



Rewarding Learning

ADVANCED
General Certificate of Education
January 2011

Geography

Assessment Unit A2 1

assessing

**Human Interactions and
Global Issues**

[AG211]

TUESDAY 25 JANUARY, MORNING



AG211

RESOURCE BOOKLET



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RESOURCE 1A

MONEY SENT HOME EXCEEDS AID

In a report on Central Asian nations, including former Soviet states, the World Bank said that money sent home by migrants (remittances) sometimes exceeded the value of foreign investment aid and exports. The study, using data from 2004, indicated that remittances were equivalent to 27% of the region's GDP. The payments are a crucial part of the economy and have served as a "cushion" against the economic and political turbulence those countries have experienced. Some of the money is sent via official transfer services while others send money with friends. However, not all migrants send remittances, especially when stays are short.

On the global scale, in 2005 total remittances exceeded \$230 billion, of which developing countries received \$167 billion, more than twice the value of development aid.

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RESOURCE 1B

IMMIGRATION "HARMING COMMUNITIES" IN UK

A House of Commons report, *Community Cohesion and Migration*, studied three areas with high immigration – Peterborough, Burnley and Barking & Dagenham. In these places community cohesion (how people from different ethnic backgrounds get along) was amongst the lowest in England. There was "significant public anxiety" over issues such as pressure on public services, which the report said could not "simply be dismissed as expressions of racist or xenophobic sentiments". Many migrants make "significant contributions" to local communities by working in health or other public services. However, there were "practical concerns" such as overcrowded accommodation and pressure on public services including sharp rises in the numbers of primary school children who do not speak English well.

Dr Dhananjayan Sriskandarajah, of the Institute of Public Policy Research, said he was disappointed by the report's "negative conclusion: 'We risk turning everything that migrants do into a problem, forgetting that they contribute to the local economy and to the country because they work and pay taxes'."

© BBC News at [bbc.co.uk](http://news.bbc.co.uk) http://news.bbc.co.uk/go/pr/fr/-/1/hi/uk_politics/7508096.stm (adapted)

RESOURCE 2

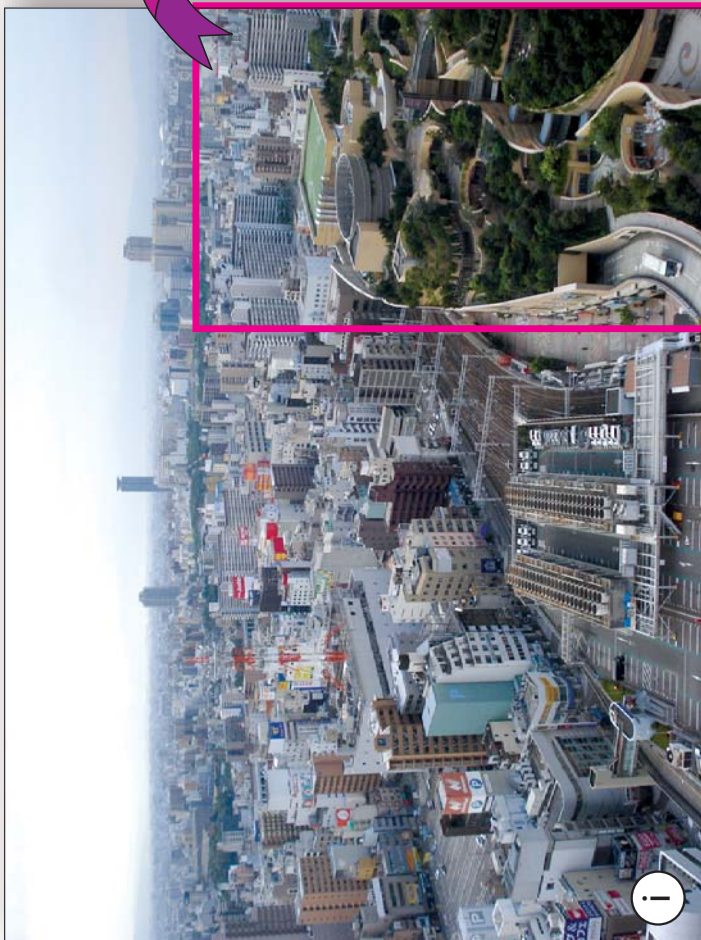
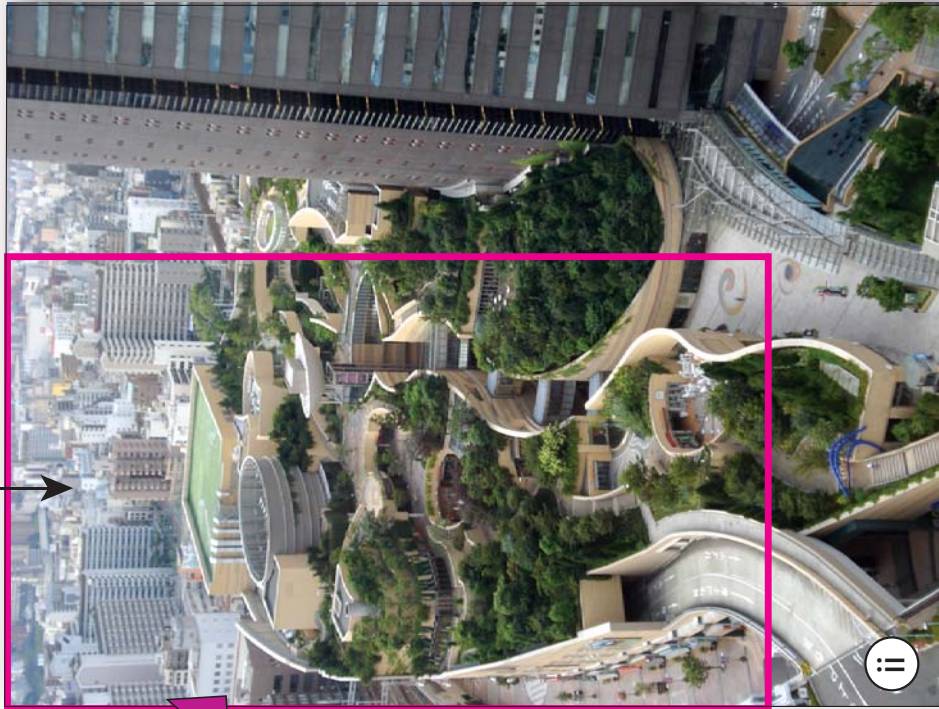
PAKISTAN'S NATIONAL FERTILITY POLICY 2009



RESOURCE 3A

NAMBA GARDENS, OSAKA

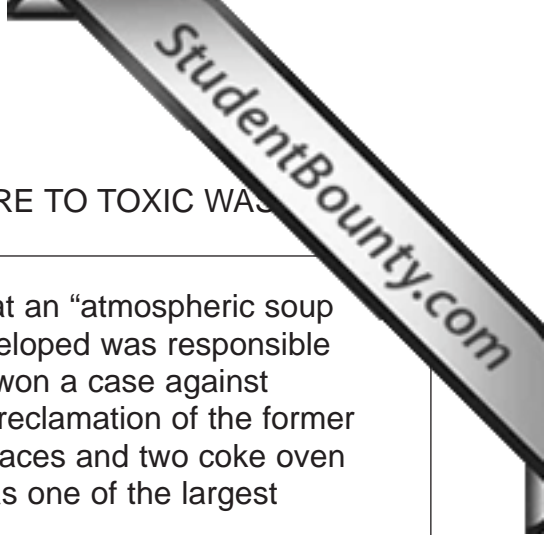
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Photographs: Chief Examiner

RESOURCE 3B

COUNCIL FOUND LIABLE FOR CHILDREN'S EXPOSURE TO TOXIC WASTE



A group of 16 young people aged between 11 and 22 claim that an “atmospheric soup of toxic materials” released when an old steelworks was redeveloped was responsible for birth defects, which affect their hands and feet. They have won a case against Corby Borough Council which was found to be negligent in its reclamation of the former British Steel plant. The 680-acre site, which had four blast furnaces and two coke oven complexes and closed in 1980 with the loss of 10,000 jobs, was one of the largest steelworks in western Europe.

The young people allege that their disabilities were caused in the early stages of foetal development, when their mothers were exposed to the toxic material released during the demolition, excavation and redevelopment of the brownfield site.

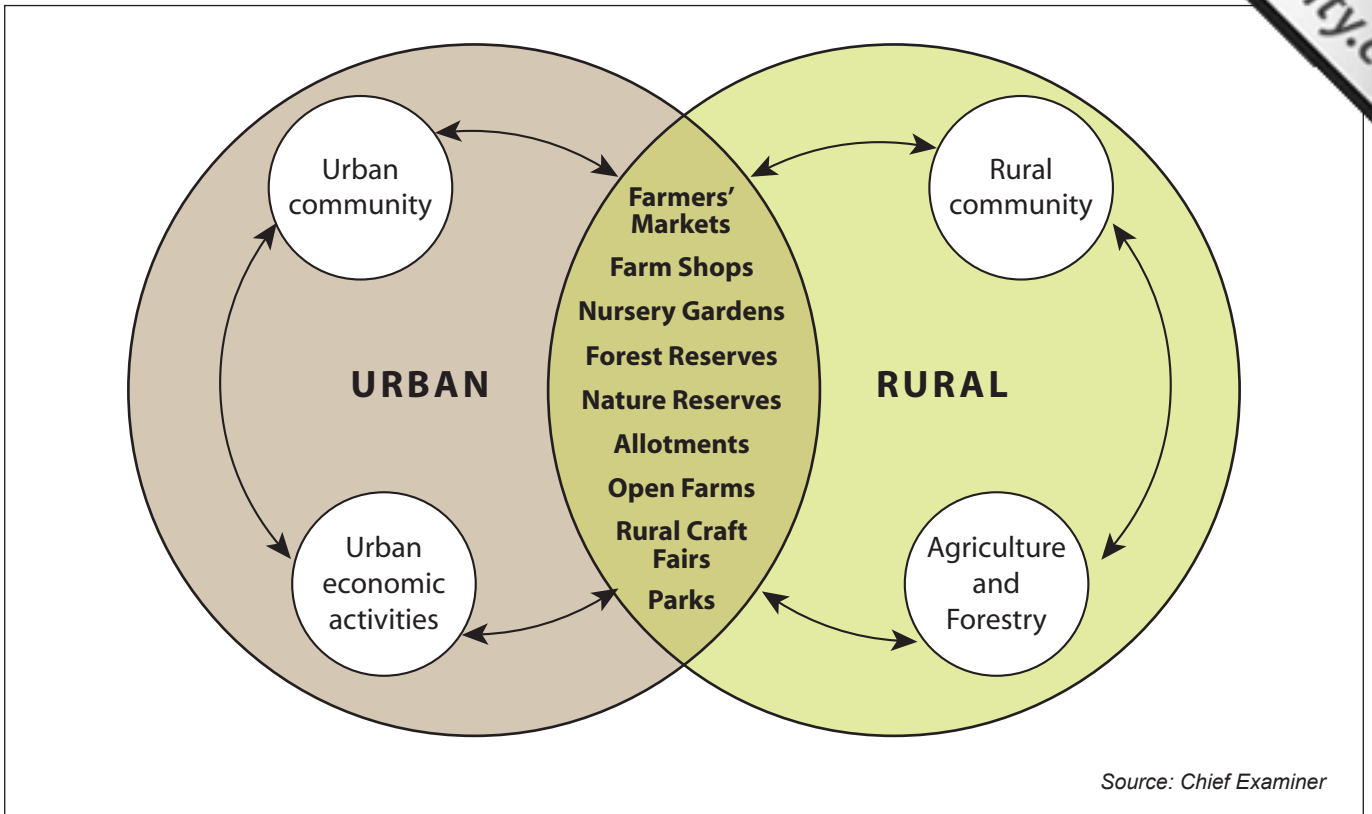
Mr Justice Akenhead said the council had been “extensively negligent” in its control and management of the site between 1983 and August 1997, leading to contaminated mud and dust being spread around Corby, even entering homes in the town. These contaminants could realistically have caused the types of birth defects suffered by the claimants – of which there was a “statistically significant” cluster between 1989 and 1999.

The council said it was surprised and disappointed by the ruling and was considering whether to appeal.

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“Council found liable for children’s exposure to toxic waste” by Rachel Williams, 29 July 2009.

RESOURCE 4

URBAN AND RURAL LAND USE CHARACTERISTICS



RESOURCE 5

ROMA FAMILIES FORCED OUT OF THEIR HOMES IN BELFAST

The Roma are an ethnic Romanian group who have faced discrimination across Europe. They had established a small community in the Village, a working class loyalist area of South Belfast, where there was cheap housing. In June 2009 more than one hundred Roma people left Belfast following racial attacks on their homes by local youths. These attacks were the latest in a growing number of racially motivated crimes recorded by the police. In 1996, there were 41 incidents but in 2008 there were close to 1000 reported racial attacks. In part, this rise is due to the increased number of ethnic minorities moving to Belfast in search of jobs in the service sector. Following the paramilitary ceasefire and the widening of the European Union to include the poorer nations of Eastern Europe there was a growth in the number of migrants coming to Northern Ireland. However, there is a culture of intolerance in some parts of Northern Ireland – a legacy of the decades of sectarian conflict, where anyone slightly different might become a victim of intimidation. Polish migrants, for example, became the target of attack following clashes between rival football fans from Poland and Northern Ireland.

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Polish shop in Belfast



Derelict housing vacated by Roma in Belfast

Source: photographs Principal Examiner

RESOURCE 6

ETHNIC UNREST IN XINJIANG, CHINA

The ethnic unrest in China's western Xinjiang region between the Uighurs and immigrant Han Chinese in July 2009 follows a long history of animosity between the Chinese authorities and the Uighur minority. The Uighurs are Muslim. Their language is related to Turkish and they regard themselves as culturally and ethnically close to Central Asian nations.

In the early part of the 20th Century, the Uighurs briefly declared independence but the region was brought under the complete control of communist China in 1949. Officially Xinjiang is now described by China as an autonomous region. Uighur militants have been waging a violent campaign for an independent state by plotting bombings, sabotage and civil unrest. Since the 9/11 attacks in the US, China has accused these Uighur separatists of receiving training and indoctrination from Islamist militants in neighbouring Afghanistan, although little public evidence has been produced in support of these claims.

The Uighurs claim their religious, commercial and cultural activities have been gradually limited by the Chinese state. China is accused of intensifying its crackdown on the Uighurs after street protests in the 1990s – and again in the run-up to the Beijing Olympics in 2008. Over the past decade, many prominent Uighurs have been imprisoned or have sought asylum abroad after being accused of terrorism. China is said to have exaggerated the threat from Uighur separatists in order to justify repression in the region. China has also been accused of seeking to dilute Uighur influence by arranging the mass immigration of Han Chinese, the country's majority ethnic group, to Xinjiang. The percentage of Han Chinese in the region has gradually been rising. Han currently account for roughly 40% of Xinjiang's population, while about 45% are Uighur.

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