Past-paper walk-through

Contemporary Causes of Diffusion ▪ 3.6

eXercise

Questions in this set

- 2025 Set 2 Q3
- 2023 Set 2 Q3

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 3

2025 Set 2 ▪ Q3

The two maps show political boundaries in Saskatchewan, Canada, and in Finland. Both Finland and Saskatchewan are home to populations of indigenous peoples with a significant amount of political autonomy. Finland is a member state of the European Union.

(a) Identify the scale of analysis used for Finland's political divisions in Map 2.

(b) Define geometric boundaries as shown in Map 1.

(c) Describe one function of internal boundaries.

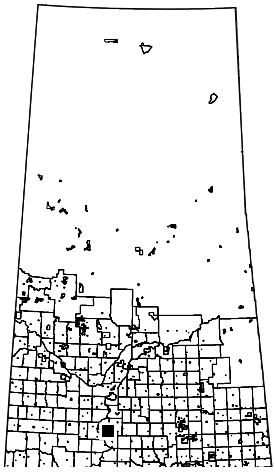
(d) Explain how the spatial organization of a country such as Canada is affected by a federal system of governance.

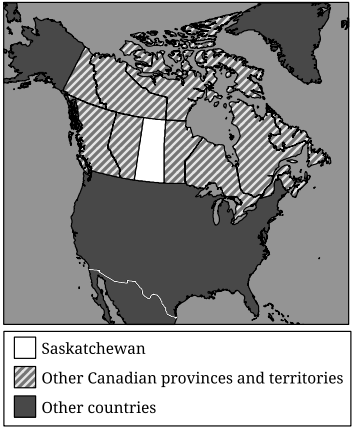
(e) Explain how the supranational organization shown in Map 2 may limit the actions of Finland as a member state.

Question 3

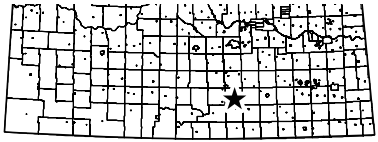
(f) Describe one characteristic of a cultural landscape that may reflect cultural beliefs and identities.
(g) Explain how communication technologies may affect the cultural patterns of indigenous languages.

Question 3




Saskatchewan
Other Canadian provinces and territories
Other countries

Question 3



0 100 miles

N
W E
S

Cities, towns, and rural municipalities in Saskatchewan

★ Regina, provincial capital, second-largest city

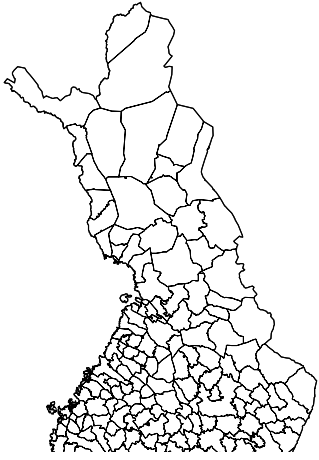
■ Saskatoon, largest city

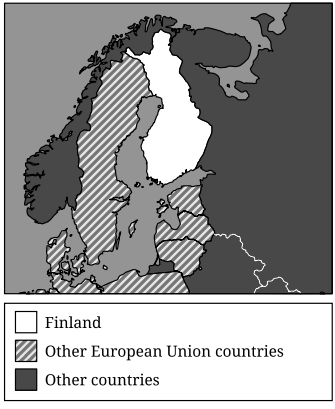
Source: Statistics Canada

Question 3

Map 2: Political Divisions in Finland

Question 3





Question 3

Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

- - Local scale (e.g., city, town, rural municipality) or subnational scale.

Solution 3

(b)

Mark scheme

- - Border lines on a map (two-dimensional plane) that are straight, angled, and/or curved to form a geometric shape (e.g., straight line, square, rectangle, circle, other polygons).
- - A boundary or border drawn based on lines of latitude and longitude, a grid system, and/or a township and range system (baselines and meridians).
- - Boundary lines drawn without regard to the physical or cultural landscape.

Solution 3

(c) Mark scheme

- - Internal boundaries define the limits of sovereignty or government control between one subnational region and another.
- - Internal boundaries delimit or unify different types of subnational regions (e.g., voting districts, states, provinces, territories, special administrative regions, autonomous zones).
- - Internal boundaries can unify or separate distinct ethnic, cultural, or national groups.

Solution 3

- - Internal boundaries can delineate, divide, or fragment zones of public infrastructure and/or local government (e.g., water districts, school districts, voting districts).
- - Internal boundaries can reflect, preserve, or reduce cultural, linguistic, or historical identities.
- - Internal boundaries can prevent, resolve, or exacerbate conflicts.
- - Internal boundaries can facilitate or hinder the collection or analysis of data.
- - Internal boundaries can facilitate or hinder the management, protection, or distribution of natural resources or ecosystems.

Solution 3

(d) Mark scheme

- - Federal systems of governance affect the spatial organization of a country by creating locally based, dispersed power centers (e.g., subnational state or provincial capitals).
- - Countries with a federal system of governance are typically organized into subnational units (e.g., autonomous regions, semiautonomous regions) and/or have regional capitals that may help reduce centrifugal forces and/or limit ethnic separatism.
- - Federal systems tend to divide large amounts of land area into subnational divisions that may be difficult to govern from a centralized or single capital.

Solution 3

- - Federal systems tend to divide multicultural countries into subnational divisions based on cultural differences (e.g., ethnic, religious, and/or linguistic diversity) that may be difficult to govern from a centralized or single capital.

Solution 3

(e) Mark scheme

- - The EU may enact international laws or policies that limit the economic actions of Finland or other member states (e.g., reducing or eliminating trade barriers, introducing a common currency, regulating industry).
- - The EU may implement international laws or policies that limit the political actions of Finland or other member states (e.g., requiring common border policies, observing elections, sharing a common foreign policy).
- - By joining the EU, Finland has agreed to allow the EU government to make laws and regulations on behalf of Finland and the other member states.

Solution 3

(f) Mark scheme

- - Art, music, toponyms, clothing, architecture, and/or evidence of sequent occupance may indicate elements of a culture or cultures.
- - Religion, language, social institutions, and/or systems of governance may be based on a culture or cultures.
- - Land use, land survey patterns, agriculture, resource use (e.g., hunting, fishing, crafts), and/or trade may indicate the practices of a culture or cultures.
- - Foods, social interactions, holidays, and/or festivals are based on or have elements of a culture or cultures.

Solution 3

- - Attitudes towards ethnicity or gender (e.g., the role of women in the workforce) may help shape the use of space in a given society.

Solution 3

(g) Mark scheme

- - Communication technologies (e.g., the Internet) may encourage members of indigenous communities to adopt more commonly used languages (e.g., English), resulting in indigenous language loss.
- - Language loss may occur due to cultural convergence, which is accelerated by the use of communication technologies.
- - Communication technologies may increase the availability of indigenous language resources (e.g., via websites, apps, social media), resulting in language preservation.

Solution 3

- - Communication technologies may be used to increase awareness of indigenous identity issues, which may result in language preservation.
- - Limited access or cultural resistance (e.g., reliance on oral tradition) to communication technologies can restrict or prevent significant changes in the cultural patterns of indigenous languages.

Question 3

2023 Set 2 ▪ Q3

Pastoral nomadism is widely practiced in the Sahel region of Africa. The map and table provide information about spatial patterns and social tensions associated with this type of agriculture.

(a) Describe ONE reason for the migration patterns shown on the map.

(b) Describe ONE cause of desertification in the Sahel region.

(c) Explain how pastoral nomadism may affect the cultural landscape of the Sahel region.

(d) Explain ONE way mixed-crop farming could be affected by climatic conditions.

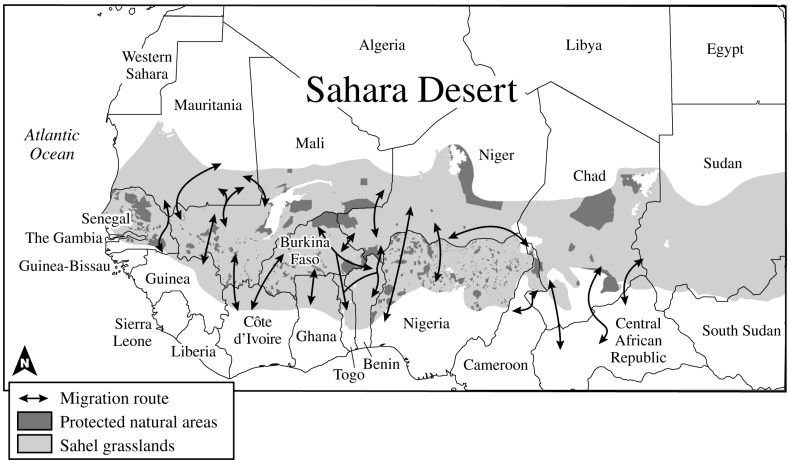
(e) Using the map and table, explain why expanding protected natural areas may affect the migration routes of nomadic herders in the Sahel region.

(f) Using the information in the table, explain why farmers' increased use of irrigation may increase conflicts with nomadic herders.

Question 3

(g) Explain the degree to which increased access to communication technologies may create cultural convergence among nomadic herders. and fill in the appropriate circle at the top of each page to indicate the question number.

Question 3


Western Sahara
Algeria
Libya
Egypt
Sahara Desert
Mauritania
Atlantic Ocean
Mali
Niger
Chad
Sudan
Senegal
The Gambia
Guinea-Bissau
Guinea
Burkina Faso
Sierra Leone
Liberia
Côte d'Ivoire
Ghana
Togo
Benin
Nigeria
Cameroon
Central African Republic
South Sudan
N
Migration route
Protected natural areas
Sahel grasslands

Solution 3

(a)

Mark scheme

- - Seasonal migration (transhumance) to move herds to grazing lands and/or water sources.
- - Migration to areas with more rainfall during the dry season.
- - Migration because the region's climate (arid or semi-arid) is too dry to support grazing year-round and/or to reduce stress on land that has been grazed.
- - Movement southward during the dry season and/or northward during the wet season.
- - Migration patterns based on cultural or agricultural practices.

Solution 3

(b)

Mark scheme

- - Overgrazing has removed the grass cover and/or damaged the soil.
- - Human population growth and the use of arid land for growing food and/or demand for water have placed the land under added stress.
- - Runoff, wind, and/or erosion has removed fertile topsoil.
- - Soil erosion caused by climate change, natural drought, increasingly dry climate and/or human activities.
- - The use of wood for fuel and building materials has removed natural scrub or shrub landscapes.

Solution 3

(c) Mark scheme

- - Pastoral nomadism affects land use patterns in the region, with much land used for grazing, leaving an imprint of agricultural patterns (e.g., migration routes, traditional sites for seasonal settlements, watering sites, market locations, corrals, animal pens) on the cultural landscape.
- - Pastoral nomadism contributes to specific cultural identities and/or shared practices in groups with migrant lifestyles, leaving an imprint on the landscape (e.g., types of temporary settlements, meeting places, market locations) and/or infrastructure that supports communication (e.g., signs, cell phone towers).

Solution 3

- - Pastoral nomadism affects the built environment, with many nomadic herders constructing portable and/or seasonal (temporary) dwellings.
- - Pastoral nomads follow long-established seasonal migration routes or seasonal temporary settlements, thus maintaining local traditions and/or agricultural practices (e.g., animal husbandry, dairying, celebrations) that leave an imprint on the cultural landscape.

Solution 3

(d) Mark scheme

- - The availability of annual or seasonal rainfall (e.g., drought) results in crop or animal losses.
- - Variables and/or extremes in annual and/or seasonal temperatures may prevent or enable the cultivation of certain plant crops or animals.
- - Farming is affected by floods in areas where there are seasonal monsoons, hurricanes, and/or intense storms.
- - Farming is affected by changes in temperature or rainfall which may cause farmers to substitute one crop for another, and/or change farming techniques.

Solution 3

- - Changes in temperature, precipitation, frequency, and/or the intensity of storms may limit plant crops or impact the overall health of animals.

Solution 3

(e) Mark scheme

- - Nomadic herders may have to make detours to avoid crossing protected natural areas, or use corridors established by governments, thus altering their traditional migration routes.
- - Newly expanded protected natural areas may disrupt established migration routes traditionally used by nomadic herders.
- - Protected natural areas may bring nomadic herders into conflict with conservation organizations or forestry services as they may differ on the use of protected areas for grazing, and/or concern about the impact of herding on natural habitats.

Solution 3

- - Nomadic herders who travel through or graze animals in protected areas may risk legal consequences (e.g., fines) and begin to avoid those routes.
- - Protected areas may preserve grassland habitat and/or prevent the loss of potential grazing lands, allowing nomadic herders to continue their traditional migration routes.
- - Protected areas may conserve traditional migration routes for herders under agreements with governments or conservation organizations.
- - Nomadic herders who cross international borders may encounter tensions with government officials who enforce migration policies and/or inspect for contraband items.

Solution 3

(f) Mark scheme

- - Increased use of irrigation may increase the amount of land that can be cultivated for crops, cutting off migration routes and/or limiting the use of such lands for transporting or grazing herds during seasonal migrations.
- - Increased use of irrigation may increase the amount of land that can be cultivated for crops and eliminate areas where nomadic herders could set up temporary settlements and/or corrals or pens.
- - Increased use of irrigation may deplete water supplies used by nomadic herders and/or cause competition between herders and farmers to water livestock and/or crops during pasturing or seasonal migrations.

Solution 3

- - Overuse of irrigation in dryland (arid) environments may lead to soil salinization that could reduce the amount of food for animals (forage) or land for grazing that is available for migrating herds.
- - Irrigation may lead to runoff carrying chemical fertilizer or pesticides into bodies of water where herders drink and/or water their livestock, increasing tensions between nomadic herders and farmers.

Solution 3

(g) Mark scheme

- To earn the point, state a DEGREE (high, moderate, or low) to which communication technologies affect the cultural pattern AND support it with a valid justification.
- For a HIGH degree (technology erodes indigenous culture):
- - Increased use of mobile phones, television, and/or the internet may expose herders to outside cultural influences and make herder culture less unique, or expose nomadic herders to the norms of external communities.
- - Increased use of global communication systems may push herders toward more widely spoken languages, making indigenous language use less common.

Solution 3

- - Increased consumption of external music, literature, art, and/or holidays may diminish herders' interest in maintaining indigenous traditions.
- For a MODERATE or LOW degree (culture is protected or unchanged):
- - Increased exposure to outside influences may instead mobilize nomadic herders to unite to protect their culture, strengthening cultural identity.
- - Limited access to communication technologies (cost or connectivity) may hinder cultural convergence.
- - Nomadic herder communities may reject communication technologies to resist globalization and/or maintain traditional lifestyles.