

4.1 Global interactions

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 23 marks

KEY WORDS core-periphery – • glocalisation

Global interactions

Objective

Analyse global networks and power relations, apply the development and diversity measures, and evaluate global risks against resilience and governance (HL extension: global interactions).

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

HL toolkit. Flows: goods (exports $\approx$ 25% of world output), capital, information (60%+ of humanity online), people. Networks: nodes, links, position as power. Power: core–semi-periphery–periphery; TNCs, outsourcing; counter-flows (remittances > FDI to LMICs). Development: HDI (0–1: health, schooling, income); Gender Inequality Index; capability. Diversity: homogenisation vs glocalisation; indigenous reassertion. Risks: pandemic (2020 world GDP $\approx$ –3%), financial, geopolitical, climate; supply-chain fragility. Governance: UN, WTO, civil society; 17 SDGs.

2 Practice

2.1 Name the four global flows with one example of each. [2]

2.2 Explain what a node and a link are in a global network, and why network position is power. [2]

2.3 Distinguish the core from the periphery in the core–periphery model by function, with one example pair. [2]

2.4 State the three dimensions of the HDI and why GNI per head alone is an incomplete guide. [2]

2.5 Distinguish homogenisation from glocalisation, with one example of each. [2]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 (*Analyse style.*) A TNC closes a design office in a core city and outsources routine coding to a semi-periphery country, keeping branding and research at headquarters. Analyse this decision using the core–periphery model and one counter-flow. [6]

3.2 (*Risks style.*) Explain how a single chokepoint (a canal, a strait, a chip plant) becomes a global risk, and name one resilience state-scale measure and one network-scale measure. [4]

3.3 (*Governance style.*) Why can no single state secure development and climate goals alone? Answer using global governance and the SDGs. [3]

Solutions

2.1 Goods (container trade in manufactures); capital (foreign direct investment); information (data through submarine cables); people (migration, tourism) – two flows with examples for 1 mark each (2).

2.2 A node is a hub in the network (a command city such as London or Singapore); a link is the route connecting nodes (a trade lane, cable, air corridor) (1). Well-connected nodes compound advantage – firms cluster where flows meet – while poorly connected places pay the distance penalty, so position is power (1).

2.3 The core owns command functions – research, branding, finance (a design office in a core city); the periphery supplies materials and low-cost labour (mines, assembly plants) (2 for the contrast with an example pair).

2.4 Health (life expectancy), schooling (expected and mean years) and income (GNI per head) (1). GNI alone misses distribution and non-income wellbeing: two countries with equal income can differ in health and education, which is exactly what the HDI separates out (1).

2.5 Homogenisation: global brands and media spread the same products everywhere (the same coffee chain on five continents) (1). Glocalisation: the global is adapted to the local (menus and formats re-shaped for local tastes; global sport broadcast with local commentary culture) (1).

3.1 Core–periphery reading: headquarters keeps the high-value command functions (branding, research) in the core, while routine, standardised coding – low bargaining power, high substitutability – is relocated to the semi-periphery where costs are lower (2). The move follows the TNC's global division of labour, and the semi-periphery gains employment and skills (2). Counter-flow: the flows are not all core-directed – remittances to low- and middle-income countries exceed their FDI receipts, and emerging-economy TNCs invest outward, so the semi-periphery country may itself host outward investors and bargain over terms (2).

3.2 A chokepoint concentrates flow: when one canal, strait or chip plant closes, the networks built around it transmit the stoppage outward – delayed ships, starved factories, rising prices far from the event (2). State-scale resilience: diversify suppliers and hold strategic stockpiles (2). Network-scale resilience: build redundancy – alternative routes, multiple sourcing, rerouted capacity (accept any accurate pair; 1 mark for each measure clearly at its scale).

3.3 Global problems cross borders: climate, pandemics and financial contagion ignore sovereignty, so unilateral state action cannot secure outcomes (1). Global governance supplies the shared rules and coordination – the UN system, WTO trade rules, climate treaties – with civil society holding actors to account (1). The 17 SDGs are the shared scoreboard for 2015–2030, premised on collective action: development and climate are jointly pursued or jointly lost (1).

Local review guidance: analyse = unpack the mechanism with the model, then add the complication; (R1 3.2) name each resilience measure AT its scale; (R1 3.3) the answer is relational – states cannot do it alone by definition of the risks. Authored classroom guidance.