as the location of towns and cities acting in tandem. Typically, more urban areas concentrated closer to our borders are the more ethnically diverse or 'cosmopolitan' whilst rural, isolated areas like the Scottish Highlands are less. Depending on student's local places this weighting may vary significantly.
- Conclusion could focus on a hypothetical statement or point, e.g. if we are looking in the past, it could be argued that physical factors, which by definition are endogenous, were the most influential; but in our modern globalised world, places and their character are being far more influenced by exogenous flows. Or alternatively,

		students could highlight an urban/rural divide in the UK by the factors which affect their places more.		
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### Examiner Marking Level Criteria:

This grid is used by teachers and examiners to decide first your working level, then narrow down to a mark out of 20 for all long answer questions, and the kinds of things they are looking to see in each of these answers.

Level/Mark Range	Criteria/Descriptor
<b>TOP LEVEL 4</b> (16-20 marks – 80+% - typically an A* answer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed evaluative conclusion that is rational and firmly based on knowledge and understanding which is applied to the context of the question. Interpretations are comprehensive, sound and coherent (AO2).</li> <li>Detailed, coherent and relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding throughout (AO2).</li> <li>Full evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2).</li> <li>Detailed, highly relevant and appropriate knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments used throughout (AO1).</li> <li>Full and accurate knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change throughout (AO1).</li> </ul>
<b>HIGH LEVEL 3</b> (11-15 marks – 55-75% - B to A grade answer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear evaluative conclusion that is based on knowledge and understanding which is applied to the context of the question. Interpretations are generally clear and support the response in most aspects (AO2).</li> <li>Generally clear, coherent and relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding (AO2).</li> <li>Generally clear evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2).</li> <li>Generally clear and relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments (AO1).</li> <li>Generally clear and accurate knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change (AO1).</li> </ul>
<b>LOWER LEVEL 2</b> (6-10 marks – 30-50% - D-C grade answer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some sense of an evaluative conclusion partially based upon knowledge and understanding which is applied to the context of the question (AO2). Interpretations are partial but do support the response in places.</li> <li>Some partially relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding (AO2).</li> <li>Some evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2).</li> <li>Some relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments which is partially relevant (AO1).</li> <li>Some knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change. There may be a few inaccuracies (AO1).</li> </ul>
<b>LOW LEVEL 1</b> (1-5 marks) - <25% - E or below answer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Very limited and/or unsupported evaluative conclusion that is loosely based upon knowledge and understanding which is applied to the context of the question (AO2). Interpretation is basic.</li> <li>Very limited analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding. This lacks clarity and coherence (AO2).</li> <li>Very limited and rarely logical evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2).</li> <li>Very limited relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments (AO1).</li> <li>Isolated knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change. There may be a number of inaccuracies (AO1)</li> </ul>
<b>LEVEL 0</b> (0 marks) – no answer provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nothing worthy of credit (something has gone ridiculously wrong if you're here!)</li> </ul>