

# FOR TEACHERS ONLY

The University of the State of New York

REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION

## GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

Tuesday, June 15, 2010 — 1:15 to 4:15 p.m., only

### RATING GUIDE FOR PART III A AND PART III B (DOCUMENT-BASED QUESTION)

Updated information regarding the rating of this examination may be posted on the New York State Education Department's web site during the rating period. Visit the site <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/> and select the link "Scoring of Examinations" for any recently posted information regarding this examination. This site should be checked before the rating process for this examination begins and at least one more time before the final scores for the examination are recorded.

#### Contents of the Rating Guide

For **Part III A** Scaffold (open-ended) questions:

- A question-specific rubric

For **Part III B** (DBQ) essay:

- A content-specific rubric
- Prescored answer papers. Score levels 5 and 1 have two papers each, and score levels 4, 3, and 2 have three papers each. They are ordered by score level from high to low.
- Commentary explaining the specific score awarded to each paper
- Five prescored practice papers

General:

- Test Specifications
- Web addresses for the test-specific conversion chart and teacher evaluation forms

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THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
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VOLUME  
**2** OF **2**  
DBQ

### **Mechanics of Rating**

The following procedures are to be used in rating papers for this examination. More detailed directions for the organization of the rating process and procedures for rating the examination are included in the *Information Booklet for Scoring the Regents Examination in Global History and Geography and United States History and Government*.

### **Rating the Essay Question**

(1) Follow your school's procedures for training raters. This process should include:

*Introduction to the task—*

- Raters read the task
- Raters identify the answers to the task
- Raters discuss possible answers and summarize expectations for student responses

*Introduction to the rubric and anchor papers—*

- Trainer leads review of specific rubric with reference to the task
- Trainer reviews procedures for assigning holistic scores, i.e., by matching evidence from the response to the rubric
- Trainer leads review of each anchor paper and commentary

*Practice scoring individually—*

- Raters score a set of five papers independently without looking at the scores and commentaries provided
- Trainer records scores and leads discussion until the raters feel confident enough to move on to actual rating

(2) When actual rating begins, each rater should record his or her individual rating for a student's essay on the rating sheet provided, *not* directly on the student's essay or answer sheet. The rater should *not* correct the student's work by making insertions or changes of any kind.

(3) Each essay must be rated by at least two raters; a third rater will be necessary to resolve scores that differ by more than one point.

### **Rating the Scaffold (open-ended) Questions**

- (1) Follow a similar procedure for training raters.
- (2) The scaffold questions need only be scored by one rater.
- (3) The scores for each scaffold question may be recorded in the student's examination booklet.

The scoring coordinator will be responsible for organizing the movement of papers, calculating a final score for each student's essay, recording that score on the student's Part I answer sheet, and determining the student's final examination score. The conversion chart for this examination is located at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/> and must be used for determining the final examination score.

**Global History and Geography**  
**Part A Specific Rubric**  
**Document-Based Question**  
**June 2010**

**Document 1**

... The aridity of the North African steppe turns to desolation in the Sahara, the most extensive desert in the world. In popular imagination the Sahara is seen as a wilderness of sand dunes; yet it is a region of most varied landscapes, ranging from the great massifs [highlands] of Ahaggar and Tibesti with their extraordinary rock formations and their lofty volcanic peaks to vast stretches of gravelly plains or broad belts of constantly shifting dunes. The desert is not completely waterless—in certain parts, particularly on the northern fringes, excellent supplies of subterranean water support the rich culture of the oases—nor is it completely bereft of [without] vegetation. Men have thus found it possible to gain a livelihood in the Sahara whether as cultivators in the oases or pastoralists [herders] in other areas. . . .

Source: Robin Hallett, *Africa to 1875: A Modern History*, The University of Michigan Press, 1970

**1 What is *one* feature of the Sahara Desert, according to Robin Hallett?**

**Score of 1:**

- States a feature of the Sahara Desert according to Robin Hallett  
*Examples:* it has varied landscapes; extraordinary rock formations; vast stretches of gravelly plains; there are broad belts of constantly shifting dunes; has supplies of subterranean water on the northern fringes; arid/dry; it has oases; has some vegetation; has a limited supply of water; one of the largest deserts

**Score of 0:**

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* no water; completely without vegetation; it is a steppe
- Vague response  
*Examples:* it is a region; it is constant; men have found it possible to gain a livelihood; it is dusty
- No response

## Document 2

. . . For several centuries, these contacts [between North Africa and the interior] were limited by the nature of the Sahara itself. More than 3 million square miles in area, the Sahara is the world's largest desert. Because temperatures during the day can reach as high as 120 degrees Fahrenheit and supplies of water are scant, the 40-day journey across the desert required courage, determination, and careful planning. Travelers who became separated from their companions were seldom seen again. The trans-Sahara trek became somewhat easier after the 4th century A.D., when camels were introduced in place of horses; camels are able to travel long distances without water, and their wider hooves make it easier for them to move through sand. However, intensive contact between North Africa and the interior did not begin until the 7th century, when a revolutionary change took place in the political and religious life of the region. By this time, the old empires of the Mediterranean and the Middle East were in decline or in ruins. In their place was a powerful new force—Islam. . . .

Source: Philip Koslow, *Ancient Ghana: The Land of Gold*, Chelsea House Publishers

### 2a What is *one* reason travel across the Sahara Desert was difficult, according to Philip Koslow?

#### Score of 1:

- States a reason travel across the Sahara Desert was difficult according to Philip Koslow  
*Examples:* it is more than 3 million square miles in area; it is the world's largest desert; temperatures during the day can reach 120 degrees Fahrenheit; water is in scant supply; it was a 40-day journey across it; horses were not well suited for long distance travel; the desert was large/hot/arid

#### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* old empires were in decline; camels needed water frequently; no water
- Vague response  
*Examples:* it was hard; it was the nature of the Sahara; travelers were needed
- No response

### 2b What change was adopted after the 4th century to make travel easier, according to Philip Koslow?

#### Score of 1:

- States that **camels were introduced to replace horses** as the change that was adopted after the 4th century to make travel easier

#### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* horses were introduced; old empires of the Mediterranean established contacts with each other; Islam became a powerful new force
- Vague response  
*Examples:* the trek became easier; a revolutionary change took place; contact became intensive
- No response

### Document 3

. . . Desertification directly affects 1.2 billion people, and more and more productive land is being lost year by year. It has presented a challenge for governments and aid agencies in over 110 countries for some time, and is a contributing factor in poverty and regional conflicts, for example in Sudan. It has also been a major issue in Egypt, where 90% of the country's land mass is desert. Faced with a rising population, the government has had to undertake a number of settlement and irrigation projects to create additional living and working space. In China, almost two-thirds of the country and over 400 million people are affected, the worst hit areas being the Gobi desert in the northwest of the country and the Takla Makan desert in the west. . . .

Source: Ute Schaeffer, "Deutsche Welle reporters on the ground,"  
*Down to Earth: News & Views on Desertification*,  
UNCCD, June 2006, Volume 21

### 3 What is *one* challenge areas face because of desertification, according to Ute Schaeffer?

#### Score of 1:

- States a challenge areas face because of desertification according to Ute Schaeffer  
*Examples:* loss of productive land each year; need to provide for Egypt's rising population; need for expensive settlement/irrigation projects; contributes to poverty/regional conflicts; need to create additional living/working space

#### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* additional living/working space is created; population is rising; governments have challenged aid agencies
- Vague response  
*Examples:* there is more and more land; it is lost; people are affected
- No response

## Document 4

### The Subcontinent of India

. . . Only in the northern mountain region do temperatures fall below freezing. The hot season comes on in March, with temperatures ranging from 80 to 90 degrees along the coasts to well over 100 degrees in the Indo-Gangetic Plain. The rainy season, brought on by the southwest monsoon carrying moisture off the Indian Ocean, spans the months of June through September. Moisture here means as many as 450 inches of rainfall in certain spots along the west coast and in the state of Assam in the extreme northeast. In the interior and along the east coast, the summer monsoon has already lost most of its moisture, and rainfall may average only 40 to 80 inches. Moisture from the Bay of Bengal brings about 120 inches of rain to the northeastern portion of India and Bangladesh. Monsoons, winds that blow for a whole season, come twice a year. The northeast or winter monsoon blows from land to sea in most of the subcontinent and brings little rain. . . .

Source: James I. Clark, *India: The Subcontinent: India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh*, McDougal, Littell & Company

#### 4 According to James I. Clark, what is a monsoon?

##### Score of 1:

- Defines a monsoon as stated by James I. Clark  
*Examples:* seasonal winds; winds that blow for a whole season; winds that come twice a year; winds that have an impact on the moisture in a given area

##### Score of 0:

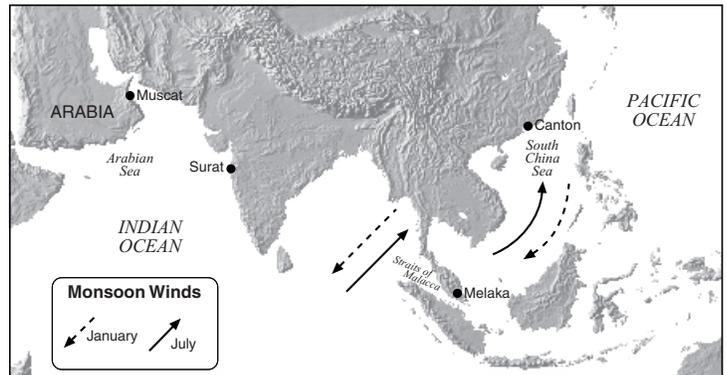
- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* rain; a season that lasts from June through September; daily weather changes; temperatures that range from 80–90 degrees
- Vague response  
*Examples:* moisture; northern mountain regions; a season
- No response

## Document 5a

. . . Nature also shaped the rhythms of trade and the places where it was conducted by constraining [hindering] transportation. All across maritime Asia—from Canton [China] to Mocca [southern Arabia]—trading schedules were dictated by the monsoon winds. Since strong winds blew consistently in one direction for several months and then stopped, and then blew consistently the other way for months, it made no sense to fight those winds. A trader went as far as he (or occasionally she) could in one direction and then stayed around until the wind reversed; his goods were then picked up by another merchant who had arrived earlier and knew precisely how long into the next season he could safely stay and still have enough days of favorable wind to get home. Thus, instead of Chinese traders spending two or more monsoon seasons (and years) sailing all the way to, say, Persia with silks, it made more sense to sail out one monsoon season and exchange with intermediaries based in between and thereby return home with frankincense and rugs. A series of emporia [trade centers] developed at sites such as Melaka [Malacca], Surat [India], and the Muscat [Oman] that had more to do with how far one could travel from there in one sailing season than with what goods could be produced locally. The result was a remarkably lively and cosmopolitan chain of port cities along the Asian littoral [sea coast], but in many cases these cities had only weak relationships with their immediate hinter-lands [areas inland from the port]. . . .

Source: Pomeranz and Topik, *The World That Trade Created*, M. E. Sharpe, 1999 (adapted)

## Document 5b



Sources: "The West and the Spice Trade," Calliope, Cobblestone (adapted); Mountain High Maps, Digital Wisdom (adapted)

### 5 Based on these documents, what is *one* way the monsoons affected trade in Southeast Asia?

#### Score of 1:

- States a way the monsoons affected trade in Southeast Asia based on these documents  
*Examples:* the monsoons affected trading schedules; they dictated direction/distance traveled by traders; a trader sailed out one monsoon season and returned with goods when the winds reversed; transportation was hindered/helped; traders depended on intermediaries instead of spending two or more monsoon seasons sailing; a series of emporia/trade centers developed at sites based on how far one could travel in a sailing season

#### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* Chinese traders spent two or more monsoon seasons sailing all the way to Persia; emporia produced goods locally; trade in the Arabian Sea was blocked; they only traded in July and January
- Vague response  
*Examples:* it made no sense to fight winds; trade was conducted; traders knew the distance/direction
- No response

## Document 6a

Summer 1983



Pushing replaces pedaling when monsoon waters send the Ganges over its banks to inundate [flood] the city of Varanasi (Banaras) in Uttar Pradesh. Last year [1983] the city lay under water mixed with sewage, rotting grain, and floating carcasses of animals. Elsewhere in the state flash floods swept away a locomotive and three railcars.

Source: Priit J. Vesilind, "Monsoons: Life Breath of Half the World," *National Geographic*, December 1984, Photograph by Steve McCurry (adapted)

## Document 6a

**6a** What was *one* problem that people in the Varanasi region of India faced once the 1983 summer monsoons arrived, based on this *National Geographic* photograph and its caption?

### Score of 1:

- States a problem that people in the Varanasi region of India faced once the 1983 summer monsoons arrived based on this *National Geographic* photograph and its caption  
*Examples:* floods; the Ganges overflowed its banks; the city lay under water mixed with sewage/rotting grain/floating carcasses of animals; transportation through the city was difficult; buildings were flooded; flash floods swept away a locomotive/railcars in Uttar Pradesh; too much water/rain; how to survive after these floods

### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* people had to travel by bicycle; flash floods swept the city away; travel stopped
- Vague response  
*Examples:* people pushed; monsoons are the life breath of half the world; it was the summer of 1983
- No response

## Document 6b

### Late Monsoons

June 9 [1984]

... At midnight a stifling silence descended. Air conditioners hiccuped to a halt as electric-power rationing reached home consumers in [the city of] Trivandrum. All power to heavy industrial users had already been severed. Now, movie houses were restricted to one showing a day, neon display lights were outlawed, and stores were compelled to close by sundown. . . .

Across India reservoirs dwindled into puddles as the rains hovered offshore. About half of the nation's electricity is generated by hydropower, and thus by the monsoons. Government officials confessed to newspapers in anxiety that late rains would impede [interfere with] food production, aggravate inflation, and increase prices—and all this in a preelection year. Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, touring in Europe, asked for monsoon forecasts to be added to her daily political briefings. . . .

Source: Priit J. Vesilind, "Monsoons: Life Breath of Half the World," *National Geographic*, December 1984

**6b State two problems regions in India face when the monsoons are late, based on this excerpt from Priit J. Vesilind's article.**

#### Score of 2 or 1:

- Award 1 credit (up to a maximum of 2 credits) for each *different* problem that regions in India face when the monsoons are late based on this excerpt from Priit J. Vesilind's article  
*Examples:* electricity is rationed/movie houses are restricted to one showing a day/neon display lights can be outlawed/stores may be forced to close by sundown/power to heavy industrial users might be cut off; reservoirs may dwindle into puddles; late rains would interfere with food production/limited food production; late rains would aggravate inflation/increased prices; shutting down businesses may cost workers wages

**Note:** To receive maximum credit, two *different* problems that regions in India face when the monsoons are late must be stated. For example, *electric-power is rationed* and *movie houses are restricted to one showing per day* are the same problem since *movie houses are restricted to one showing per day* is a subset of *the rationing of electric-power*. In this and similar cases, award only **one** credit for this question.

#### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* there might be no lights; everything is shut down; monsoon forecasts are added to political briefings
- Vague response  
*Examples:* stores are compelled; electricity is generated; government officials confessed
- No response

## Document 7

. . . Russia has a largely continental climate because of its sheer size and compact configuration. Most of its land is more than 400 kilometers from the sea, and the center is 3,840 kilometers from the sea. In addition, Russia's mountain ranges, predominantly to the south and the east, block moderating temperatures from the Indian and Pacific oceans, but European Russia and northern Siberia lack such topographic protection from the Arctic and North Atlantic oceans. . . .

The long, cold winter has a profound impact on almost every aspect of life in the Russian Federation. It affects where and how long people live and work, what kinds of crops are grown, and where they are grown (no part of the country has a year-round growing season). The length and severity of the winter, together with the sharp fluctuations in the mean summer and winter temperatures, impose special requirements on many branches of the economy. In regions of permafrost, buildings must be constructed on pilings, machinery must be made of specially tempered steel, and transportation systems must be engineered to perform reliably in extremely low and extremely high temperatures. In addition, during extended periods of darkness and cold, there are increased demands for energy, health care, and textiles. . . .

Source: <http://country-studies.us/russia/24.htm>

### 7 According to this information from Country Studies, what is *one* way the cold winters affect the permafrost region of Russia?

#### Score of 1:

- States a way the cold winters affect the permafrost region of Russia according to this information from Country Studies  
*Examples:* cold winters affect where and how long people work; the winters affect what kind of crops are grown/where they are grown; buildings must be constructed on pilings; machinery must be made of specially tempered steel; transportation systems must be engineered to perform reliably in extremely low temperatures; there are increased demands for energy/health care/textiles during extended periods of darkness and cold

#### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* it blocks moderating temperatures from the Indian and Pacific Oceans; it fluctuates between hot and cold; the Russian people must leave for the winter; it has a year-round growing season
- Vague response  
*Examples:* it has a profound impact; there are extended periods of cold; there are special requirements
- No response

## Document 8

Old Man Winter



Source: Leslie Gilbert Illingworth, November 10, 1941,  
Library of Wales, Aberystwyth (adapted)

8 Based on this cartoon by Leslie Gilbert Illingworth, what role did “Old Man Winter” play in the defense of Russia?

### Score of 1:

- States the role “Old Man Winter” played in the defense of Russia as shown in this cartoon by Leslie Gilbert Illingworth  
*Examples:* harsh winters hampered foreign invasions of Russia; it stopped the Nazi Panzers from reaching Moscow; he made it difficult for the RAF/British Royal Air Force to fly into Russia

### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* harsh winters prevented foreign invasions of Russia; it helped the Nazis invade Russia; the RAF escaped bad weather
- Vague response  
*Examples:* there were Nazi Panzers; it reached Moscow; planes flew higher
- No response

## Document 9

. . . Ardalin's [a region in the Russian Arctic] unique ecology challenged the Russian and Western personnel working in the field to find new approaches to preserve the fragile ecosystem of the Arctic tundra. Because the tundra is particularly vulnerable in summertime, construction and drilling operations were conducted only in winter to shield the tundra from harmful affects. Roads were built from ice to transport equipment and supplies to the remote site. When the ground thawed, helicopters were used to bring in equipment and supplies. . . .

Source: IPIECA, "Conoco in the Russian Arctic: Preserving delicate Arctic ecology by minimizing the development footprint and environmental impact"

### 9 What are *two* ways the Russians have adapted to the challenges of developing the tundra, according to the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA)?

#### Score of 2 or 1:

- Award 1 credit (up to a maximum of 2 credits) for each *different* way the Russians have adapted to the challenges of developing the tundra  
*Examples:* construction/drilling operations were conducted only in winter; roads were built from ice to transport equipment/supplies; helicopters were used to bring in equipment/supplies when the ground thawed

**Note:** To receive maximum credit, two *different* ways the Russians have adapted to the challenges of developing the tundra must be stated. For example, *conducting construction and drilling operations in the winter to preserve the tundra* and *limiting when construction and drilling was conducted to preserve the tundra* are the same way expressed in different words. In this and similar cases, award only *one* credit for this question.

#### Score of 0:

- Incorrect response  
*Examples:* people work only in the winter; there are no harmful effects on the tundra; roads are blocked by ice
- Vague response  
*Examples:* it is vulnerable; new approaches were found; the ground thawed
- No response

**Global History and Geography**  
**Content-Specific Rubric**  
**Document-Based Question**  
**June 2010**

**Historical Context:** Throughout history, geographic factors such as *deserts, monsoons, and cold climates* have had a variety of effects on different regions.

**Task:** Select *two* geographic factors mentioned in the historical context and for *each*

- Describe the geographic factor
- Discuss the effects this geographic factor has had on a specific region or regions

**Scoring Notes:**

1. This document-based question has a minimum of *six* components (describing *each* of *two* geographic factors *and* discussing *at least two* effects that *each* geographic factor has had on a specific region or regions).
2. The description of the geographic factor may be specific (Sahara Desert) or general (deserts); however, the discussion of effects must be on a specific region or regions.
3. Although the Sahara Desert, monsoons in India, and cold climate in Russia are the focus of the documents, other regions may be selected to discuss the effects of deserts, monsoons, and/or cold climates.
4. The discussion of the effects of a geographic factor may focus on one region or more than one region, e.g., the effects of deserts on both Egypt and China.
5. The specific region affected may be the same for both geographic factors, e.g., India may be the region discussed for both deserts and monsoons.
6. The effects of the geographic factor may be immediate or long term.
7. Only two geographic factors should be chosen from the historical context. If three geographic factors are discussed, only the first two may be rated.
8. For purposes of meeting the criteria of using *at least four* documents in the response, documents 5a, 5b, 6a, and 6b may be considered as separate documents *if* the response uses separate facts from each document.

**Score of 5:**

- Thoroughly develops *all* aspects of the task evenly and in depth by describing *each* of *two* geographic factors and by discussing *at least two* effects *each* geographic factor had on a specific region or regions
- Is more analytical than descriptive (analyzes, evaluates, and/or creates\* information) (*desert*: describes the desert and connects the lack of water and limitations on agricultural activities to the development of civilizations in the Sahara near rivers such as the Nile and to the development of a trade system across the desert to join northern Africa to sub-Saharan Africa thereby encouraging cultural diffusion; *cold climate*: describes the cold climate and connects the protracted harsh winter climate of vast regions of Russia to the attempts of Peter the Great and Catherine the Great to conquer more mild areas and to the challenges faced by invaders from the west who failed despite more technologically advanced armies)
- Incorporates relevant information from *at least four* documents (see Key Ideas Chart)
- Incorporates substantial relevant outside information (see Outside Information Chart)
- Richly supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details (*desert*: arid climate; oases; camel; desertification; nomadic lifestyle; Nile River Valley; Mali; Songhai; spread of Islam; *cold climate*: St. Petersburg; Ukraine; “bread basket” of Russia; limited growing season; Napoleonic Wars; “scorched earth policy”; Nazi invasion; Stalingrad; Leningrad)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme

**Score of 4:**

- Develops *all* aspects of the task but may do so somewhat unevenly by discussing all aspects of the task for one geographic factor more thoroughly than for the second geographic factor
- Is both descriptive and analytical (applies, analyzes, evaluates, and/or creates\* information) (*desert*: describes the desert and discusses the role of the Nile in the development of Egyptian civilization in the Sahara and how the development of trans-Saharan trade routes using camels led to the rise of the Mali civilization; *cold climate*: describes the cold climate and discusses the influence of the limited growing season of Russia and the isolating cold climate on the need to conquer western and southern territories and the implementation of the Russian policy of expansion)
- Incorporates relevant information from *at least four* documents
- Incorporates relevant outside information
- Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are beyond a restatement of the theme

**Score of 3:**

- Develops *all* aspects of the task with little depth *or* develops *at least four* components of the task in some depth
- Is more descriptive than analytical (applies, may analyze and/or evaluate information)
- Incorporates some relevant information from some of the documents
- Incorporates limited relevant outside information
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details; may include some minor inaccuracies
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that may be a restatement of the theme

**Note:** If *all* aspects of the task have been thoroughly developed evenly and in depth for *one* geographic factor and if the response meets most of the other Level 5 criteria, the overall response may be a Level 3 paper.

**Score of 2:**

- Minimally develops *all* aspects of the task *or* develops *at least three* components of the task in some depth
- Is primarily descriptive; may include faulty, weak, or isolated application or analysis
- Incorporates limited relevant information from the documents *or* consists primarily of relevant information copied from the documents
- Presents little or no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details; may include some inaccuracies
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; may lack focus; may contain digressions; may not clearly identify which aspect of the task is being addressed; may lack an introduction and/or a conclusion

**Score of 1:**

- Minimally develops some aspects of the task
- Is descriptive; may lack understanding, application, or analysis
- Makes vague, unclear references to the documents *or* consists primarily of relevant and irrelevant information copied from the documents
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, or details; may include inaccuracies
- May demonstrate a weakness in organization; may lack focus; may contain digressions; may not clearly identify which aspect of the task is being addressed; may lack an introduction and/or a conclusion

**Score of 0:**

Fails to develop the task or may only refer to the theme in a general way; *OR* includes no relevant facts, examples, or details; *OR* includes only the historical context and/or task as copied from the test booklet; *OR* includes only entire documents copied from the test booklet; *OR* is illegible; *OR* is a blank paper

\*The term *create* as used by Anderson/Krathwohl, et al. in their 2001 revision of Bloom's *Taxonomy of Educational Objectives* refers to the highest level of the cognitive domain. This usage of create is similar to Bloom's use of the term *synthesis*. Creating implies an insightful reorganization of information into a new pattern or whole. While a Level 5 paper will contain analysis and/or evaluation of information, a very strong paper may also include examples of creating information as defined by Anderson and Krathwohl.

## Deserts (Sahara)

### *Key Ideas from Documents 1–3*

Description of Deserts	Effects of Deserts
<p><b>Doc 1</b>—Desolate landscape Most extensive desert in the world Varied landscapes ranging from rock formations and volcanic peaks to vast stretches of gravelly plains and broad belts of shifting sand dunes Some vegetation and oases Some subterranean water</p> <p><b>Doc 2</b>—More than 3 million square miles in area World’s largest desert High temperatures during the day (120 degrees Fahrenheit) Scant supplies of water</p>	<p><b>Doc 1</b>—Possible to gain a livelihood in Saharan oases as cultivators or herders</p> <p><b>Doc 2</b>—Until the 7th century, limitations on contacts between North Africa and interior by nature of Sahara Need for careful planning to journey across the desert Adaptation of modes of transportation to climate and terrain (camel took the place of the horse)</p> <p><b>Doc 3</b>—Loss of productive land every year as a result of desertification Challenges to governments and aid agencies as a result of desertification Desertification, a contributing factor in poverty and regional conflicts (Sudan) Need for settlement and irrigation projects in Egypt to create additional living and working space for growing population Problems from desertification in China (Gobi, Takla Makan)</p>

### *Relevant Outside Information*

(This list is not all-inclusive.)

Description of Deserts	Effects of Deserts
<p>Generally little rainfall Difference in temperature between day and night Adaptation of plants due to desert conditions Blinding dust storms from wind turbulence Development of trade centers in oases</p>	<p>Sahara expanding into Sahel through desertification Definition of and causes of desertification (overfarming, overgrazing) Promotion of a nomadic lifestyle (Bedouins) Connection of Nile River civilization to Sahara (need for irrigation) Rise of kingdoms of Ghana, Mali, and Songhai due to development of gold-salt trade Limited European advances into the region Details about regional conflicts (Darfur) Attraction of extractive industries due to natural resources (oil) Effect of sandstorms from Gobi on Beijing, China</p>

## Monsoons (South, Southeast Asia)

### *Key Ideas from Documents 4–6*

Description of Monsoons	Effects of Monsoons
<p><b>Doc 4</b>—Moisture from the Indian Ocean by southwest or summer monsoon (rainy season) As many as 450 inches of rainfall in certain spots along west coast and state of Assam with southwest monsoon Only 40 to 80 inches average rainfall in interior and along east coast with summer monsoon About 120 inches of rainfall in northeastern India and in Bangladesh during summer monsoon Winds that blow for a whole season Twice a year occurrence Little rain from northeast or winter monsoon that blows from land to sea in most of subcontinent</p> <p><b>Doc 5</b>—Winds from the southwest in January and the northeast in July Consistently strong winds from one direction for several months and then consistently the other way for other months</p>	<p><b>Doc 5</b>—Dictation of trading schedules by monsoon winds Development of trade patterns (better to sail out one monsoon season, exchange with intermediaries, and then return home with reversal of winds) Development of cosmopolitan trade centers (more to do with how far one could travel in one sailing season than with locally produced goods)</p> <p><b>Doc 6</b>—Disruption of transportation, water mixed with sewage, rotting grain, floating carcasses of animals with flooding in Varanasi Flash floods in Uttar Pradesh Rationing of electric power in Trivandrum Dwindling of water supplies in reservoirs across India Ability to generate electricity by hydropower diminished by late monsoons Possible negative effects of late rains (interference with food production, inflation, increase in prices, influence on elections)</p>

### *Relevant Outside Information*

(This list is not all-inclusive.)

Description of Monsoons	Effects of Monsoons
<p>Linked to seasonal cycles of land/water temperatures Variation in strength and intensity from year to year Changing location and severity of winds due to global warming</p>	<p>Association with unique plant and animal species Filling of seasonal rivers on Deccan Plateau Impact on voyages of exploration (Zheng He, da Gama) Significant influence on culture (celebration of arrival of life-giving forces of monsoon) Late monsoons—a cause of crops wilting and dying Drowning of crops due to flooding from monsoons Dependence on monsoons to feed large population Need for crops that are resistant to droughts and floods Need for new energy supplies not dependent on water (nuclear) Difficulty of delivering relief services during rainy season (Bangladesh) Cultural diffusion from trade patterns established by monsoons (spread of Islam and Buddhism) Spread of spice trade from Asia to Europe</p>

## Cold Climates (Russia)

### Key Ideas from Documents 7–9

Description of Cold Climates	Effects of Cold Climates
<p><b>Doc 7—Russia</b>            Largely continental climate because of size and location            Most land more than 400 kilometers from the sea, center 3,840 km from the sea contributing to cold winter season            Blocking of moderating temperatures from Indian and Pacific Oceans by mountain ranges            Lack of topographic protection from Arctic and North Atlantic Oceans in European Russia and northern Siberia            Long and severe winters            Sharp fluctuations in mean summer and winter temperatures            Regions of permafrost            Extended periods of darkness</p>	<p><b>Doc 7</b>—Where and how long people live and work            What kinds and where crops are grown            No year-round growing season            Regions of permafrost—buildings constructed on pilings, machinery made of specially tempered steel, transportation systems engineered to perform reliably in extremely low and high temperatures            Increased demands for energy, health care, and textiles  <b>Doc 8</b>—Stopping of Nazi Panzers and British Royal Air Force by winter during World War II            Difficult to invade and/or aid Russia because of Old Man Winter  <b>Doc 9</b>—Performance of construction and drilling operations only in winter to shield tundra from harm            Building of roads from ice            Use of helicopters to bring in equipment and supplies when ground thaws</p>

### Relevant Outside Information

(This list is not all-inclusive.)

Description of Cold Climates	Effects of Cold Climates
<p>Dominant climatic feature of Siberia            Short summer season in northernmost Siberia            Polar icecaps, glaciers, sub-arctic temperatures            Polar desert, tundra, taiga in Siberia</p>	<p>Russia’s historical search for warm-water port (Peter the Great, Catherine the Great)            Use of Siberia as a place to exile political prisoners because of isolation and climate            Role in defeat of Napoleon by disrupting supply lines            Role in defeat of Nazis in Leningrad and Stalingrad            Development of gulags under Stalin that used prisoners to extract wealth of Siberia under adverse conditions            Government policies to encourage settlement of Siberia (government subsidies, Trans-Siberian Railway)            Difficult extraction of resources (coal, diamonds, oil, natural gas)            Frozen rivers much of year (need for advanced technology to ship on northern waters)            Connection of global warming to melting permafrost and release of methane gases            Connection of Arctic gasfields to European consumers with Siberian gas pipeline</p>

Throughout history, geography had played a significant role in the development of regions. It imposes both positive and negative effects on the inhabitants than allow for the success or failure of a region. Deserts, with their massive size and extreme climates impose many difficulties for the people inhabiting the area. Cold climates also provide many obstacles for settlement. Both Deserts and Cold climates have both positive and negative effects on the regions' development specifically North Africa and Russia.

The Sahara Desert, the largest desert in the world, has a very diverse geography and climate. Not only are there vast miles of sand dunes, but in the highlands exist rock formations and volcanic peaks or gravelly plains. The temperature while hot during the day can go below freezing at night. Despite this diverse geography, people have settled in the desert and thrived. But, the deserts also acted as a means of isolating regions from one another. As a consequence, the Northern region of Africa prior to the 7<sup>th</sup> century because of contact with Mediterranean states developed a culture that was different from the area south of the Desert. Cities such as Carthage and Alexandria developed with similar characteristics and technology as the great cities of Athens, Byzantium and later Rome. But soon merchants started to venture into the sea of sand and started to discover

other regions. Although they did go to the south of the desert, the journey was long and hard and the end many times was not worth the means. When the merchants started to use camels instead of horses for travel, the trade became much easier. The camel which originated from the Asian deserts, were already accustomed to the climate of the Sahara and were already adapted to traveling long distances. They did not need to have water often and their wider hooves allowed them to travel in the sand easier(2). Merchants capitalized on the Sahara's varied features by linking and connecting oases together. Now with an efficient means of transportation and these well-placed trade routes, many more merchants were able to start trading with some of sub-Saharan Africa. Muslim merchants who were the most prominent, were not only able to prosper from the trade, but were also able to spread their religion and culture. Civilizations in western Africa and around the Horn of Africa accepted Islam. Mansa Musa, a Mali emperor, promoted the expansion of the religion and he traveled to Mecca on his hajj on the same trade routes through the Sahara that merchants had developed. Today Islam is a major religion in parts of Africa partially because of these merchants and their influence. The desert is also having a large impact on the people because of desertification.

The desert is essentially spreading as productive land is being destroyed and this has major effects on the governments and people. The semi-arid areas in the Sahel are being damaged by overfarming and overgrazing which is causing these fragile areas to turn into basically unusable desert land. With less productive land populations are being displaced and more and more people are competing for less and less productive land. As a result, poverty is increasing in the regions and causing conflicts and human suffering especially in the Darfur region of the Sudan<sup>(3)</sup>. This shows us that we must take care of the land we have and must not waste it or else even more people will suffer.

On the contrary, in Russia the cold winter climate had different impacts on the region but still had the same isolating effect as the desert. The winter effects how long the people work and what crops are able to be grown. Buildings must be built on pilings because of permafrost and tempered steel must be used in order to withstand the extreme temperatures<sup>(7)</sup>. This extreme environment makes habitation extremely hard and as a result the population in permafrost regions such as Siberia is small. The cold climate also hinders invaders. The cold Russian winter was able to assist

Russia in many battles. The Nazis had extreme difficulty on the Eastern front because of the extreme climate. During the Battle of Moscow, the Soviets were able to obtain a victory against the Nazis because of the cold climate.

The Nazis struggled because some of their equipment froze and could not be used.<sup>(8)</sup> Also, earlier Napoleon during his conquests was not even able to conquer Moscow because of the cold winter and only a few were able to survive the trip back to France. This eventually led to Napoleon's ultimate defeat because his army never recovered. The cold climate contributed to isolation which was not good for Russia trade either, as the country had no warm water ports for many years.

Because the cold climate prevented easy trade, Peter the Great built a new capital on the warmer waters of the Baltic Sea. Russia then had its "window to the west" and was able to modernize and gain technology.

Throughout history, geography had a direct impact in the development in nations across the world. Both the deserts in Africa and the cold winter in Russia isolated the regions and hindered their development. However, these regions have been able to adapt to their geographic conditions and minimize the negative effects of their isolation.

## Anchor Level 5-A

### The response:

- Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth for deserts and cold climates
- Is more analytical than descriptive (*deserts*: isolated regions from one another; when merchants started to use camels instead of horses for travel, the trek became much easier; with an efficient means of transportation and well-placed trade routes, many merchants were able to start trading with some of sub-Saharan Africa; the desert is spreading as productive land is being destroyed; populations are being displaced and more and more people are competing for less and less productive land; desertification shows us that we must take care of the land that we have and must not waste it; *cold climates*: extreme environment makes habitation extremely hard; Nazis had extreme difficulty on the Eastern Front; Peter the Great built a new capital on the warmer waters of the Baltic Sea and gained a “Window to the West”)
- Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates substantial relevant outside information (*deserts*: as a consequence of their isolating effects, the northern region of Africa prior to the 7th century developed a culture that was different from the areas south of the desert; merchants capitalized on the Sahara’s varied features by linking and connecting oases together; civilizations in western Africa and around the horn of Africa accepted Islam; Mansa Musa, a Mali emperor, traveled on the same trade routes through the Sahara that merchants had developed; today Islam is a major religion in parts of Africa partially because of merchants and their influence; the semiarid areas in the Sahel are being damaged by overfarming and overgrazing; as a result of desertification, poverty is increasing in the regions and causing conflicts especially in the Darfur region of Sudan; *cold climates*: population in permafrost regions such as Siberia is small; during the Battle of Moscow, the Soviets were able to obtain a victory against the Nazis; Nazis struggled because some of their equipment froze and could not be used; Napoleon was not able to conquer Moscow and only a few were able to survive the trip back; led to Napoleon’s ultimate defeat; contributed to isolation as the country had no warm-water ports)
- Richly supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: not only are there vast miles of sand dunes, but in the highlands exist rock formations and volcanic peaks or gravelly plains; temperature while hot during the day can go below freezing at night; camels were already accustomed to the climate of the Sahara and were already adapted to traveling long distances; *cold climates*: winter affects how long the people work and what crops are able to be grown; buildings must be built on pilings because of permafrost and tempered steel must be used to withstand the extreme temperatures; it hindered invaders and assisted Russia in many battles)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction that states geographic factors have both positive and negative effects but emphasizes the negative effects and a conclusion that states regions have been able to adapt to minimize the negative effects

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 5. Good outside historical information is woven into the narrative to expand on document interpretation. The rich detail and strong analysis create a picture of how parts of Africa and Russia were able to minimize the negative effects of their geographic topography.

Throughout history, geography often has been directly related to the success and prosperity of any given civilization. In particular, deserts and monsoons have had significant effects, not only on the society that is directly challenged with these geographic features, but most importantly, on its dealings with other regions, as it has been made clear throughout the history of the world, success has to be measured in comparison to other areas. These geographic features play a key role in laying the foundation for later political, social, and economic developments based on their effects on cross cultural interactions in separate regions of the world. However, when nature cannot be controlled, the effects can be devastating.

The presence of deserts in Africa has had the most effect on its development compared to any other geographic feature. With its broad belts of shifting sand and great expanses of gravelly plains, the Sahara desert covers most of the northern part of Africa. Many historians support the theory of geographic determinism, which suggests that due to the lack of sufficient fertile land, Africa had a late start in development in relation to most of the western world, which can account for the perception of Africa as a generally underdeveloped continent. However, deserts also <sup>directly</sup> affected other features of African society, such as the spread of Islam. Islam was spread in Africa from cross cultural contacts, and because better methods for travel in the Sahara had been developed, such as the use of the camel rather than the horse. The camel was more water efficient. It took <sup>more</sup> time for Islam to establish its presence in certain parts of Africa than it

otherwise might have if there had been more sources of water along trade routes. (2) As a result, the concentration of Muslims in Sub-Saharan Africa is far less than in northern Africa. The unfavorable desert conditions may have slowed and limited the expansion of one of the fastest growing religions in the world. Another impact of deserts in Africa is desertification which is difficult to control as the methods to counter desertification are sometimes expensive and may require substantial government and community involvement. So with quickly rising populations in some of Africa and increased desertification it is increasingly difficult to support the population in these areas. (3) Because of the poverty and poor infrastructure in many African nations, stopping the devastation of desertification is even harder.

In India, monsoons can be seen as both a positive and negative geographical feature. Monsoons, which are defined as "winds that blow for a whole season" (4) greatly affected trade schedules when Indian traders sailed the Indian Ocean during the monsoon season. Often they would have to remain in foreign nations during monsoon seasons, which depending on the direction at the time, made travel difficult, but while they waited for the next sailing season, they would be able to utilize foreign markets and return home with considerably more foreign goods and ideas than would have been possible had they not been forced to remain there by monsoons. (5) Also, cross cultural interactions allow further development of the existing culture, so

in this way, monsoons had great implications for Indian culture and economy. However, like with desertification in Africa, monsoons are difficult to control, and have negative effects, such as flooding (6a). And in addition, India has a dependance on water supplied by monsoons, so if a monsoon<sup>season</sup> comes late, it interferes with food production and electricity, which in parts of India comes from hydroelectric power (6b). Monsoons bring much of the water supply in India. Farmers depend on the rainfall to raise their crops. Because of weather patterns, monsoons do not evenly distribute water throughout the country, so farmers have developed irrigation methods that take water from the rivers and pump it to areas that need it. However, when the summer monsoons are late, the water levels in rivers are low. As a result, rivers used to generate electricity cannot pump water to the fields.

It is often that distinctive nations have distinctive geographical features which cause them to either succeed or fail. However, a geographical feature is only beneficial when it can be controlled and utilized, as shown by the comparison of deserts and monsoons. But when civilizations possess beneficial geographical features, it is more than likely that they will succeed on a global scale. Geography in this way can determine the potential success of a nation or continent because even with strong rulers and a powerful economy, negative geographical features can sometimes sabotage the success of any civilizations

## Anchor Level 5-B

### **The response:**

- Thoroughly develops all aspects of the task evenly and in depth for deserts and monsoons
- Is more analytical than descriptive (*deserts*: presence of deserts in Africa has had the most effect on its development compared to any other geographic feature; unfavorable desert conditions may have slowed and limited the expansion of one of the fastest growing religions in the world; desertification is difficult to control, as the methods to counter it are typically expensive and require substantial government and community involvement; *monsoons*: while traders waited for the next sailing season, they would be able to utilize foreign markets and return home with considerably more foreign goods and ideas than might otherwise have been possible; monsoons are difficult to control and have negative effects such as flooding)
- Incorporates relevant information from documents 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Incorporates substantial relevant outside information (*deserts*: many historians support the theory of geographic determinism which suggests that due to the lack of sufficient fertile land, Africa had a late start in development in relation to most of the Western world which can account for the perception of Africa as a generally underdeveloped continent; Islam was spread in Africa because of cross-cultural contacts and because better methods of travel had been developed; desertification makes it difficult to support the rising population; because of the poverty and poor infrastructure in many African nations, stopping the devastation of desertification is even harder; *monsoons*: late monsoons are a problem because monsoons bring a majority of water that exists in India; because of weather patterns, monsoons do not evenly distribute water throughout India, which makes it necessary to develop irrigation methods)
- Richly supports the theme with many relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: shifting sands and gravelly plains; methods for travel in the Sahara had been developed such as the use of the camel rather than the horse; camel was more water efficient; *monsoons*: winds that blow for a whole season; affected trade schedules when Indian traders sailed the Indian Ocean during monsoon season; India has a dependence on water supplied by monsoons, so if the monsoon season comes late, it interferes with food production and electricity, which in parts of India comes from hydroelectric power)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that state geographic factors play a key role in laying the foundation for later political, social, and economic developments

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 5. The sophisticated level of analysis and the integration of outside information, current issues, and document information throughout the response demonstrate an understanding of the effects of geography.

Humans must learn to adapt to their surroundings. For example, when Otzi the Iceman was discovered he was wearing some clothing made from the furs of an animal to protect him from the cold. The Incas and the Japanese, faced with mountainous terrain, had to learn terrace farming to make the most of what they had. Two other geographic factors that affect regions are deserts and monsoons. Deserts, such as those in Africa and China, and monsoons, predominantly in southern Asia near China and India, have created difficulties that have caused the people inhabiting those areas to adapt to survive the harsh conditions.

Deserts are hot, mainly dry areas of land that impede farming and cause other problems. Despite common belief, the Sahara Desert actually has quite a varying landscape, ranging from dry, arid areas to oases where water and fertile soil are plentiful. However, these oases are mainly in the northern fringes, so it is difficult to farm elsewhere in the Sahara. In these parts of the Sahara people trade or herd. (1) This desert, as the largest in the world, is difficult to traverse, especially with the heat, lack of water, and chances of getting lost. These conditions pretty much stifled interaction between North Africa and the interior. This dangerous journey was made more bearable when the introduction of the camel replaced the use of horses, after the 4<sup>th</sup> century A.D. Camels were better than horses because they could travel long distances without water and had wider hooves that facilitated walking through

sand. The opening up of Africa through the desert was a result of the increased use of the trans-Saharan trade routes. Islamic traders in the 7<sup>th</sup> century began to do business with Africans. (2) Gold was a resource western sub-Saharan Africa traded in exchange for salt and other goods from the North. When the Muslim traders came to the lands south of the Sahara, they spread Islam gaining many converts in western Africa. Islam had a large effect on the region, especially when kings such as Mansa Musa converted and set up Islamic schools, and encouraged conversion. Despite the difficulty of traveling through the Sahara, trade routes helped increase interaction between North and sub-Saharan Africa. However, a more complex problem affecting deserts such as the Gobi and the Takla Makan in China is desertification. Areas such as Sudan and Egypt are also affected by this issue. It directly affects 1.2 billion people and, combined with population growth, leads to poverty and regional conflicts. As the desert grows, populations who used to be able to farm and herd, can no longer be supported by the land. In the Sudan, this has led to major conflict in the region of Darfur where groups of government-supported Muslim bandits are killing off the Sudanese farmers who settled ~~own~~ their lands. As it is a continual problem, governments and aid agencies have been forced to take on the role of addressing human rights abuses. Whereas in the past the Sahara Desert connected cultures of North and sub-Saharan

Africa, through trade, today the expanding desert is causing conflict. Because of desertification many communities are forced to relocate. Desertification also affects China where about two-thirds of the country and more than 400 million have been affected. (3) People in the Takla Makan Desert and the areas around the Gobi Desert who used to be nomadic hunters and gatherers can no longer support themselves and have also had to relocate because of desertification. Just as the desert made life difficult, monsoons adversely affect the people who face them.

Monsoons, or winds that blow for a whole season, flow in one direction and in the summer often bring heavy rains. For example, in India, monsoons bring rain from the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal. (4) These winds, that come twice a year confined early merchants to their ports partly because they did not have steam engines or other ways to sail against the strong winds. Due to these conditions, it is more practical for a trader to sail out one monsoon, trade with another merchant, then sail back the next, instead of completing the whole journey. Since merchants are acting as middlemen and are working together, the development of trade ports and cities, particularly on Asian coastlines, was facilitated by the monsoons. (5a) Despite the ability to work more efficiently today, the people in those areas still struggle to deal with the heavy rains brought on by

the monsoons. For example, cities like Varanasi flood, and the flood water is a combination of rainy sewage, rotting grain, and dead animals. (6a) These floods have been so damaging that even trains have been lost. Late monsoons also caused troubles like lower food production, higher inflation, and a raise in the prices of goods. In parts of India electricity is generated through water, so when monsoons are late, water supplies become low and thus electricity has to be rationed causing businesses to close at sundown. (6b)

The ability of humans to adapt to the geographic conditions that we live in has a limit, and we must endure what we cannot change. People have always lived based on their surroundings and we today are no exception. The diversity of cultures is created by geography, which dictates what is needed, what resources are available, and what we must do in the struggle for survival. Geographic determinism is the concept that geography determines how a society develops and it seems to be true.

## Anchor Level 4-A

### The response:

- Develops all aspects of the task but does so somewhat unevenly by discussing deserts more thoroughly than monsoons
- Is both descriptive and analytical (*deserts*: Sahara has a varying landscape ranging from dry, arid areas to oases where water and fertile soil are plentiful; oases are mainly in the northern fringes so it is difficult to farm elsewhere in the Sahara; Sahara is difficult to traverse, especially with the heat, lack of water, and chances of getting lost; conditions pretty much stifled interaction between North Africa and the interior; desertification, combined with population growth, leads to poverty and regional conflicts; *monsoons*: it was more practical for a trader to sail out one monsoon, trade with another merchant, then sail back the next; they facilitated development of trade ports and cities; people in Asia still struggle to deal with heavy rains brought on by monsoons; late monsoons also cause lower food production and higher inflation; in parts of India, electricity is generated through water so when monsoons are late, water supplies become low and thus electricity has to be rationed)
- Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Incorporates relevant outside information (*deserts*: opening up of Africa was a result of the increased use of trans-Saharan trade routes; gold was a resource western sub-Saharan Africa traded in exchange for salt and other goods from the North; Muslim traders spread Islam; as the desert grows, populations who used to be able to farm and herd can no longer be supported by the land; in Darfur, groups of government-supported Muslim bandits are killing off Sudanese farmers who settled on their lands; as desertification is a continual problem, governments and aid agencies have been forced to take on the role of addressing human rights abuses; people in the Takla Makan and the Gobi Desert who used to be nomadic hunters and gatherers can no longer support themselves; *monsoons*: they confined merchants to ports as they did not have steam engines and other ways to sail against the strong winds)
- Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: they are hot, mainly dry areas of land that impede farming; Sahara is the largest desert in the world; camels were better than horses because they could travel long distances without water and had wider hooves that facilitated walking through sand; desertification is a complex problem affecting the Gobi and the Takla Makan in China; about two-thirds of China has been affected by desertification; *monsoons*: they are winds that blow for a whole season and in the summer bring heavy rains; in India they bring rains from the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction that mentions several examples to demonstrate that humans have learned to adapt to their surroundings and a conclusion that discusses the validity of geographic determinism

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 4. The completeness of the discussion of deserts is consistent with a Level 5 paper, but the response is undermined by the terseness and reliance on document information in the treatment of monsoons. The focus on challenges presented by deserts and monsoons demonstrates a good understanding of the task.

Throughout the world there are many various types of weather, each having their own various effects on the region and the people who live there. Climate is a key factor in a regions geography and basically is the deciding factor on what the people living there can and cannot do forcing them to adapt to their environment. Geography too plays a key role as it forces people to adapt in order to survive. Geographic factors have a variety of effects on a region, and influence people to adapt to it in order to live and work.

One such geographic factor is the cold climate faced by Russia and other regions of North eastern Europe. Large cold fronts travel from the Arctic and Northern Atlantic. Russia lacks topographic protection and is forced to face these cold fronts head on. In Russia's Arctic Region, this ultimately causes them to have relatively low temperatures for much of the year being especially harsh during the winter. This extreme cold greatly impacts almost every aspect of life in the region. Peoples work time are greatly lowered as work in the harsh cold is extremely hard. Even agriculture production in this region is limited, with no year long growing season.

Because of climate in many areas, many crops do not grow easily and the Russian diet often depends on such crops as potatoes which can grow in the colder climate. The people of the Arctic region are even forced to reengineer their buildings and machinery in order to allow them to work during extreme conditions. These conditions take a large toll on the people of the area however its effects are not all bad.

During WWII Germany and Russia had signed the Nazi-Soviet Pact,

which said that neither would attack one another as Russia wanted no part of a war and Germany did not want to fight a two front war. However during the war Germany would grow desperate and attack Russia breaking the truce. Russia was unable to stop an invasion of a German panzer attack, however the Germans could not withstand the harshness of the Russian winters forcing them to retreat.

In many ways it wasn't the Red Army who won the war but rather it was the slow starvation and overexposure during the Russian winter that defeated the Germans. Even with his advanced weapons Hitler lost to the long winter. Geographic factors play large roles in the adaptation of the people of the nation due to its various factors both hindering and helping them.

Another geographic factor are the monsoons faced by the people in India. They come in the form of a rainy season during the summer as they carry moisture off the Indian ocean and travel inland onto India. This moisture can become up to 450 inches of rainfall in certain areas. These showers have brought so much rain that they sometimes caused erosion and landslides. Because of the possibility of floods during the monsoon season some people living near rivers have even adapted their building practices by constructing their houses on stilts. These monsoons have a number of other effects on the people of the region. Streets become flooded due to the extreme rain fall and make transportation very hard. Often destroying goods and machinery due to flash floods, and filling the streets with waste. The monsoons can be

quite a hindrance to the people of the region however without them they could not survive. When monsoons do not come on time or do not bring enough rain, local economies can be destroyed. They need the water to irrigate their crops or they can face food shortages thus causing an increase in pricing. They also can face energy crises as some of the regions are hydropowered, causing the government to place restrictions on use. Often times rationing energy causing heavy industrial users to close during certain hours the people of this area have adapted to their region.

Geographic factors play a key role in its region having various effects on the land and people who live there. At times it may be too harsh causing people to struggle to survive, while it could protect them and help them maintain their livelihood. Thanks to geographic factors people are able to adapt to them and even at times they may be harsh they also allow life.

## Anchor Level 4-B

### The response:

- Develops all aspects of the task for cold climates and monsoons
- Is both descriptive and analytical (*cold climates*: lack of protection causes the Arctic region to have relatively low temperatures much of the year, especially during the winter; people's work time is greatly lowered as work in the harsh cold is extremely hard; people of the Arctic region are forced to reengineer their buildings and machinery to allow them to work during extreme conditions; *monsoons*: streets become flooded due to the extreme rainfall and make transportation very hard; monsoons are quite a hindrance to people, however without them, they could not survive; as people need the water to irrigate their crops, they can face food shortages thus causing an increase in pricing; people can also face energy crises as some of the regions in India are hydro-powered, causing the government to place restrictions on use; when monsoons do not come on time or do not bring enough rain, local economies can be destroyed)
- Incorporates relevant information from documents 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates relevant outside information (*cold climates*: Russian diet often depends on such crops as potatoes, which can grow in the colder climate; Russia was unable to stop an invasion of a German Panzer attack, however, the Germans could not withstand the harshness of the Russian winters, forcing them to retreat; it was not the Red Army who won the war but rather it was the slow starvation and overexposure during the Russian winter that defeated the Germans; even with his advanced weapons, Hitler lost to the long winter; *monsoons*: showers have brought so much rain that they sometimes cause erosion and landslides; because of the possibility of floods during the monsoon season, some people living near rivers have even adapted their building practices by constructing their houses on stilts)
- Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (*cold climates*: large cold fronts travel from the Arctic and North Atlantic; Russia lacks topographic protection and is forced to face cold fronts head on; Russia's agricultural production is limited with no year-long growing season; *monsoons*: they come in the form of a rainy season during the summer as they carry moisture off the Indian Ocean and travel inland to India; the moisture can become up to 450 inches of rainfall in certain areas; flash floods often destroy goods and machinery and fill the streets with waste; rationing energy causes heavy industrial users to close during certain hours)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that state that geographic factors can either be harsh causing people to struggle to survive, or they can protect them and help them to maintain their livelihood

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 4. Although specific details are not plentiful, a working knowledge of those details is clearly implied in the analysis. Interpretation of outside historic information, especially in the discussion of Russia, strengthens the development of the theme.

Geography and climate have a huge affect on a region's trade, industry, agricultural, and thus its economy. Around the world nations are affected by availability of water, having good harbors, temperatures, deserts, and fertility of soil. All of these aspects contribute to or detract from the success of that nation or region's economy and political stability. One of the ways that governments are tested in relation to these natural aspects of their countries is by the way they react to any positive or negative effects caused by the geography and climate. Monsoons and extremely cold temperatures both deeply affect the lives of people in South and Southeast Asia and Russia respectively.

Monsoons are seasonal winds that blow for extended periods of time and can bring huge amounts of rainfall in the summer (Document 4). This rainfall can cause immense destruction but it can also aid farmers and hydroelectric powerplants in producing electricity. For example, in the city of Varanasi there was great harm done to this city and its people because of huge amounts of rainfall and the ensuing flooding. In 1983 because of a monsoon the Gange flooded its banks and its waters poured into Varanasi's streets bringing with it sewage, rotting grains, and the carcasses of dead animals. (Document 6a) It even derailed a locomotive and three rail cars in a flash flood. This is an example of the harm monsoons can cause when they are too "wet." Document 6b shows that

when the monsoons fail to come in a timely manner or even just produce less precipitation a country's activity can slow to a grinding halt. For example, in India in 1984, the late arrival of the monsoons decreased energy production in hydroelectric power plants to such a degree that heavy industry had to end by sundown at which time shops would close as well. Electricity was rationed by the government to supply homes only to midnight in an effort to deal with energy shortages caused by the late monsoons. The lack of monsoon rains also affects the agriculture of South and Southeast Asia by reducing irrigation and thus the production of food. In countries such as India, food production is vital because of its vast and increasing population. When the monsoons are late, India sometimes has to import food and prices on food products increase. This costs the country a lot of money. This means that parts of the infrastructure such as programs in education and healthcare will receive less funding. The dependence of the South and Southeast Asian peoples of the monsoon winds and rain is also shown by Document 5. This document shows how in the days of sailing merchant ships the monsoons decided the time when traders sailed north-east and southwest. In a way, the monsoons created a calendar for traders so that the traders knew when to sail home with enough wind to return home. To get the

greatest profit traders would gather goods brought to them by merchants from other parts of Asia and then take them back to India to sell. These aspects of life in the Asian nations of India as well as the Indonesian Islands, and all the way to Australia are affected greatly by the timing and amplitude of the seasonal monsoons.

In northern Russia, extremely low temperatures force the Russian government and its people to adapt to the brutal tundra climate. The winter affects where and in what jobs people work, all aspects of agriculture, and Russia's seasons affect the time of year that certain jobs are done and where they are done. (Document 7) Although the nomadic herders of reindeer have adapted to the environment, the permafrost area is not attractive to settlers so the workers for the oil companies live in specially designed quarters in the tundra. Where permafrost is present it is necessary to construct buildings on pilings, make machinery out of specially tempered steel, and create transportation systems so that extreme temperature swings do not affect their efficiency. These adaptations are done to provide livable areas in these areas of extreme cold. The Russians have adapted in Andalin because of its being a productive site for drilling for oil. In document 9 the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) works to preserve a fragile tundra ecosystem. Because of

the ground's vulnerability in summer drilling is only done in winter when it is protected by snow and ice. Roads also made from ice to preserve ground and helicopters bring in supplies in the summer. The Russians have thus adapted to an extremely cold climate and work to reduce their affect on the fragile tundra region.

Societies worldwide feel the effects of geography and climate in their daily lives. Although governments work to provide aid for those suffering from these natural factors, people can be harmed by the terrible power of nature. Today there is great dispute about the validity of claims of global warming. This new human-induced phase in Earth's history could result in rising temperatures and raised sea levels. We are already feeling the affects of global warming world wide and some work is being done to reduce the influence of humans on our environment.

## Anchor Level 4-C

### The response:

- Develops all aspects of the task for monsoons and cold climates
- Is both descriptive and analytical (*monsoons*: rainfall can cause immense destruction but can also aid farmers and hydroelectric power plants; in Varanasi, there was great harm because of huge amounts of rainfall and ensuing flooding; electricity was rationed to supply homes only until midnight in an effort to deal with energy shortages; lack of rains affects South and Southeast Asia by reducing irrigation and thus production of food; created a calendar for traders so that they knew when to sail with enough wind to return home; *cold climates*: in northern Russia, extremely low temperatures force the Russian government and its people to adapt to the brutal tundra climate; winter affects where and in what jobs people work, all aspects of agriculture, and the time of year that certain jobs are done and where they are done; adaptations are done to provide livable areas in the regions of extreme cold; because of the ground's vulnerability in summer, drilling is only done in winter when it is protected by snow and ice)
- Incorporates relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9
- Incorporates relevant outside information (*monsoons*: in countries such as India, food production is vital because of its vast and increasing population; when they are late, India sometimes has to import food products; prices increase and that means that parts of the infrastructure such as education and health care will receive less funding; *cold climates*: nomadic herders of reindeer have adapted to the environment; permafrost area is not attractive to settlers so the workers for the oil companies live in specially designed quarters in the tundra)
- Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (*monsoons*: seasonal winds that blow for extended periods of time and can bring huge amounts of rainfall in the summer; in 1983, the Ganges flooded its banks and its waters poured into Varanasi's streets bringing with it sewage, rotting grains, and carcasses of dead animals; a locomotive and three railcars were derailed in a flash flood; monsoons decided the time when traders sailed northeast and southwest; *cold climates*: where permafrost is present, it is necessary to construct buildings on pilings, make machinery out of specially tempered steel, and create transportation systems so that extreme temperature swings do not affect their efficiency; the Russians have adapted in the Ardalin because of it being a productive site for oil drilling; IPIECA works to preserve a fragile ecosystem; roads are made from ice to preserve the ground and helicopters bring in supplies in the summer); includes an inaccuracy (*monsoons*: in 1984, heavy industry had to end by sundown)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction that states geographic factors can contribute to or detract from the success of a nation or region and a conclusion that discusses global warming

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 4. Although good points are made about global warming, they are not directly linked to cold climate or monsoons. The response includes a multitude of details relating to both geographic factors as well as some analytical statements.

Geographic factors may often cause different regions to grow and adapt differently. Throughout history, these effects have been seen to cause a variety of different effects on various regions. In particular, deserts and monsoon winds have played major roles in the development of certain regions.

Firstly, deserts had and continue to have major impacts on surrounding areas. For example, due to difficult conditions in the Sahara Desert habitation of that region was discouraged. It was not entirely uninhabitable because cultivators and herders survived there thanks to the oases. (Doc 1) The Sahara Desert also served as a buffer between North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa, not allowing intensive contact between the two until the 7<sup>th</sup> century. (Doc 2) After the introduction of camels, trade developed along routes that ran through the Sahara connecting one oasis to the next. Because of the expansion of trade, more civilizations developed and goods and ideas were spread. Recently, the problem of desertification has also made itself known. Affecting 1.2 billion people, this problem causes the loss of more and more otherwise arable and productive land. With increasing populations and demand for more land, the adverse effects of desertification can easily be seen. (Doc 3). Attempts have been made to slow desertification in the Sahara by planting trees and limiting the grazing of animals in arid and semiarid areas. Deserts have had, and continue to have, major impacts on the regions adjacent to and encompassed by them.

Monsoons, too, have impacts on regions that experience them. Monsoons often dictate the weather that regions such as India must face. Summer monsoons can bring extreme rainfall, while winter monsoons bring dry air. (Doc 4) The summer monsoons can bring so much moisture and precipitation that rivers such as the Ganges would overflow its banks, causing extensive flooding. (Doc 6a) In the past, monsoons had also decided what time of year ships could sail, as the direction of

the wind decided what direction boats with sails could move. Due to this, trading schedules were set by the monsoon winds, as they were fairly consistent. (Doc 5a) In January, they would blow towards the southwest, and in July, they would blow northeast, pretty much making trips possible only once a year in either direction. (Doc 5b) In the downtime between the arrival and the return home, sailors would often mingle with the locals, causing a blending of cultures and introductions of outside cultural and religious influences. Religions, such as Buddhism, traveled with sailors who used these monsoon winds. East Asia and Southeast Asia embraced this religion and incorporated it into their own culture. Monsoons, however, were not always on time. In the event of a late monsoon in India, reservoirs could dwindle, and cause hydropower to be less productive, resulting in power outages and many other problems, such as an interference with food production and causing inflation. (Doc 6b) As such, regions affected by monsoons were and are often both dependent on and adhering to the way the monsoon winds blow.

In conclusion, regions are affected by the geographical and climatic conditions to which they are exposed to. This fact can be seen in both the desert regions of Africa and the subcontinent of India under monsoon winds. Nature has often dictated how regions would develop, and continues to be a major factor in their development even today.

### Anchor Level 3-A

#### The response:

- Develops all aspects of the task with little depth for deserts and monsoons
- Is more descriptive than analytical (*deserts*: due to difficult conditions in the Sahara, habitation of that region was discouraged; it was not entirely uninhabitable because cultivators and herders survived thanks to the oases; the Sahara served as a buffer between North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa; desertification causes the loss of arable and productive land; with increasing populations and demand for more land, the adverse effects of desertification can easily be seen; *monsoons*: summer monsoons can bring so much moisture and precipitation that rivers such as the Ganges overflow their banks causing extensive flooding; in the past they decided what time of year ships could sail, as the direction of the wind decided what direction boats with sails could move; trading schedules were set by the monsoon winds as they were fairly consistent; made trips possible only once a year in either direction; in the event of a late monsoon in India, reservoirs could dwindle and cause hydropower to be less productive resulting in power outages, interference with food production, and inflation)
- Incorporates some relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Incorporates some relevant outside information (*deserts*: trade developed along routes that ran through the Sahara connecting one oasis to the next; because of the expansion of trade, more civilizations developed and goods and ideas were spread; attempts have been made to slow desertification in the Sahara by planting trees and limiting the grazing of animals in arid and semiarid areas; *monsoons*: in the downtime between the arrival and return home, sailors would often mingle with the locals, causing a blending of cultures and introduction of cultural and religious influences; religions such as Buddhism traveled with sailors who used the monsoon winds)
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: after the introduction of camels, trade expanded; desertification affects 1.2 billion people; *monsoons*: summer monsoons can bring extreme rainfall while winter monsoons bring dry air; in January they would blow toward the southwest and in July they would blow northeast)
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are a restatement of the theme

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. Although heavily reliant on document information, limited outside information expands the interpretation and demonstrates an understanding of the effects of geographic factors.

Throughout history, civilizations have had to adapt to the environment in which it is located. Two examples of this are Russia and India. The environments in these regions control how the countries can either flourish or struggle.

Russia's environment has affected its way of living for centuries. The lack of warm-water ports has always been a problem because of the cold climate. Catherine and Peter the Great helped Russia by taking over the Baltic and Black Seas for warm-water ports to help with trade. The winters have caused Russians to modify many of their buildings and change construction in areas with permafrost (Doc 7). Areas in Russia such as the Aradalin have also gave Russia conflict. Although the Aradalin is in the tundra it has an extensive amount of petroleum. Russia has struggled with excavating the oil because of the Aradalin's fragile ecosystem. Excavation of oil is difficult in the summer because the warmer temperatures soften the permafrost (Doc 9). But Russia freezing cold has not only hurt them. In World War II, while the Nazis were invading Russia, Hitler told his troops to move towards the capital of Moscow even though the winter was coming. The Nazi advance failed miserably due to freezing cold winter. The Nazi army was forced to retreat after losing many of its soldiers (Doc 8.) Russia's struggles to adapt to it freezing weather helped create what it is today.

India is another example of a country that adapted to its environment and location. India as a subcontinent has many warm-water ports unlike Russia. It is also not that cold. But it does deal with a form of weather unlike Russia, monsoons. India's monsoon's season can either help or ~~hurt~~

hurt it. Summer monsoons are seasonal winds which bring rain storms which irrigate the land of India and help it stay fertile (Doc 4). Unlike Russia where the cold climate prevents crops from being grown year round, if monsoons bring enough rain, crops can be grown year round. If a monsoon is too strong massive floods can occur. For example in 1983 the monsoons swept the city of Banaras destroying buildings and transportation systems (Doc 6a). On the other hand late monsoons could cause massive problems for the country. The lack of monsoon rains could leave farms in ruins and also stop electricity in some cases (parts of India are run by hydroelectricity) put the country in peril (Doc 6b). Efforts have been made to lessen India's dependence on the monsoons by developing other sources of energy such as nuclear power. However, India's culture and economy remain dependent on the monsoons.

India and Russia's environments affect them in huge ways. Their societies are based on how the climate will be. Whether it is freezing cold or monsoons they both shape the way the nations are run. The geography and location of the places have impacted every person within the country.

## Anchor Level 3-B

### The response:

- Develops all aspects of the task with little depth for cold climates and monsoons
- Is more descriptive than analytical (*cold climates*: winters have caused Russians to modify many of their buildings and change construction in permafrost areas; excavation of oil is difficult in the summer because the warmer temperatures soften the permafrost; Russia's struggles to adapt to its freezing weather helped create what it is today; *monsoons*: if a monsoon is too strong, massive floods can occur; late monsoons could cause massive problems for India; unlike Russia where the cold climate prevents crops from being grown year round, if monsoons bring enough rain, crops can be grown year round; lack of monsoon rains could leave farms in ruins and also stop electricity in some cases; India's culture and economy remain dependent on the monsoons)
- Incorporates some relevant information from documents 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates limited relevant outside information (*cold climates*: Catherine and Peter the Great helped Russia by taking over the Baltic and Black Seas for warm-water ports to help with trade; the Nazi advance to Moscow failed miserably due to the freezing cold winter; the Nazi army was forced to retreat after losing many of its soldiers; *monsoons*: efforts have been made to lessen India's dependence on the monsoons by developing other sources of energy such as nuclear power)
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (*cold climates*: lack of warm-water ports has always been a problem because of the cold climate in Russia; Russia has struggled with excavating the oil in the Ardal region because of its fragile ecosystem; *monsoons*: summer monsoons are seasonal winds, which bring rainstorms that irrigate the land of India and help it stay fertile; in 1983 the monsoons swept the city of Banaras destroying buildings and transportation systems; parts of India are run by hydroelectricity)
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that restate the theme

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. The use of outside information to discuss multiple eras of Russian history is limited by a lack of supporting details. The comparison of the differences between Indian and Russian geographic features demonstrates an understanding of the effects of geography.

Geography has always played a major part in impacting different aspects of various regions throughout the world. Geography has impacted the economies, the politics, the religions, and the society of different regions across the world. Geographic factors such as monsoons and cold climates have specifically affected certain regions in the world in different ways. As a result, monsoons and cold climates are two major geographic factors that have impacted South Asia and Russia.

Wet monsoons can be described as winds that blow for the summer season, which carry moisture from the ocean on to a piece of land, and after result in massive amounts of rain. (Document 4) Summer monsoons often result in floods, because of the massive amount of rain (Document 6a). As a result, monsoons are a geographical factor that have negative and consequential aspects associated with them. Cold climates is a good geographic factor that is seen in regions that are close to the north and south poles, such as northern Russia and Antarctica. Cold climates in Russia usually result in long and severe winters and sharp fluctuations in the mean temperatures between the summer and the winter. (Doc 7) Russia faces such cold climates because northern Siberia and European

Russia do not have much geographical protection from the cold climates ~~because~~ <sup>of the</sup> northern Atlantic and Arctic Oceans. (Doc 7). As a result, cold climates could be disastrous on the regions which they affect.

Monsoons had a negative economic impact on South Asia, particularly India. Monsoons resulted in slowing of trade due to specific trading schedules determined by the direction of the monsoon winds. (Doc. 5) This affected the time at which goods and other materials were imported and exported, which had a direct impact on the economy of South Asia. Another major effect that monsoons have on South Asia, particularly India, is the disaster they can create when they come later than expected in the monsoon season. "late monsoons" can result in the rationing of electric power during certain times of day and also can result in the interference and hinderance of food production (Doc 6b). As a result, this can lead to economic inflation, starvation, and the spread of disease (during the flooding). Another impact of summer monsoons is the creation of floods, which hinders transportation in places like India (Doc 6a). India still uses bicycles which become useless during floods. Because of the flooding, sewage, and rotting carcasses of animals, people often

have to abandon their homes and are left homeless. Hundreds die when the monsoons cause floods. As a result, floods caused by monsoons affected the overall lives of people in South Asia.

Cold climates in the region of Russia have positive political impacts and negative economic impacts. The cold climates in Russia, which lead to long and severe winters (Doc 7) can be a beneficial political aspect. During World War II, the cold climate of Russia hindered the progression of the Nazis into Moscow (Doc 8). This contributed to the defeat of the Nazi military, because they were not prepared to take on such harsh winters. Another impact of the cold climate of Russia is the creation and adaptation of certain technologies to withstand the cold climate. This resulted in buildings that were built on pilings, machinery created out of specific tempered steel, roads made out of ice, and the allotting of specific times for construction projects in the Russian Arctic region because of the instability of the permafrost in the summer. (Doc 7) (Doc 9) Therefore, the cold climate of Russia served both as a beneficial and consequential aspect of this region.

Henceforth, two geographical factors that had a significant and specific impact on two regions of the world (south

Asia and Russia) were monsoons and cold climates. Geography has often played a major role in world history by changing the outcome of ~~the~~ major events that took place over time. Lastly, there are many geographic factors that shaped the world to what it is today!

Anchor Level 3-C

**The response:**

- Develops all aspects of the task with little depth for monsoons and cold climates
- Is more descriptive than analytical (*monsoons*: summer monsoons often result in floods because of the massive amount of rain; resulted in the slowing of trade due to specific trading schedules determined by the direction of the monsoon winds; the time at which goods and other materials were imported and exported had a direct impact on the economy of South Asia; late monsoons can result in the rationing of electric power and also can result in the interference and hindrance of food production; late monsoons can lead to economic inflation, starvation, and the spread of disease; *cold climates*: Russia faces such cold climates because northern Siberia and European Russia do not have geographic protection from the cold climates of the North Atlantic and Arctic Oceans; in Russia, cold climate has positive political impacts and negative economic impacts; during World War II, cold climate of Russia hindered the progression of the Nazis into Moscow)
- Incorporates some relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates limited relevant outside information (*monsoons*: because of the flooding, people often have to abandon their homes and are left homeless; hundreds die when the monsoons cause floods; *cold climates*: seen in regions that are close to the North and South Poles, such as northern Russia and Antarctica; contributed to the defeat of the Nazi military because the soldiers were not prepared to take on such harsh winters)
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (*monsoons*: wet monsoons can be described as winds that blow for the summer season; wet monsoons carry moisture from the ocean and often result in massive amounts of rain; often have a negative economic impact on South Asia, particularly India; *cold climates*: in Russia, it leads to long and severe winters; Russia creates and adapts certain technologies to withstand the cold climate; Russia has buildings that were built on pilings, machinery created out of specific tempered steel, roads made out of ice, and the allotting of specific times for construction projects in the Russian Arctic region because of the instability of the permafrost in the summer)
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction that restates the theme and a conclusion that states geography has often played a major role in world history by changing the outcome of major events

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. Although the description of both geographic factors followed by the effects creates a framework of comparison, the opportunity is missed. Weak outside information is strengthened by the discussion of economic and political effects.



deal with the climate. At times, the same things that led to their destruction saved them from certain doom. One example is stated in Document 6b. Monsoons provide rainfall and a natural source of irrigation for Asian nations. Without monsoons, many crops and lakes would dry up. Russia has benefited even more from cold climate. As shown in document 8, Nazi advances into Russia came to a halt due to the extreme cold. This same situation happened in 1812 with Napoleon. Russians have found ~~ways to deal with the cold such as~~ other uses for the cold. The arctic tundra is very fragile in the summertime, so the Russians wait for cold to begin drilling (document 9.)

Both regions have been helped and hurt by their specific climates. However, when a nation exists for many years, it will always adapt and find a way to make use of the climate. Such cases are with Russia and the Asian nations. If people continue to live there, it means they find more good in the climate than bad.

## Anchor Level 2-A

### **The response:**

- Minimally develops all aspects of the task for monsoons and cold climates
- Is primarily descriptive (*monsoons*: they can cause trade to come to a halt or a severe slowdown; merchants must either brave the storms and risk losing imports or they can wait the storm out, which slows trade; transport can be halted when locomotives and railcars are swept away by floods; without monsoons, many crops and lakes would dry up; *cold climates*: certain businesses must specialize tools and machinery for northern Russia; locomotives must be built to withstand the extremely cold temperatures; Arctic tundra is very fragile in the summertime, so the Russians wait for cold to begin drilling); includes faulty application (*monsoons*: provide a natural source of irrigation for Asian nations)
- Incorporates limited relevant information from documents 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Presents little relevant outside information (*cold climates*: Russia was protected by the extreme cold in 1812 with Napoleon's attack)
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (*monsoons*: affect a large portion of the southeastern nations of Asia; provide rainfall for Asian nations; *cold climates*: northern regions of Russia have been affected; Nazi advances into Russia came to a halt due to the extreme cold)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that are little more than a restatement of the theme

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. The focus of the discussion is on the effects of monsoons and cold climates. Although limited, treating negative effects and then positive effects for both monsoons and cold climates strengthens the response.

Throughout all of history, the factor that has had one of the most dramatic effects on many regions is geography.

Whether it is a mountain range, deserts, monsoons, or the climate, geography always affects the lives and culture of the people nearby.

A monsoon is a wind that blows for an entire season. (Doc. 4)

India has two monsoons; the summer monsoon comes from the southwest and brings rain from the Indian Ocean.

The winter monsoon blows from the northeast and brings little rain. The monsoons<sup>have</sup> affected trade in Southeast Asia greatly. Traders traveled as far as they could during one monsoon, then waited until the next monsoon started in order to travel back home. (Doc. 5)

Monsoons cause much hardship, as they often flood cities near rivers such as the Ganges. (Doc. 6a) However,

India needs the monsoons, as its agriculture and economy depend on them. Much of India is powered hydroelectrically,

which is only possible with the rain brought by the summer monsoon. (Doc. 6b)

So while the monsoons create great troubles for India, the region depends greatly on them.

Deserts are regions that ~~receive~~ receive barely any rainfall. They have varied landscapes, ranging from great highlands, to vast stretches of gravelly plains, to large belts of constantly changing sand dunes. (Doc. 1)

Large deserts, such as the Sahara, make it difficult to travel. The long trek across the desert required courage and careful planning, as the temperature often rises above 100°F, and there is scant water to be found. ~~There~~ (Doc. 2)

~~The~~ The Sahara made it so that there was little contact between North Africa and the rest of the continent, limiting cultural diffusion between the two regions. More recently in time, desertification has had a huge effect on the surrounding regions. Approximately 1.2 billion people are directly affected

by desertification, and more and more productive land is lost each year.

This is a great contributor to both poverty and regional conflicts. (Doc. 3)

Geographic factors such as monsoons and deserts have always had a huge effect on the nearby regions. Deserts and monsoons have many negative effects, but the local people often are dependant on them.

Anchor Level 2-B

**The response:**

- Minimally develops all aspects of the task for monsoons and deserts
- Is primarily descriptive (*monsoons*: summer monsoons come from the southwest and bring rain from the Indian Ocean; winter monsoons blow from the northeast and bring little rain; cause much hardship as they often flood cities near rivers such as the Ganges; India needs monsoons as its agriculture and economy depend on them; much of India is powered hydroelectrically which is only possible with the rain brought by the summer monsoon; *deserts*: large deserts such as the Sahara make it difficult to travel; the long trek across the desert required courage and careful planning; desertification is a great contributor to both poverty and regional conflicts)
- Incorporates limited relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Presents little relevant outside information (*deserts*: Sahara limited cultural diffusion between North Africa and the rest of the continent)
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (*monsoons*: they are winds that blow for an entire season; traders traveled as far as they could during one monsoon, then waited until the next monsoon started to travel back home; *deserts*: receive barely any rainfall; varied landscapes, ranging from great highlands, to vast stretches of gravelly plains, to large belts of constantly changing sand dunes; temperature often rises above 100° F; approximately 1.2 billion people are directly affected by desertification and more and more productive land is lost each year)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that restate the theme

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. Although most of the discussion is dependent on document information, ideas are presented in a logical progression. Good summary statements are made but are not effectively supported with facts and details.

Geographical features affects ~~the~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~country~~ <sup>region</sup> a lot. It can have both positive and negative effects. <sup>Different</sup> Geographical features can affect a ~~country~~ region socially and economically. ~~and~~ Deserts and monsoons are examples that <sup>can</sup> have great effect on a society.

Deserts can be a barrier for a region it can protect a region against outside invasions or outside influence. But at the same time it can deprive a region of getting good ideas from the outside. ~~For~~ ~~or~~ The Gobi desert and the Sahara desert act as barriers for China and for Africa. The Sahara desert made it difficult for ~~people~~ Africans to travel <sup>(document 2)</sup> so they could not share their cultures with each other. In the early 1500s and 1600s, the Gobi desert made it difficult for Europeans to travel to China for trade.

Monsoons can also have an effect on society. If regions receive too much rain, areas can be flooded. There would not be enough food production. Also if ~~it~~ cities are flooded, it would slow the countries economy. <sup>(document 6a)</sup> If monsoons don't arrive, it can cause drought and famine. If monsoons arrive too soon, people cannot be prepared for them. If monsoons arrive too late, countries like India will not get enough

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**Anchor Paper – Document–Based Essay—Level 2 – C**

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energy because they depend on hydropower to give them energy (document 6b).

In conclusion geographic features can have a lot of different effects on a region. It can determine a lot of things in people's lives.

**Anchor Level 2-C**

**The response:**

- Develops most aspects of the task in some depth for deserts and monsoons
- Is primarily descriptive (*deserts*: Sahara made it difficult for Africans to travel so they could not share their cultures; *monsoons*: with floods there would not be enough food production; if cities are flooded it would slow the country's economy; if they arrive too soon, people cannot be prepared for them; if they arrive too late, countries such as India will not get enough energy because they depend on hydropower)
- Incorporates limited relevant information from documents 2, 3, and 6
- Presents little relevant outside information (*deserts*: can protect a region against outside invasions or outside influence; can deprive a region of getting good ideas from the outside; in the early 1500s and 1600s, the Gobi made it difficult for Europeans to travel to China for trade)
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: Gobi and Sahara act as barriers for China and Africa; *monsoons*: if regions receive too much rain, areas can be flooded; if they do not arrive it can cause drought and famine)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that restate the theme

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. The limited discussion of why the Sahara and the Gobi Desert are barriers for Africa and China includes some good points. A few analytical statements and some outside information are included.

There has been a variety of effects on different regions throughout history by some geographic factors. Some of these geographic factors that has had a variety of effects on different regions throughout history are the "deserts" and the "monsoons". The deserts have an effect on regions because of its lack of life, and the way it is mostly isolated all of the time. There is very little life on deserts such as cactuses seem to be of very little life. The monsoons have an effect on regions because of its strong winds and cold rains that destroy the food productions and crop lands.

The "Sahara Desert" is a region of most varied landscapes. The traveling across the Sahara desert was very difficult because it is the largest desert in the world, and because it is 3 million square miles in area. The traveling in the Sahara desert had become much easier when people stopped using horses and started to use camels, because camels don't need as much to drink, and they have special types of feet that are perfect for walking through sand areas.

The "monsoons" has the winds that blow for an entire season, and comes twice a year. Monsoons have effected trades, India's problems when they come late, and

the interference in all life processes and organizations  
The monsoons have destroyed a lot of farming lands,  
vegetation lands, and the food productions, and make  
a lot of different prices for a lot of different things  
raise up higher.

All different kinds of region have had a variety  
of effects on them throughout history by ~~the~~  
all sorts and different kinds of geographic factors.  
The "Sahara Desert" and the "monsoons" are some of  
the geographic factors that has had an effect.

Anchor Level 1-A

**The response:**

- Minimally develops all aspects of the task for deserts and monsoons
- Is descriptive (*deserts*: traveling across the Sahara was very difficult because it is the largest desert in the world; traveling in the Sahara became much easier when people stopped using horses and started to use camels; *monsoons*: increase prices); includes faulty and weak application (*deserts*: lack life; cactuses seem to be of very little life)
- Includes minimal information from documents 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: Sahara is a region of varied landscapes; Sahara is three million square miles in area; *monsoons*: strong winds and rains destroy food production and croplands; affected trade; India has problems when they come late)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction that briefly summarizes some effects of deserts and monsoons and a conclusion that restates the theme

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 1. The few facts and details that are provided demonstrate a very limited understanding of the theme. Simplistic cause-and-effect statements are used to address the task.

Throughout history, geographic factors such as deserts, monsoons and cold climates have had a variety of effects on different regions. Some of the regions included in these factors include the Sahara Desert, India, Southeast Asia and Russia. And some effects include floods, cold temperatures and hot temperatures.

Deserts have very hot temperatures. For example, the Sahara Desert is the largest desert in the world. Since it's big, people used camels to travel. Desertification was contributing a factor in poverty and regional conflicts for governments and aid agencies in over 110 countries.

Monsoons have had an effect on regions. Monsoons are winds that blow for a whole season. Some of the effects that occurred included floods and affected trades in Southeast Asia.

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Anchor Paper – Document–Based Essay—Level 1 – B

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These geographic factors changes  
these regions in many ways. People walked through  
floods, deserts and faced hot and cold  
temperatures.

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Anchor Level 1-B

**The response:**

- Minimally develops all aspects of the task for deserts and monsoons
- Is descriptive (*deserts*: have very hot temperatures; since the Sahara is big, people use camels to travel; desertification was a contributing factor in poverty and regional conflicts for governments and aid agencies in over 110 countries; *monsoons*: effects include floods; affected trade in Southeast Asia)
- Includes limited information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: Sahara is the largest in the world; *monsoons*: winds that blow for a whole season)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that restate the theme

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 1. Simple statements are strung together without explanation. Minimal information from the documents is used in an attempt to address the task.

## Document-Based Essay—Practice Paper – A

EVERYWHERE WE LIVE THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING THAT AFFECTS US.

IF HUMANS LIVED IN WATER THE TEMPERATURE WOULD AFFECT US, IF HUMANS LIVED ON ICE THE CLIMATE WOULD AFFECT US, EVERYWHERE WE GO SOMETHING AFFECTS US. THE WEATHER, THE CLIMATE, AND GEOGRAPHIC FACTORS ALWAYS HAS AN EFFECT ON US.

THE DESERT IS HAS A BIG EFFECT ON HUMANS, THE DESERT TO US IS USUALLY THOUGHT OF AS A DRY SANDY PLACE. IT HAS A VARIETY OF LANDSCAPES LIKE HUGH HIGHLANDS AND GRAVELLY PLAINS. THE DESERT HAS SOME WATER IN CERTAIN PARTS AND HAS A LITTLE VEGETATION. SOME PEOPLE CAN EVEN GAIN A LIVELIHOOD IN A DESERT AS HERDERS OR CULTIVATORS. THE DESERT SEEMS LIKE AN OKAY PLACE, BUT SOMETIMES IT IS NOT. THERE ARE TIMES WHEN THE TEMPERATURE CAN BE AS HIGH AS 120° FAHRENHEIT AND THERE IS LITTLE WATER TO DRINK. SOMETIMES PEOPLE CAN BECOME SEPARATED AND NEVER SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN.

ANOTHER GEOGRAPHIC FACTOR THAT HAS <sup>A BIG</sup> ~~A~~ EFFECT ON HUMANS ARE MONSOONS. MONSOONS ARE WINDS THAT BLOW FOR A WHOLE SEASON. THEY ARE VERY HELPFUL AT TIMES. IT HELPS BRING ALONG RAIN AND SOMETIMES WARMER WEATHER. IT IS MOST HELPFUL WITH TRADE, THIS HELPED TRADER GET GOODS FASTER. FOR EXAMPLE, INSTEAD OF A TRADER SPENDING TWO OR MORE MONSOON SEASONS SAILING SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY THEY COULD JUST SAIL OUT ONE MONSOON SEASON AND EXCHANGE WITH INTERMEDIARIES BASED IN BETWEEN. IT <sup>RESULTED</sup> ~~RESULTED~~ IN SUCESSFUL COSMOPOLITAN <sup>PORT</sup> CHAIN OF CITIES.

THE DESERT AND THE MONSOONS SOUND GREAT, BUT THEY ALSO HAVE SOME BAD EFFECTS TOO. DESERTIFICATION AFFECTS OVER 1.2 BILLION PEOPLE. MORE PRODUCTIVE LAND IS LOST EACH YEAR AND IS A CONTRIBUTING FACTOR IN POVERTY AND CONFLICTS. WITH POPULATIONS RISING GOVERNMENT HAS HAD TO UNDERTAKE SEVERAL

SETTLEMENT AND IRRIGATION PROJECTS. MONSOONS ALSO HAVE HAD BAD EFFECTS. MONSOON WINDS SOMETIMES BRING RAINS THAT FLOOD CITIES AND STATES. FOR EXAMPLE IN THE VARANASI REGION OF INDIA IT FACED A FLOOD OF ITS CITY. VARANASI IN THE SUMMER OF 1983. THE CITY LAY UNDER WATER THAT WAS MIXED WITH DEAD ANIMALS, ROTTING GRAIN, AND SEWAGE. SOMETIMES PEOPLE NEED MONSOONS AND WHEN THEY COME LATE THE EFFECTS ARE DEVASTATING. IN INDIA WHEN THE MONSOONS ARE LATE NEON LIGHTS MOVIE HOUSES, AIR CONDITIONERS, ETC. ARE TURNED OFF. AT CERTAIN TIMES IN SOME AREAS, IN 1984 ALMOST HALF THE NATION WAS POWERED BY HYDROPOWER AND WITHOUT THE MONSOONS THERE WAS LITTLE ELECTRICITY. MONSOONS INTERFERES WITH FOOD PRODUCTION, CAUSES INFLATION, AND INCREASE IN PRICES.

IN CONCLUSION, THERE IS ALWAYS SOMETHING THAT EFFECTS US. IT MAY BE LITTLE OR IT MAY BE BIG LIKE THE EFFECTS OF MONSOONS, BUT IT STILL EFFECTS US. THROUGHOUT HISTORY, MANY THINGS HAVE HAD A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT EFFECTS.

Since the beginning of time, people have been affected by varying climates. No matter where or ~~why~~ when you lived, every single person of existence has been influenced by weather, some more than others, but weather is one of the only things that can claim <sup>an</sup> ~~an~~ influence so great. Whether it be a rain delay of a baseball game or the widespread devastation of a hurricane, weather is always present. Regions of the world ~~are~~ <sup>where</sup> weather plays a greater role in every day life include Russia, and Northern Africa. In Russia, past or present, the extreme cold affects all within her borders. In Africa, the Sahara Desert, also greatly affects its inhabitants due to its vastness and extreme heat. In both Russia, and Northern Africa, weather has affected its people so much, that two different and very unique lifestyles have come about.

Parts of the Sahara desert were once a lush and fertile area, because of climate changes, the Sahara has become a vast, arid desert of extremely dry and barren lands with some oases scattered mostly along the northern fringes. Another problem that has increased the size of the desert is desertification. Desertification is the process in which semi-arid areas turn into desert because of overfarming and overgrazing which removes plant roots that hold the soil together. The area then turns into desert, especially in times of drought. Desertification affects more than 1.2 billion people worldwide and more productive land is lost each year (doc. 3). This unforgiving climate adds to poverty and heightens tensions in conflict areas such as Sudan where people have fought over the scarcity of land. Another territory which feels the effects of the desert is Egypt, where "90% of the country's land mass is desert, (doc 3). Because of this, life in Egypt is centered around the Nile River. This is where most of Egypt's agriculture

takes place and where most of the people live. Even though the Sahara desert creates problem for some Africans, others embrace it and are able to survive in the desert's 'natural oasis'. These 'nomadic Pastoralists' have "found it possible to gain a livelihood in the Sahara, (doc. 1). Thus people have been able to live in its small productive oasis's and travel long distances on well suited camels, that do not need much water, (doc. 2). Caravans of travelers and traders can cross the desert going from one oasis to another. In the oases, they can get food, water, and rest. Villages have been able to develop in these oases because they are supported by the availability of water and trade. As one can see, the climate in Northern Africa's Sahara desert region greatly affects its people forcing them to adapt.

Another region, which is drastically different than the Sahara, is Russia. Everyday Russians are affected by their climate. Climate "affects where and how long people work, what kinds of crops are grown and where they are grown (doc. 7). This is due to the extremely cold winters, and long and dark nights because of how close to the North Pole, Russia is. Not only does Russia get affected by how long they work and how much electricity they use, but the country's economy is also affected by climate. In the permafrost, buildings must be constructed on pilings, and modes of transportation must be able to operate at extremely low temperatures, (doc. 7). To access the resources, especially oil, in the permafrost region, the Russians have had to develop new technology to drill and transport the oil for export. Russia has become a major exporter of oil, some of which comes from Siberia. Russia's climate has also played a fairly large role in history. During WW II, when the Nazis ~~invaded~~ <sup>invaded</sup>, Russia soldiers were ill equipped with

summer uniforms) which was one of the reasons they were defeated in the battle of Stalingrad. Russia's vast size, and cold winters made it impossible for Germany to defeat the Red ~~Army~~<sup>Army</sup>, and they eventually had to retreat. Russia's harsh climate comes in handy, in protecting their homeland, (Doc. 8). The Russians used a scorched-earth policy that made the German army more vulnerable to the severe climate. Another example of this climate protected nation is when Napoleon tried to invade Russia during his attempt to expand French power. Fortunately for Russia, this attack failed. Russia is just one other example of how greatly climate can affect a country.

In Russia as well as Africa, climate has created unique cultures, and even changed history. These are extreme examples, and account for only a small portion of the world. Other places where climate plays a large role in people's lives include India, where monsoons affect trade and shipping patterns, (doc 5a), and caused massive floods, which do much damage, (doc 6a). Even within our own country, climate takes its toll. Like in California, were hot summers cause people to use more electricity for air conditioning, causing electrical shortages. Also Hurricane Katrina devastated the gulf coast, destroying many lives. But no matter what, we must accept the beneficial and damaging aspects of climates as they are, for climate has and will always affect lives, and even change the course of history.

Throughout history, geographic factors such as deserts, monsoons, and cold climates have had a variety of effects on different regions. The two documents I am doing are 5b and 8.

On Document 5b the geographic factors are ~~desert~~ monsoon. Monsoons are seasons all the way to say ~~the~~ Persia. On Document 8 the geographic factors are snow and ice, wind and cold this is ~~the~~ Old man winter and cold climates.

Throughout history, geographic factors such as deserts, monsoons, and cold climates have had a variety of effects ~~on~~ on different regions. These documents show me the geographic factors of war and nature.

During the course of global history, many geographical features have affected several nations' development and history. Two such factors are cold Russian winters and the Indian monsoon. These two factors have affected the regions in which they occur both positively and negatively. They both have certainly affected history in these two nations.

Russia has always been known for its freezing winter months. In particular, parts of northern Russia are all but uninhabitable. Although it is a huge country, there is nowhere in Russia with a year-round growing season. Also, mountain ranges block warm temperatures from the ocean (Doc 7). These extreme climate conditions have limited Russia's development in some ways. Construction and drilling projects in the tundra region are more practical in winter, as the tundra is vulnerable during the summer months when the ground begins to thaw, the Russians cannot drill in the summer months without hurting the environment (Doc 9). Another negative effect of this weather is that it is almost impossible to grow food in some parts of the country.

THIS could result in food shortages in those areas. Despite these negatives, Russia's cold winters have saved it from conquest in the past. One time was when Napoleon was the leader of France. He was a very militaristic and imperialistic leader, and had expanded French territory through much of Europe. However, as he and his army marched through Russia, the cold proved to be too much. He lost hundreds of men to freezing and starvation, and was forced to retreat. Another time Russia was saved by its harsh weather was during World War II. Hitler and the Germans had blockaded Leningrad, and were pushing toward the capital: Moscow. However, as with Napoleon, the Germans were eventually forced to retreat due to the cold (Doc #8). Cold climate has affected Russia in many ways.

THE monsoons in India have proved to be both a savior and a killer. The monsoon is a seasonal wind that comes through India twice a year. The summer monsoon drops heavy rain and the winter monsoon brings dry winds. The summer monsoon can be a breath of life for India. Indian farmers depend on the monsoon rains to grow their crops. If the monsoon comes late,

THERE ARE FOOD SHORTAGES AND STARVATION IN PARTS OF INDIA (DOC #6b). THE MONSOONS ALSO PROVIDE POWER TO THE NATION. IN 1984 ALMOST HALF OF INDIA'S ELECTRICITY CAME FROM HYDROPOWER. THE SUMMER MONSOON ALSO PROVIDED FAVORABLE WINDS FOR TRADERS GOING FROM EUROPE TO SOUTHEAST ASIA. SINCE THE WINDS SWITCH DIRECTIONS DURING THE WINTER MONSOON, TRADERS WOULD THEN WAIT FOR THE WINDS TO CHANGE TO HEAD BACK (DOC #5). EUROPEAN TRADERS DEALT WITH THESE CONDITIONS BECAUSE THEY MADE LARGE PROFITS ON THE INDIAN SPICE TRADE. THE MONSOON YIELDS NEGATIVE EFFECTS AS WELL. MONSOON RAINS OFTEN CAUSE FLASH FLOODS THAT CAN KILL THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE (DOC #6a). THE MONSOON HAS AFFECTED INDIA IN MANY WAYS.

GEOGRAPHIC FEATURES HAVE ALTERED HISTORY MANY TIMES. <sup>cold</sup> RUSSIAN WINTERS SLOW THE COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES BUT SOMETIMES PREVENTED CONQUESTS. THE MONSOON PROVIDES FOOD AND ELECTRICITY FOR INDIA, BUT KILL MANY IN FLOODS. THESE ARE TWO EXAMPLES OF HOW CLIMATE CHANGED THE COURSE OF HISTORY.

Geographic factors have shaped and influenced the way a region is formed. Factors ~~such~~ <sup>such</sup> as cold climates, and monsoons have played a big role in history. India was affected by monsoons and Russia was affected by cold climate meaning their future was based on geographic factors.

Cold climate is a geographic factor. This factor makes it difficult for workers, such as farmers to grow crops. According to document 7, In Russia people are affected by cold winters; it affects where and how they are going to live and work. This document also informs that in Russia there is no place where there is able to plant crops and let it grow for one ~~entire~~ entire year. This all means that food production is very limited and that people are in more need during cold climate.

Cold climate has affected Russian history. Russia has been invaded since after the French Revolution. Napoleons invasion of Russia trying to obtain more land was impossible because of the cold climate that protects Russia. Document 8 shows ~~the Nazi party~~ a political cartoon of the Nazi party trying to invade Russia, in their attempt the "old man winter" stopped them from completing their invasion.

India was mainly affected by the seasonal monsoons. The monsoon carry moisture which causes lots of rainfall, up to 450 inches in certain places (doc14). Document 4 also shows that the ~~the~~ ~~the~~ monsoon comes twice a year. The summer ~~the~~ monsoons are more dangerous than the winter monsoon because it bring alot more rain than during the winter. The monsoons bring high temperature as well during the summer which might reach up to 100 degrees.

The monsoon affects the subcontinent of India negatively. These monsoons bring so much rain that causes flooding. Document 6a informs that during the ~~the~~ summer of 1983 in the city of Varanasi several inches of rainfall created flood. ~~This~~ caused great damage in the city. In general the monsoon in India ~~causes~~ brings so much damage that it costs alot of money to reconstruct the city.

In conclusion Geographic factor changes the way of life people live in a certain region. The people in Russia and India are possitively and negatively affected

by their geographic factors. The reason why people still alive regardless the geographic conditions is because all humans ~~are~~ get adapted to their geographic conditions.

Practice Paper A—Score Level 2

**The response:**

- Minimally develops all aspects of the task for deserts and monsoons
- Is primarily descriptive (*deserts*: usually thought of as a dry, sandy place; some people can gain a livelihood as herders or cultivators; desertification causes more productive land to be lost each year and is a contributing factor in poverty and conflicts; with populations rising, governments have had to undertake several settlement and irrigation projects; *monsoons*: helped traders get goods faster; instead of a trader spending two or more monsoon seasons sailing somewhere far away, he could just sail out one monsoon season and exchange with intermediaries based in between; interfere with food production and cause inflation)
- Incorporates limited relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: have a variety of landscapes such as huge highlands and gravelly plains; have some water in certain parts and a little vegetation; temperature can be as high as 120° Fahrenheit and there is little water to drink; desertification affects over 1.2 billion people; *monsoons*: winds that blow for a whole season; help bring rain and sometimes warmer weather; winds sometimes bring rains that flood cities and states; the Varanasi region of India faced a flood in the summer of 1983; when they are late, neon lights, movie houses, and air conditioners are turned off at certain times in some areas; in 1984, almost half the nation was powered by hydropower)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction that emphasizes the effects of geography on humans and a conclusion that restates the theme

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. Although no specific region is mentioned for deserts and simple statements from the documents are strung together, a general understanding of geographic factors is evident. Lack of explanation diminishes the use of positive and negative effects to address the task.

**Practice Paper B—Score Level 4**

**The response:**

- Develops all aspects of the task for deserts and cold climates
- Is both descriptive and analytical (*deserts*: parts of the Sahara desert were once lush and fertile; Sahara has become a vast sandy desert of extremely dry and barren lands; unforgiving climate adds to poverty and heightens tensions in conflict areas such as the Sudan; even though the Sahara creates problems for some Africans, others embrace it and are able to survive on the desert's natural oases; it has created a unique culture of people who are able to live in its small productive oases and travel long distances on camels that do not need much water; *cold climates*: in order to access their resources, especially oil, in the permafrost region, the Russians have had to develop new technology to drill and transport the oil for export; Russia's vast size, and cold winters made it impossible for Germany to defeat the Red Army and they eventually had to retreat; Russia's harsh climate came in handy in protecting the homeland)
- Incorporates relevant information from documents 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates relevant outside information (*deserts*: desertification is the process in which semiarid areas turn into desert because of over-farming and overgrazing which removes plant roots that hold the soil together; in Sudan, people have fought over the scarce arable land; life in Egypt is centered around the Nile River where most of Egypt's agriculture takes place; caravans of travelers and traders can go from one oasis to another; villages have been able to develop in oases because they are supported by the availability of water and trade; *cold climates*: during World War II when the Nazis invaded Russia, soldiers were ill-equipped, which was one of the reasons they were defeated at the Battle of Stalingrad; Russia used a scorched-earth policy that made the German army more vulnerable to the severe climate; climate protected Russia when Napoleon tried to invade during his attempt to expand French power; fortunately for Russia, Napoleon's attack failed)
- Supports the theme with relevant facts, examples, and details (*deserts*: desertification affects more than 1.2 billion people worldwide and more productive land is lost each year; 90 percent of Egypt's landmass is desert; nomadic pastoralists have found it possible to gain a livelihood in the Sahara; *cold climates*: affects where and how long people work, what kinds of crops are grown, and where crops are grown; affects how much electricity is used; in the permafrost, buildings must be constructed on pilings and modes of transportation must be able to operate at extremely low temperatures)
- Demonstrates a logical and clear plan of organization; includes an introduction and a conclusion that mention several examples to demonstrate how climate affects both peoples' lives and the course of history

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 4. Brief document quotations scattered throughout the discussion are offset by good supporting explanations and outside information. Document interpretation provides the stimulus for some insightful analytical statements. The monsoons, California hot summers, and Hurricane Katrina that are mentioned in the conclusion reinforce the theme that the negative effects of climate have an influence the lives of people wherever they are.

### Practice Paper C—Score Level 0

**The response:**

Fails to develop the task; refers to the theme in a general way

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 0. The use of document 5 results in an incorrect definition of monsoons while the mention of document 8 results in a simple list of terms. Although an attempt is made to address the task, no understanding of the task is demonstrated.

### Practice Paper D—Score Level 3

**The response:**

- Develops all aspects of the task with little depth for cold climates and monsoons
- Is more descriptive than analytical (*cold climates*: Russia has always been known for its freezing winter months; although it is a huge country, there is nowhere in Russia with a year-round growing season; extreme climate conditions have limited Russia's development in some ways; construction and drilling projects in the tundra region are more practical in winter, as the tundra is vulnerable during the summer months; when the ground begins to thaw, the Russians cannot drill without hurting the environment; it is almost impossible to grow food in some parts of the country which could result in food shortages in those areas; Russia was saved by its harsh weather during World War II; *monsoons*: in India, they have proved to be both a savior and a killer; if the monsoon comes late, there are food shortages and starvation in parts of India; since the winds switch directions during the winter monsoon, traders would often wait for the winds to change to head back; if the monsoons are too late, crops can die, leading to inflation and food shortages)
- Incorporates some relevant information from documents 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Incorporates limited relevant outside information (*cold climates*: as Napoleon and his army marched through Russia, the cold proved to be too much; Napoleon lost hundreds of men to freezing cold and starvation and was forced to retreat; as with Napoleon, the Germans in World War II were eventually forced to retreat due to the cold; *monsoons*: European traders dealt with monsoon conditions because they made large profits on the Indian spice trade)
- Includes some relevant facts, examples, and details (*cold climates*: parts of northern Russia are all but uninhabitable; mountain ranges in Russia block warm temperatures from the ocean; *monsoons*: seasonal winds that comes through India twice a year; the summer monsoon drops heavy rain and the winter monsoon brings dry winds; Indian farmers depend on the monsoon rains to grow their crops; in 1984 almost half of India's electricity came from hydropower; summer monsoons provided favorable winds for traders going from Europe to Southeast Asia; monsoon rains often cause flash floods that can kill thousands of people)
- Demonstrates a satisfactory plan of organization; includes an introduction that restates the theme and a conclusion that summarizes how geographic features have altered history in Russia and India

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 3. The use of outside information to discuss how Russia's cold winters saved it from conquest strengthen a response that is reliant on document information. The recognition that cold climate in Russia and monsoons in India have both positive and negative effects leads to brief but good statements of conclusion.

**Practice Paper E—Score Level 2**

**The response:**

- Minimally develops all aspects of the task for cold climates and monsoons
- Is primarily descriptive (*cold climates*: make it difficult for workers such as farmers to grow crops; cold winters affect where and how Russian people are going to live and work; food production is very limited and people are in more need during the cold climate; “Old Man Winter” stopped the Nazis from completing their invasion of Russia; *monsoons*: summer monsoons are more dangerous than the winter monsoons because they bring more rain; during the summer, they bring high temperatures which might reach up to 100 degrees; monsoons in India bring so much damage that it costs a lot of money to reconstruct the cities); includes weak and faulty application (*cold climates*: Napoleon’s invasion of Russia was impossible because of the cold climate that protects it; *monsoons*: several inches of rainfall created flooding during the summer of 1983 in the city of Varanasi)
- Incorporates limited relevant information from documents 4, 6, 7, and 8
- Presents no relevant outside information
- Includes few relevant facts, examples, and details (*cold climates*: there is no place in Russia where crops can be grown for an entire year; *monsoons*: carry moisture which causes rainfall up to 450 inches in certain places; come twice a year; bring so much rain that causes flooding)
- Demonstrates a general plan of organization; includes an introduction that restates the theme and a conclusion that states people get adapted to their geographic conditions

**Conclusion:** Overall, the response fits the criteria for Level 2. Although they are not fully addressed, all aspects of the task are mentioned in the discussion. The reasonably focused narrative demonstrates a fair understanding of the topic.

# Global History and Geography Specifications June 2010

## Part I Multiple Choice Questions by Standard

Standard	Question Numbers
1—United States and New York History	N/A
2—World History	1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 25, 28, 30, 32, 33, 35, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49
3—Geography	2, 4, 7, 9, 12, 14, 18, 22, 23, 27, 29, 36, 38, 42, 47
4—Economics	11, 15, 21, 34, 37, 46, 50
5—Civics, Citizenship, and Government	16, 19, 26, 31

## Parts II and III by Theme and Standard

	Theme	Standards
Thematic Essay	Change—Ideas	Standards 2, 3, 4, and 5: World History; Geography; Economics; Civics, Citizenship, and Government
Document-based Essay	Human and Physical Geography; Environment and Society; Movement of People and Goods; Science and Technology; Scarcity	Standards 2, 3, and 4: World History; Geography; Economics

Scoring information for Part I and Part II is found in Volume 1 of the Rating Guide.

Scoring information for Part III is found in Volume 2 of the Rating Guide.

**The *Chart for Determining the Final Examination Score for the June 2010 Regents Examination in Global History and Geography* will be posted on the Department's web site <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/> on the day of the examination. Conversion charts provided for the previous administrations of the Global History and Geography examination must NOT be used to determine students' final scores for this administration.**

### **Submitting Teacher Evaluations of the Test to the Department**

Suggestions and feedback from teachers provide an important contribution to the test development process. The Department provides an online evaluation form for State assessments. It contains spaces for teachers to respond to several specific questions and to make suggestions. Instructions for completing the evaluation form are as follows:

1. Go to <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/osa/teacher/evaluation.html>.
2. Select the test title.
3. Complete the required demographic fields.
4. Complete each evaluation question and provide comments in the space provided.
5. Click the SUBMIT button at the bottom of the page to submit the completed form.