

Past-paper walk-through

Conservation ■ 18.3

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 9700/41 N25 Q6 ■ 11 marks
- 9700/42 N25 Q8 ■ 12 marks
- 9700/44 N25 Q7 ■ 10 marks

Reading the mark scheme

- **B1** a mark that stands on its own – the point is either made or not.
- **M1** a *method* mark: the right approach, even if the number is wrong.
- **A1** an *answer* mark, and it usually needs its M mark first.
- **C1** a working mark on the way to the answer.
- **//** separates answers the examiner accepts equally.
- **ecf** = error carried forward: a later part is marked on your own earlier answer.
- **owtte** = “or words to that effect” – the wording need not match.

Question 6

9700/41 N25 ■ Q6 ■ 11 marks

- 6 The distribution of the large blue butterfly, *Phengaris arion*, extends across Europe and Asia. It is assessed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) on the Red List™ as 'Near Threatened' globally and 'Endangered' in Europe.

In Europe, *P. arion* became extinct in the Netherlands in 1964 and in the United Kingdom in 1979.

Fig. 6.1 lists the conservation status categories in the IUCN Red List™.

conservation status

Extinct (EX)

Extinct in the Wild (EW)

Critically Endangered (CR)

Endangered (EN)

.....



increasing risk of extinction

Question 6

Vulnerable (VU)

Near Threatened (NT)

Least Concern (LC)



Fig. 6.1

Fig. 6.2 shows *P. arion*.



Question 6



Fig. 6.2

- (a) (i) Explain how IUCN Red List™ assessments help to conserve biodiversity.

Question 6

[3] -

- (ii) With reference to Fig. 6.1 and the IUCN assessments for *P. arion*, suggest how the abundance of the butterfly differs across its distribution.

Question 6

- (b) *P. arion* has been successfully re-introduced in the United Kingdom at 12 sites. These sites were restored to flower-rich grassland.

The conservation management actions designed for *P. arion* also resulted in the re-establishment or increase of other species at the restored sites. These included 12 species of flowering plant, 8 other butterfly species and 4 species of other insects.

- (i) Use the information given to suggest why *P. arion* went extinct in the United Kingdom in 1979.

Question 6

- (ii) Outline the advantages of restoring habitats for endangered species.

Question 6

[Total: 11]

Solution 6

(a)(i) Mark scheme

- any three from:
- 1
- identify / protect / prioritise, species most at risk ;
- 2
- provide data to / advise, governments / scientists / zoos / industry ;
- 3
- so action can be taken to protect a species ;
- 4

Solution 6

- example of conservation action ;
- 5
- AVP ;
- 3

Solution 6

(a)(ii) Mark scheme

- in Europe / west or where, endangered / EN (context must be stated)
- 1
- P. arion less abundant (compared to, Asia / NT) ;
- 2
- more threatened / higher risk of extinction ;
- 3
- AVP ;
- 2

Solution 6

(b)(i) Mark scheme

- 1
- habitat, degradation / change / loss ;
- 2
- due to, (change in) farming / development ;
- 3
- lack of, food plants / flowers for food ;
- 2
- 9700/41

Solution 6

- October/November 2025

Solution 6

(b)(ii) Mark scheme

- any four from:
- 1
- prevent extinction / allow survival (of species) ;
- 2
- maintain / increase, biodiversity ;
- 3
- aesthetic / recreational / wellbeing (reasons / benefits) ;
- 4

Solution 6

- for, scientific interest / research / education ;
- 5
- ethical / moral / stewardship (obligation) ;
- 6
- local cultural significance / save local heritage / ecotourism ;
- 7
- maintain / protect / restore / stability of, food chains / food webs ;
- 8
- pollination / ecosystem, services ;
- 4

Question 8

9700/42 N25 ■ Q8 ■ 12 marks

Palm oil is the most widely used vegetable oil. It is obtained from the African oil palm, *Elaeis guineensis*. Oil palms are the highest yielding vegetable oil crop, needing only 10% of the land area required by other crops to produce the same quantity of oil.

On the island of Borneo, tropical rainforests are cut down and cleared to create oil palm plantations. This has a large effect on biodiversity.

The Bornean orangutan, *Pongo pygmaeus*, is only found on the island of Borneo and is classified as critically endangered on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species™.

Fig. 8.1 shows Bornean orangutans.

(a) Suggest ways in which the Bornean orangutan may be conserved.

[4]

(b) Biodiversity can be assessed at different levels.

Outline the main levels at which biodiversity can be assessed.

[3]

Question 8

- (c)(i) Complete Table 8.1. [2]
- (c)(ii) Calculate the value for Simpson's index of diversity (D). [1]
- (c)(iii) Using your value for D , comment on the biodiversity of this temperate woodland. [2]

Question 8

common name	n	$\frac{n}{N}$	$\left(\frac{n}{N}\right)^2$
maple	807	0.196	0.0384
alder	6	0.001	0.0000
hazel	1856	0.451	
hawthorn	82	0.020	0.0004
blackthorn	40	0.010	0.0001
willow	101	0.025	0.0006
birch	78	0.019	0.0004
wild rose	84	0.020	0.0004
oak	1036	0.252	0.0635
dogwood	29	0.007	0.0000
$N =$	4119	Total =	

Question 8



Solution 8

(a) Mark scheme

any four from :

- 1 (named) protected reserves ;
- 2 **limit** palm oil plantations / ref. to sustainable palm oil production ;
- 3 restoring lost habitat / reforestation / reduce deforestation ;
- 4 captive breeding programs ;
- 5 release into wild ;
- 6 ban, hunting / trade;
- 7 raise awareness / education ;
- 8 ref. to research ;

Solution 8

(b)

Mark scheme

- 1 ecosystem / habitat (diversity) ;
- 2 species (diversity / richness) ;
- 3 genetic (diversity) ;

Solution 8

(c)(i)

Mark scheme

- 0.2034 ;
- 0.3072 ;
- allow **ecf** for mp2 if both incorrect
- allow **ecf** for mp2 if figure correct in both but not to 4dp

Solution 8

(c)(ii)

Mark scheme

- 0.6928 / 0.693 ;
- allow **ecf** for 1 minus their answer to **8ci**

(c)(iii)

Mark scheme

- (D) close(r) to 1 / higher than 0.5 ;
- (so) high(er) (bio)diversity ;

Question 7

9700/44 N25 ■ Q7 ■ 10 marks

- 7 The kakapo, *Strigops habroptila*, is a species of large, nocturnal (active at night) parrot and is found only in New Zealand. The bird does not fly and lives on the ground.

The kakapo is classified as critically endangered on the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species™.

Fig. 7.1 shows a kakapo.



Question 7



Fig. 7.1

(a) Complete Table 7.1 to show the classification of the kakapo.

Table 7.1

taxonomic group	name
domain	Eukarya
kingdom	Animalia

Question 7

.....	Chordata
class	Aves
.....	Psittaciformes
family	Strigopidae
genus	

[3]

- (b) The kakapo was widely distributed before humans arrived in New Zealand. The Kakapo Recovery Programme started in 1995. Birds were moved to protected areas. In 2024 they were only found in these protected areas.

This is shown in Fig. 7.2.

Question 7

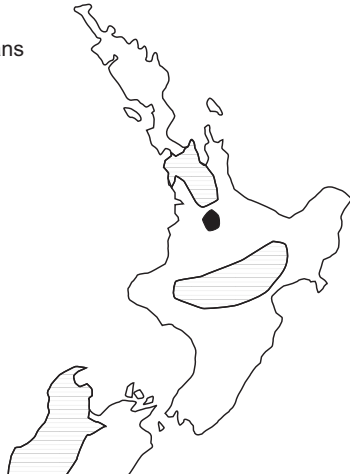
key



kakapo distribution before humans
arrived in New Zealand



protected areas 2024



Question 7



Question 7



Fig. 7.2

Suggest the ideal features of a protected area for the kakapo.

Question 7

- (c) DNA has shown that the kakapo population may have gone through one or more genetic bottlenecks after the arrival of humans in New Zealand.

Suggest the consequences of a genetic bottleneck to the kakapo population in New Zealand.

Question 7

[Total: 10]

Solution 7

(a) Mark scheme

- 1
- phylum ;
- 2
- order ;
- 3
- Strigops ;
- 3

Solution 7

(b) Mark scheme

- any three from:
 - 1
 - no / few, humans ;
 - 2
 - no / few, predators ;
 - 3
 - sufficient, vegetation / food ;
 - 4

Solution 7

- places to hide during day ;
- 5
- AVP ;
- 3

Solution 7

(c) Mark scheme

- any four from:
- 1
- inbreeding depression / little hybrid vigour ;
- 2
- low / decreased, genetic, diversity / variation or small gene pool ;
- 3
- disadvantageous recessive alleles (more likely to be) expressed ;
- 4

Solution 7

- infertility / low disease resistance / reduced fitness ;
- 5
- low / decreased, ability to adapt or high / increased, risk of extinction ;
- 6
- AVP ;
- 4
- 9700/44
- October/November 2025