

a-level exam questions & answers:

coastal systems & landscapes (section b) >

20 mark question #5 (shoreline management)



References:

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- 1) 'Shoreline management/integrated coastal zone management can effectively tackle the expected eustatic sea level change and associated threat to coastal landscapes over the coming decades.'

To what extent do you agree with this view?

Coastal Systems & Landscapes >> 3.1.3.4 >> Coastal Management

I'm an A-Level past paper question!



[20 marks]

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mark scheme | 20-mark question #5

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Q.:	Sp. Ref.:	Information For Markers:	B'down:	Marks:
1)	3.1.3.4 	'Shoreline management/integrated coastal zone management can effectively tackle the expected eustatic sea level change and associated threat to coastal landscapes over the coming decades.' To what extent do you agree with this view? AO1 – Knowledge and understanding of integrated shoreline management plans and their role in mitigating the impact of sea level change. AO2 – Application of knowledge and understanding to evaluate the role of shoreline management plans in managing changing coastal landscapes. Notes for answers AO1 - Recent and predicted climatic change and potential impact on coasts. - The relationship between process, time, landforms and landscapes in coastal settings. - Human intervention in coastal landscapes. Traditional approaches to coastal flood and erosion risk: hard and soft engineering. Sustainable approaches to coastal flood risk and coastal erosion management: shoreline management/integrated coastal zone management. - Case study(ies) of coastal environment(s) at a local scale to illustrate and analyse fundamental coastal processes, their landscape outcomes as set out above and engage with field data and challenges represented in their sustainable management. - Case study of a contrasting coastal landscape beyond the UK to illustrate and analyse how it presents risks and opportunities for human occupation and development and evaluate human responses of resilience, mitigation and adaptation. AO2 - Expect to see some definition of the concept of the integrated shoreline management plan (ISMP). The basic idea is that shoreline management should be considered in terms of managing the processes operating within distinct sediment cells. This is a relatively new way of	AO1=10 AO2=10	20

		thinking about coastal management (last 30 years or so) as it does not take into account the artificial boundaries established to maintain the administrative responsibilities of Local Authorities. This latter approach was deemed to be unsystematic producing shoreline management strategies which were sometimes conflicting and certainly not taking into consideration the knock-on effects of decision making in one place. • The plans were introduced in 1995 with short, medium and long term elements to each strategy. Many of the short term plans were designed to last up to 20 years and have been continually reviewed updated and modified. • The key purpose of the plans has been to provide local authorities with research and analysis to help manage risks related to sea level change, erosion and flooding. There is also an element of sustainability attached to plans in that the primary purpose of any recommendations is to protect the coastline in a long term and sustainable fashion. This takes into account maintenance of the physical environment, protection for people, environmental sustainability and habitat protection. • In terms of evaluation, ISMPs have delivered a much more coherent and sustainable approach to coastal management than was previously the case by providing research and analysis related to risk in each location. The second round of ISMPs has now been established across the country with decision making based upon the best fit approach within each sediment cell. • Options are hold the line, advance the line, do nothing and managed retreat. • Expect to see case studies used to exemplify different aspects of shoreline management plans and specifically how these plans are/were designed to tackle erosion, flooding and or mitigate the risks associated with rising sea levels. • In assessing the effectiveness of ISMPs as a tool to mitigate sea level rise, there should be some understanding that cost is huge and a decisive factor in decision making. Tough decisions have to be made and not every area of the country can be protected to the satisfaction of local interests. • Case studies involving successes and perceived failures of ISMPs may feature e.g. Happisburgh. Credit any other valid approach. Evaluation should be based upon preceding content.		
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Marking Level Criteria:

Level/Mark	Criteria/Descriptor
Range	

TOP LEVEL 4 (16-20 marks – 80+% - typically an A* answer)	- 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). - Detailed, coherent and relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding throughout (AO2). - Full evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2). - Detailed, highly relevant and appropriate knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments used throughout (AO1). - Full and accurate knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change throughout (AO1).
HIGH LEVEL 3 (11-15 marks – 55-75% - B to A grade answer)	- 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). - Generally clear, coherent and relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding (AO2). - Generally clear evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2). - Generally clear and relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments (AO1). - Generally clear and accurate knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change (AO1)
LOWER LEVEL 2 (6-10 marks – 30-50% - D-C grade answer)	- 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. - Some partially relevant analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding (AO2). - Some evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2). - Some relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments which is partially relevant (AO1). - Some knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change. There may be a few inaccuracies (AO1).
LOW LEVEL 1 (1-5 marks) - <25% - E or below answer	- 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. - Very limited analysis and evaluation in the application of knowledge and understanding. This lacks clarity and coherence (AO2). - Very limited and rarely logical evidence of links between knowledge and understanding to the application of knowledge and understanding in different contexts (AO2). - Very limited relevant knowledge and understanding of place(s) and environments (AO1). - Isolated knowledge and understanding of key concepts, processes and interactions and change. There may be a number of inaccuracies (AO1)
LEVEL 0 (0 marks) – no answer provided	Nothing worthy of credit (something has gone ridiculously wrong if you're here!)