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QUALIFICATIONS
CURRICULUM &
ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY
FOR WALES



KEY SKILLS COMMUNICATION Level 3 - The future of farming

November 2002

Mark Scheme

Part A - Short-answer questions

Q1			
Using documents 1 and 2:			
a) identify three reasons for the decline in farming			
b) briefly assess in your own words, the effect that this decline is having on the farming economy, giving three examples from the documents to support your answer.			
Coverage	Marking guide	Marks	Max marks
3.2.1	The candidate has selected appropriate material from both documents 1 and 2	1 mark	
3.2.2	The candidate has identified three reasons for the decline in farming, for example: a) BSE (docs 1 and 2) b) foot-and-mouth (doc 2) c) swine fever (doc 2) d) flooding (doc 2) e) cut in demand for meat and milk (doc 1) f) food (grain) tariffs (doc 1) g) strength of pound (doc 1) h) cost of slaughtering cattle (doc 1) *Accept any other relevant point from documents 1 and 2	1 mark per reason identified (max 3 marks)	
3.2.3	The candidate assesses , using his or her own words, the effects of the decline in farming on the economy, for example: a) this decline is a process that has been taking place over time (inference from docs 1 and 2) b) agriculture's direct contribution now less than 1% GVA (doc 2) c) farmers' diversification has led to rise in direct sales, farmers' markets etc (doc 2) d) may lead to re-think on producing local food as 'long-distance' food industry is becoming uneconomic (doc 1) e) farmers encouraged to look elsewhere to boost income eg tourism (doc 1) *Accept any other relevant point from documents 1 and 2	1 mark per reason assessed (max 3 marks)	
			7 marks

Q2			
Using information from all three documents, identify and explain in your own words four reasons why the farmers' situation might be considered not entirely gloomy.			
Coverage	Marking guide	Marks	Max marks
3.2.1	The candidate has selected appropriate material from documents 1, 2 and 3	1 mark	
3.2.2	The candidate has identified four reasons why the farmers' situation is not entirely gloomy, for example: a) financial incentives offered to farmers to help restructuring (doc 3) b) government-funded retirement deals (doc 3) c) local food production/ harder line with supermarkets (doc 1) d) may lead to a re-think of farming policy (doc 1) e) benefits from tourism/lower cost holiday accommodation (doc 1) f) farmers have diversified (doc 2) g) growth in farmers' markets (doc 2) *Accept any other valid point drawn from the documents	1 mark for each 2 reasons (max 2 marks)	
3.2.3	The candidate synthesises and explains the reasons behind the farmers' situation in their own words	(max 3 marks)	

Q3			
What messages do the pictures of animals in document 1 suggest about farming and life in the countryside? Refer to four points, giving reasons to support your answer.			
Coverage	Marking guide	Marks	Max marks
3.2.2	The candidate has inferred positive messages from the images: a) animals look healthy, fresh, young etc b) reinforces idea of countryside as a healthy place to live c) picture of sheep shows open country - unpolluted etc And/or may have referred to negative messages such as: a) many sheep and cattle have been slaughtered as a result of BSE and foot-and-mouth disease b) raising livestock no longer economically viable c) farmers raise animals only to slaughter them for food Or any other valid point which can be deduced from the images	1 mark per point made (max 4 marks)	
3.2.3	The candidate links the images with positive or negative messages, giving reasons to support their answer The candidate demonstrates a recognition of ambivalence, irony, bias or 'spin'	1 mark 1 mark	

<p>Q4 Using document 3: a) identify and explain in your own words, three measures put forward by the government as part of the 'incentives offered to farmers in return for a restructuring of the industry' b) assess the claim that these measures will 'form part of the national recovery plan for farming' by indicating three possible positive outcomes.</p>			
Coverage	Marking guide	Marks	Max marks
3.2.2	<p>The candidate has identified and explained using own words, three measures put forward by the government (doc 3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) pay farmers thousands of pounds to take early retirement b) buy out sheep production subsidies paid to farmers c) new state handouts for managing the land d) top-up sums for tenant farmers who want to give up agriculture <p>*Accept any other valid response</p>	1 mark for each measure (max 3 marks)	
3.2.3	<p>The candidate has evaluated the claim by citing evidence that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the sale of the sheep quota will encourage farmers to produce better quality sheep fetching a higher price b) the need for subsidy would be removed c) fewer sheep would prevent overgrazing of uplands (environmental concerns) d) fewer sheep would encourage biodiversity e) any other reasonable point from text <p>*Accept any other valid response</p>	1 mark for each measure evaluated (max 3 marks)	

TOTAL FOR PART A 25 MARKS

Part B – Extended-answer question

Q5

Write an article for a farming magazine, explaining the arguments for and against the government's policy of reducing the number of farmers. You should base your article on information from the documents.

Coverage	Marking guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.3.1	<p>The candidate has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used an appropriate format for the article for presenting the information which includes a heading • used an appropriate style and structure to add clarity to the text (eg the use of paragraphs, numberings, bullet points and other stylistic features) • used an appropriate tone in writing 	<p>1 mark</p> <p>1 mark</p> <p>1 mark</p>	3 marks
3.3.2	<p>The candidate has demonstrated an understanding of the issues concerned with the government's policy to reduce farming. Points considered may include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) overstocking b) many farmers too old and young people leaving the land c) land released for new younger people to live in d) creation of tourist industry e) improvement in wildlife with less modern farming f) farmers are doing a good job on the whole g) decline of farming to date h) describes potential impact farmers whether they choose to take one route or the other i) effects on food supply and processes j) effects on countryside <p>*Accept any other valid point</p> <p>The candidate has</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organised material appropriately • used own words in an effective manner • used specialist vocabulary where appropriate eg subsidy, slaughter, biodiversity • presented a balanced argument 	<p>Up to 6 marks</p> <p>up to 2 marks</p> <p>up to 2 marks</p> <p>1 mark</p> <p>up to 2 marks</p>	13 marks

Coverage	Marking guide	Marks	Max Marks
3.3.3	<p>Band 1 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar with reasonable accuracy, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the spelling of simple words is usually accurate full stops and capital letters are accurately used to demarcate sentences. Commas in lists are used accurately. there may be some grammatical errors, eg confusion of pronouns, tense and some lack of cohesion <p>Band 2 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses grammar with considerable accuracy, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the spelling of words with complex regular patterns is usually accurate a range of punctuation including commas, apostrophes and inverted commas is used correctly including to mark sentences and clauses the work is mostly grammatically accurate showing that the candidate can construct complex sentences accurately, use pronouns so that their meaning is clear, makes accurate subject/verb agreement and uses tenses accurately and consistently, although there may be occasional errors of sentence separation <p>Band 3 The candidate spells, punctuates and uses the rules of grammar with almost faultless accuracy, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> virtually all spelling, including that of irregular words is usually correct. Any errors stand out as untypical or 'one-off' slips punctuation is accurate and is used to vary pace, clarify meaning, avoid ambiguity and create deliberate effects grammar is accurate and gives appropriate variation in sentence structure 	<p>1-3 marks</p> <p>4-7 marks</p> <p>8-9 marks</p>	<p>25 marks</p>

TOTAL FOR PART B 25 MARKS