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Global politics

Higher level and standard level

Paper 1

21 October 2024

Zone A afternoon | Zone B afternoon | Zone C afternoon

1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions to candidates

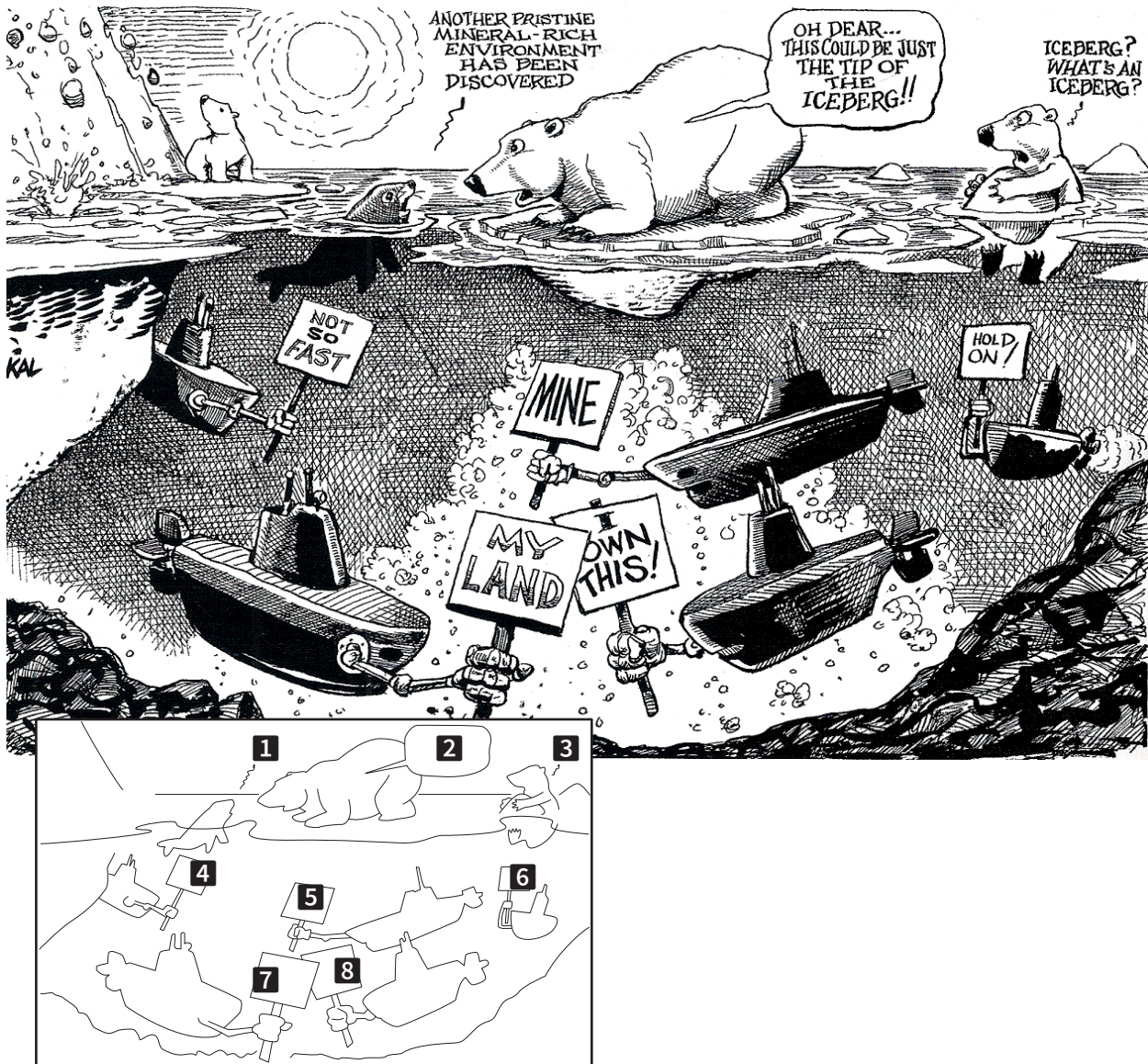
- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer all the questions.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[25 marks]**.

Unit 3: Development

Pathways towards development

Read all the sources carefully and answer all the questions that follow.

Source A KAL's cartoon, a cartoon depicting natural resources exploration in the Arctic was published in *The Economist* magazine (2007).



- 1** Another pristine¹ mineral-rich environment has been discovered
- 2** Oh dear... this could be just the tip of the iceberg!!
- 3** Iceberg? What's an iceberg?
- 4** Not so fast
- 5** Mine
- 6** Hold on!
- 7** My land
- 8** I own this!

¹ pristine: unspoilt or in its original condition

Source B Adapted from “How BRAC², the largest NGO in the world, works”, an online article written by Alessio Pieroni (2014).

BRAC is a non-governmental organization (NGO) based in Bangladesh which also operates in 11 low-income countries impacting the lives of 126 million people. Many people don't have access to resources and BRAC helps individuals with this problem. It focuses on entrepreneurship³ by promoting innovation and business initiatives. BRAC wants to help entrepreneurs have access to the market from their first days in business. For example, Bangladesh lacked good infrastructure so rural entrepreneurs could not get their products to urban markets. BRAC helped them by coordinating many different actors in society, distributing dairy, poultry, and similar products. BRAC also helps individuals through microloans⁴ at affordable rates. The end goal of BRAC is to improve the lives of the poor.

Multiple issues cause poverty so it is necessary to address poverty from all fronts to tackle it. BRAC provided microloans from its beginning in the 1970s, but soon moved into education, health, water and sanitation, and food security. That's why BRAC also has a bank and a university. There are now numerous development programmes operating to give people access to markets, better prices, and better quality of life.

² BRAC (Building Resources Across Communities): is one of the world's largest NGOs. It focuses on providing community assistance and affordable loans to people in poverty, primarily in Bangladesh.

³ entrepreneurship: the ability to develop and run a business effectively

⁴ microloans: loans with a value of less than US\$50 000 with favorable repayment conditions

Source C Adapted from “In focus — Trade protectionism and the global outlook”, a Monetary Policy Report by the Bank of England (2019).

Protectionism is an economic policy of restricting imports to help domestic businesses. Trade barriers make it more costly for domestic businesses and consumers to buy goods from abroad. These barriers often take the form of tariffs (taxes on imports), which increase the price of imported goods relative to those that are domestically produced. Non-tariff measures including import quotas (limits on the quantities of imports) can also create barriers to trade.

A rise in the cost of imported goods due to tariffs will lower incomes and decrease gross domestic product (GDP)⁵. Some domestic industries which import raw materials might also be negatively impacted if costs of production increase.

Protectionism means businesses face less foreign competition and may become less efficient. Historically, there has been a strong relationship between trade openness and higher GDP. A study suggests that a 20 % reduction in trade tends to lower GDP by around 5% in the long term thus limiting the potential for development. US–China tariffs increased the price of imported goods in both countries and that has decreased imports. US imports from China fell by more than 10% in the first quarter of 2019 and Chinese imports from the US were around 25% down on a year earlier. Consequently, growth rates have reduced in both countries.

⁵ gross domestic product (GDP): the overall level of economic activity

Source D Adapted from “Free trade Vs. Protectionism”, published on *UK Citizens’ Assemblies*, a UK-based public participation charity.

Free trade allows easy access to global markets for all companies, but it is not always beneficial. In the UK, the shipbuilding industry has declined in the face of international competition since the 1950s. In this situation, protectionism could have helped preserve jobs or at least slow the process of change. The car industry in Australia was protected and supported with government payments at a gradually reducing rate until production stopped in 2017 and all cars were imported from Asia. This shows that entire industries may not be competitive without protectionist measures.

Protectionism can encourage new industries and benefit early-stage development. In sectors with high start-up costs, new firms may not be competitive without government support. The Indian government provides significant financial support for farmers so they can provide food at lower prices. Also, as India is less dependent on food imports, national employment is encouraged.

Protectionism can be used to safeguard “strategic” industries during vulnerable stages of development. Food security can be considered a strategic industry and food distribution could be adversely affected if there was disruption to global distribution such as a natural disaster. To ensure food security, Tanzania imposed a tariff on edible oils in 2016 to encourage domestic producers.

Reaching free trade agreements (FTAs)⁶ can be a complex process that could lead to imports of substandard goods. An FTA between the US and the UK might allow substandard chlorine-washed chicken to be imported to the UK. There might also be pressure to reduce standards for workers’ rights or environmental protection so that companies can compete in countries that have lower standards. All of these can negatively impact development.

⁶ free trade agreements (FTAs): an agreement between countries signed to regulate the terms of trade and remove barriers to trade

1. Using Source A, identify **three** issues concerning discoveries of new resources. [3]
 2. With explicit reference to Source B **and** one example you have studied, explain how non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can promote development. [4]
 3. Using Source C **and** Source D, contrast how trade impacts development. [8]
 4. Using all the sources **and** your own knowledge, evaluate different approaches to achieving development. [10]
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References:

- Source A** Kallaugher, K., 2007. *KAL's cartoon*. [image online] Available at: <https://www.economist.com/the-world-this-week/2007/08/16/kals-cartoon> [Accessed 28 January 2021].
- Source B** Pieroni, A., 2014. *How BRAC, the largest NGO in the world, works*. [online] Available at: <https://yourstory.com/2014/06/brac-works/amp> [Accessed 28 January 2021]. Source adapted.
- Source C** Bank of England, 2019. *In focus – Trade protectionism and the global outlook*. [online] Available at: <https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/monetary-policy-report/2019/november-2019/in-focus-trade-protectionism-and-the-global-outlook> [Accessed 28 January 2021]. Source adapted.
- Source D** Citizens' Assembly on Brexit, 2017. *Free Trade Vs. Protectionism*. [online] Available at: <https://citizensassembly.co.uk/trade-free-trade-v-protectionism/> [Accessed 28 January 2021]. Source adapted.