4.3 HL: Global risks and resilience

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ **Total: 30 marks**

KEY WORDS global risk • chokepoint • transboundary pollution • sovereignty • resilience • Montreal Protocol

Objective

Build the skills to answer Paper 3 questions on **global risks and resilience**: how connected places share shocks (pandemics, financial crises, **chokepoints**, **transboundary pollution**, loss of sovereignty), and how places build **resilience** at global, national and local scales.

You must be able to:

- explain how global connections spread risks, with named examples
- calculate the size of a global shock from data
- explain how a chokepoint threatens supply chains
- evaluate an international agreement as a response to a global risk
- evaluate resilience strategies at different scales

1 Key knowledge and worked examples

Risks that cross borders

risk	example
pandemic	COVID-19 cut world GDP by about 3 % in 2020 (IMF)
financial crisis	2008: began in the US housing market and spread to banks everywhere
supply-chain chokepoint	the Suez Canal blockage, March 2021: a container ship blocked the canal for six days
transboundary pollution	smoke from forest fires in Indonesia in 2015 covered Singapore and Malaysia
loss of **sovereignty**	global rules or companies limit what a government can decide

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Building resilience

scale	strategy	example
global	international agreements	the **Montreal Protocol** (1987) phased out the gases that damage the ozone layer; it is slowly recovering
national	stockpiles; more than one supplier	car makers buying chips from several countries after 2021
local	early warnings, insurance, savings	text-message warnings before floods

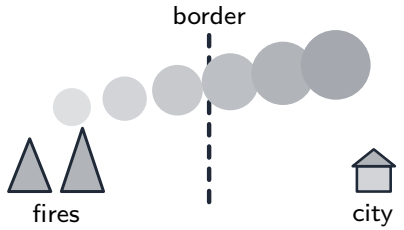
Technology both reduces risk (early-warning satellites; vaccines developed in under a year) and creates new risk (cyber attacks on banks and power grids).

Worked example. A world economy of about US$88 trillion falls by 3 %: loss $\approx 0.03 \times 88 \approx 2.6$ trillion dollars.

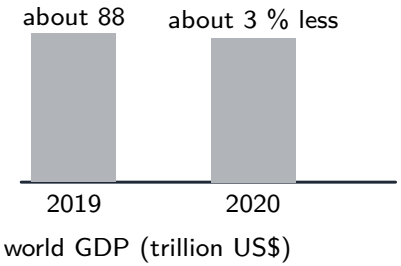
Judging resilience: who is protected → at what cost → how fast recovery is → who is left out.

2 Practice

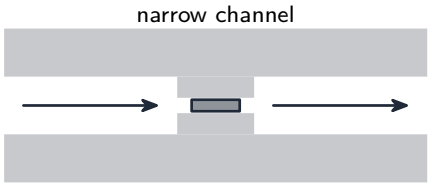
2.1 Define **transboundary pollution**, and give **one** example. [2]



2.2 In 2020 world GDP fell by about 3 % because of COVID-19. If the world economy was worth about US$88 trillion, calculate the loss, and explain why connected economies shared the shock. [3]

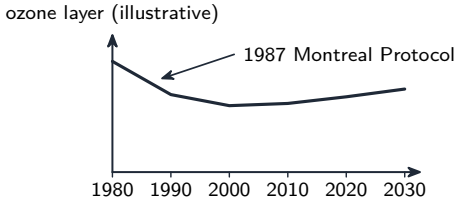


2.3 Define a **chokepoint**, and give **one** example. [2]

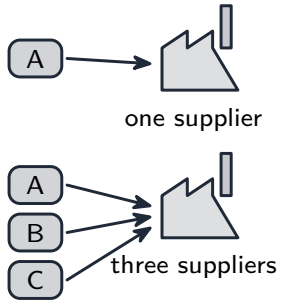


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2.4 Explain why the Montreal Protocol (1987) is seen as a successful response to a global risk. [3]

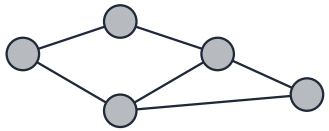


2.5 Explain **two** ways a country can make its supply chains more resilient. [4]



3 Exam-style questions

3.1 *(Paper 3, part (b).)* "Greater global interconnection increases risk more than it builds resilience." Evaluate this statement. [16]



shocks and support

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