

MARKING GUIDELINES

EXAMINATION NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE	
GRADE	12
DATE	MAY/JUNE 2026
SUBJECT	GEOGRAPHY
PAPER	1
MARK TOTAL	150
DURATION (HOURS)	3
NUMBER OF PAGES	10



SOUTH AFRICAN COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENT INSTITUTE
SUID-AFRIKAANSE KOMPREENSIEWE ASSESSERINGSINSTITUUT

FINAL APPROVED MARKING GUIDELINES	
DATE OF MEETING	
UMALUSI MODERATOR	
CHIEF MARKER	
INTERNAL MODERATOR	



MARKING PRINCIPLES FOR GEOGRAPHY – NSC MAY/JUNE P1 2026

1. ALL questions MUST be marked, irrespective of whether it is correct or incorrect.
2. Where the maximum marks have been allocated for a particular question, place an **M** over the remainder of the text to indicate the maximum marks achieved.
3. Where a correct fact has been mentioned more than once in a specific response, the letter **R** must be placed, indicating a repeat.
4. A clear, neat tick must be used: ✓
 - 4.1 If ONE mark is allocated, ONE tick must be used: ✓
 - 4.2 If TWO marks are allocated, TWO ticks must be used: ✓✓
 - 4.3 The tick must be placed on the FACT that a mark is being allocated for.
5. Incorrect answers must be marked with a clear, neat cross: **X**
 - 5.1 Use MORE than one cross across a paragraph/discussion-style question to indicate that all facts have been considered.
 - 5.2 Do NOT draw a line through an incorrect answer.
 - 5.3 Do NOT underline the incorrect facts.
6. For the following action words, ONE-WORD ANSWERS are acceptable: **list, name, state, identify**.
7. For the following action words, a FULL SENTENCE must be written: **describe, explain, evaluate, analyse, suggest, differentiate, distinguish, define, discuss, why, how**.
8. The following action words need to be read within their context to determine whether a ONE-WORD ANSWER or FULL SENTENCE is required: **provide, what, tabulate, and give**.



SECTION A

QUESTION 1

1.1

1.1.1 B ✓

1.1.2 D ✓

1.1.3 B ✓

1.1.4 A ✓

1.1.5 B ✓

1.1.6 C ✓

1.1.7 D ✓

1.1.8 A ✓

(8x1)(8)

1.2

1.2.1 G ✓

1.2.2 E ✓

1.2.3 H ✓

1.2.4 A ✓

1.2.5 B ✓

1.2.6 C ✓

1.2.7 F ✓

(7x1)(7)

1.3

1.3.1 30 (35)° – 60 (75)° N & S of the equator ✓

(1x1)(1)

1.3.2 West to east/eastwards ✓

(1x1)(1)

1.3.3 Mid-latitude cyclones develop in the westerly wind belt ✓✓ /
The system is driven by westerly winds ✓✓ /
Driven by jet streams ✓✓

[ANY ONE]

(1x2)(2)

1.3.4 (a) North-west ✓

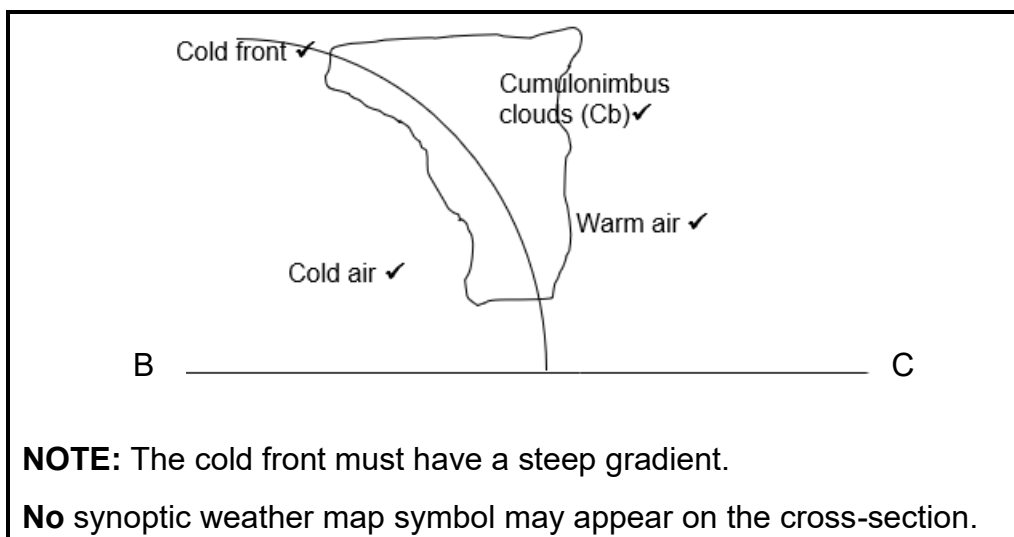
(1x1)(1)

(b) Winds rotate into the system in a clockwise direction ✓✓

(1x2)(2)



1.3.5



Marks allocated for:

Type of front	(1x1)(1)
Characteristics of air masses	(2x1)(2)
Type of cloud that results in precipitation at D	(1x1)(1)

- 1.3.6 Heavy rainfall can lead to flooding that destroys vegetation/causes soil erosion/disrupts ecosystems. ✓✓
 Strong winds can uproot trees. ✓✓
 (Very) cold temperatures could kills small animals/plants. ✓✓
 Snow may bury vegetation/kill animals. ✓✓

[ACCEPT EXAMPLES FOR EACH OF THE ANSWERS] (2x2)(4)
(15)

1.4

- 1.4.1 Formative ✓ (1x1)(1)
- 1.4.2 a) Stage 3 ✓ (mature) (1x1)(1)
- b) Isobars are close together. ✓ (1x2)(2)
- 1.4.3 a) A bulge of sea water caused by strong winds blowing towards the coast during tropical cyclones. ✓✓ (1x2)(2)
- b) His house was washed away/destroyed. ✓ /
 His car was tipped over/landed on its roof. ✓ (1x1)(1)



- 1.4.4
- Hot moist air – warm ocean of at least 26,5°C. ✓✓
 - Coriolis Force needed for the rotation of wind around the low-pressure centre. ✓✓
 - Large scale condensation releasing latent heat. ✓✓
 - Intense low pressure on surface and in upper air due to tropical jet stream diverging upper air. ✓✓
 - Unstable atmosphere. ✓✓
 - Low vertical wind shear. ✓✓
 - Converging winds near the ocean surface. ✓✓

[ANY FOUR]

(4x2)(8)

(15)

1.5

- 1.5.1 Kalahari high pressure/anticyclone ✓

(1x1)(1)

- 1.5.2 Descending, ✓ warm up ✓

(2x1)(2)

- 1.5.3 The rotation around a high-pressure in the Southern hemisphere is anticlockwise while the diagram shows clockwise rotation (northern hemisphere). ✓✓

(1x2)(2)

- 1.5.4 Sinking air warms up so that no condensation takes place. ✓✓
No clouds will form (clear skies) therefore no rainfall will occur. ✓✓

(2x2)(4)

- 1.5.5
- Build water storage facilities, e.g. dams. ✓✓
 - Put up containers (Jo-Jo tanks) for rainwater harvesting. ✓✓
 - Use water sparingly where possible. ✓✓
 - Switch to/plant crops that do not use a lot of water/use less water. ✓✓
 - Re-cycle/re-use water. ✓✓
 - Use water-saving farming methods (accept examples like drip irrigation, mulching, etc.). ✓✓
 - Plant produce in tunnels to ensure optimal water usage. ✓✓

[ANY THREE]

(3x2)(6)

(15)

TOTAL QUESTION 1: [60]



QUESTION 2

2.1

2.1.1 **A:** watershed ✓

2.1.2 **B:** source ✓

2.1.3 **C:** tributary ✓

2.1.4 **D:** confluence ✓

2.1.5 **E:** mouth/distributary ✓

2.1.6 **F:** delta ✓

2.1.7 **G:** base flow ✓

(7x1)(7)

2.2

2.2.1 X ✓

2.2.2 Y ✓

2.2.3 X ✓

2.2.4 Y ✓

2.2.5 X ✓

2.2.6 X ✓

2.2.7 Y ✓

2.2.8 Y ✓

(8x1)(8)

2.3

2.3.1 waterfall ✓

(1x1)(1)

2.3.2 upper course ✓

(1x1)(1)

2.3.3 a) turbulent ✓

(1x1)(1)

b) Riverbed is uneven. ✓✓ /

Resistant layer of rock that is inclined downstream is eroded ✓✓

(1x2)(2)

2.3.4 Deep, ✓ narrow, ✓ steep ✓

[ANY TWO]

(2x1)(2)



2.3.5 Gradient is very steep; it can overcome the friction with the riverbed; the velocity will be high ✓✓

Steep gradient leads to a faster flow. ✓✓ ..scaffold

[FACT PLUS QUALIFIER]

(2x2)(4)

2.3.6 • Undercutting of more resistant rock layers causing them to collapse (through hydraulic action and abrasion) ✓✓

• The waterfall retreats upstream/shifts back in the direction of the source. ✓✓

• Through headward erosion the river cuts back upstream ✓✓

(2x2)(4)

(15)

2.4

2.4.1 Dendritic ✓

(1x1)(1)

2.4.2 Rocks of similar hardness with a similar gradient ✓✓

(1x2)(2)

2.4.3 i) wind gap ✓

ii) elbow of capture ✓

(2x1)(2)

2.4.4 The river is cut off from its source. ✓✓

The volume of the river will decrease. ✓✓

Volume may vary more as it no longer has a large catchment area. ✓✓

[ANY TWO]

(2x2)(4)

2.4.5 • More water is available for irrigation and livestock farming. ✓✓

• Less money is needed for irrigation. ✓✓

• Occasional flooding deposits sediments that enrich soil. ✓✓

• Natural levees can be destroyed, increasing the risk of flooding. ✓✓

• River may cut through meanders, diverting the river away from the farm. ✓✓

• Larger volume of the river will cause the river to flood its original banks, leaving less land for farming. ✓✓

[ANY THREE]

(3x2)(6)

(15)



2.5

- 2.5.1 River management refers to the strategies and practices used to control and maintain river systems. ✓

[CONCEPT] (1x1)(1)

- 2.5.2 The river is threatened/in trouble/becoming unhealthy/eutrophication happening. ✓✓

[CONCEPT] (1x2)(2)

- 2.5.3 People cannot survive without water/people will die (water is needed for health) without water/human dignity. ✓✓

[ACCEPT EXAMPLES] (1x2)(2)

- 2.5.4
- Solid waste/effluents flow into river. ✓
 - Chemicals/toxins poison the river. ✓
 - Air pollution causes acid deposition. ✓
 - Vegetation is removed when industries are built that causes silting. ✓

[ANY TWO] (2x1)(2)

- 2.5.5
- Legislation to control what is discharged into the river. ✓✓
 - Environmental impact studies must be done before new development takes place. ✓✓
 - Legislation to reduce/control the use/pollution of underground sources of water. ✓✓
 - Issue fines to industries that pollute/misuses the river/underground water. ✓✓
 - Proper zoning laws/buffering to prevent industries from locating in the flood zones/too close to the river. ✓✓
 - Prevent industrial activities in the flood zone/riparian zone/too close to the river. ✓✓

[ANY FOUR – FULL SENTENCES, ACCEPT EXAMPLES] (4x2)(8)

(15)

TOTAL QUESTION 2: [60]

TOTAL SECTION A: [120]



SECTION B

QUESTION 3

3.1

3.1.1 B ✓ (1x1)(1)

3.1.2 B ✓ (1x1)(1)

3.1.3 Distance = 3,6 cm x 100 ✓ = 360 m ✓ (2x1)(2)

3.1.4 a) A ✓✓ (1x2)(2)

b) A is taller than B/more stretched/B – vertical scale is smaller. ✓✓ (1x2)(2)

c) Yes/There is intervisibility. ✓ (1x1)(1)

d) There is no obstruction/high-lying area between the two spot heights/points. ✓ (1x1)(1)

(10)

3.2

3.2.1 B ✓ (1x1)(1)

3.2.2 A ✓ (1x1)(1)

- 3.2.3
- There are many non-perennial rivers. ✓
 - Many perennial waters (dams) /reservoirs/water storage. ✓
 - Furrows for irrigation. ✓

[ANY TWO] (2x1)(2)

3.2.4 concave ✓ (1x1)(1)

3.2.5 a) North-facing ✓ (1x1)(1)

b) Yes ✓ (1x1)(1)

c) Enough direct sunlight/warm enough for crops to grow. ✓✓ (1x2)(2)

3.2.6 a) trellis ✓ (1x1)(1)

b) Parallel fold mountains ✓
Short tributaries join the main streams at right angles. ✓ (2x1)(2)

(12)



3.3

3.3.1 D ✓ (1x1)(1)

3.3.2 Data integration ✓ (1x1)(1)

3.3.3 a) Gathering information about the earth's surface from a (vertical) distance ✓ without making physical contact ✓ (1x2)(2)

b) Drones ✓

Cameras in aeroplanes for vertical aerial photographs. ✓

Satellites for comparative images. ✓

[ANY ONE]

(1x1)(1)

3.3.4 a) green ✓ (1x1)(1)

b) line ✓

(1x1)(1)

c) reservoir ✓

(1x1)(1)

(8)

TOTAL QUESTION 3: [30]

TOTAL SECTION B: [30]

GRAND TOTAL: [150]