

Annual Examinations for Secondary Schools 2022

YEAR 9 **GEOGRAPHY (GENERAL)**

Name: _____

Class: _____

- 1. Write your name and class on each paper.**
- 2. Answer all questions.**
- 3. You have around 40 minutes to finish this paper.**
- 4. This paper carries 100 marks.**

1. Soil is a very important natural resource for human beings. Choose the correct answer by ticking ✓ in the correct box.

a. The three main types of soil that we find in the Maltese Islands are

Upper Coralline Limestone, marble and sedimentary Rocks.	
Carbonate raw soils, the grey soils and coal.	
Carbonate raw soils, Terra Rossa soils and Xerorendzina soils.	

b. Different types of soil differ in composition, depth, colour and

size.	
organic content.	
glass.	

c. In the Maltese Islands one can find

a thin layer of soil.	
a thick layer of soil.	
layers of equal depth of soil.	

(6)

2. Look at figure 1 and answer the following questions.

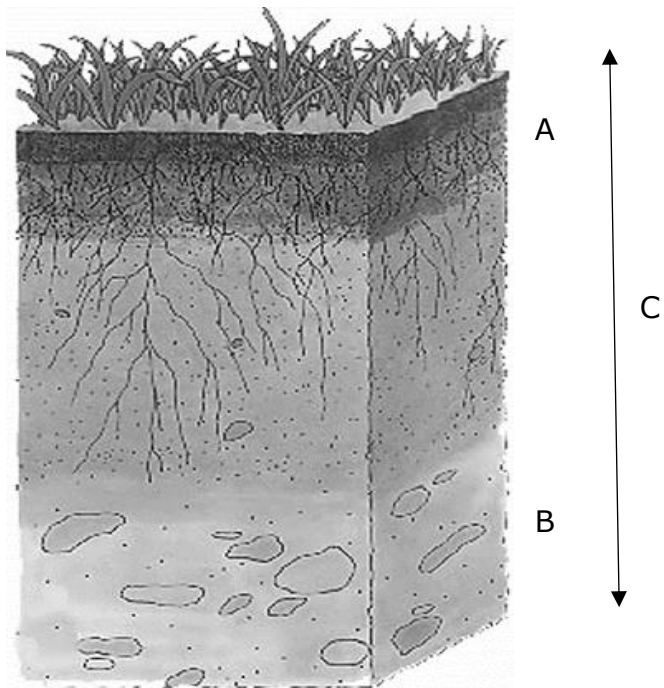


Figure 1

a. What does figure 1 show?

(3)

b. Put the letters of figure 1 (A, B or C) next to the correct soil characteristic in the table below.

Characteristics of soil	Letter
Underlying/Parent rock	
A layer of high organic content	
Depth of soil	

(6)

c. Fill in the blanks by using the words from the table below. Some words are extra.

nutrients	valleys	water	rocks
organisms	humus	waste	organic

Soil is made up of different pieces of _____ and minerals. It also has a mixture of _____ material which forms from vegetation and plant roots.

There are also living _____, some _____ and gases. Minerals or _____ are used by plants to grow and produce flowers and fruit. When plants and organisms die, these break up and decompose to form a substance known as _____.

(12)

d. Give **one** reason why soil is an important natural resource.

(3)

e. One of the soils found in the Maltese Islands is the Carbonate Raw Soil. Tick ✓ **six** main characteristics of this type of soil.

It is formed from the soft Blue Clay layer.	
It is formed from metamorphic rocks.	
It is formed from all the layers of rocks in the Maltese Islands.	
It contains a lot of calcium carbonate.	
It has a low organic content.	
It has a dark colour.	
It has a light colour.	
During summer, Carbonate Raw Soil will remain moist.	
Carbonate Raw Soil is also known as Xerorendzina.	
When it rains heavily, this soil gets waterlogged.	

(6)

3. Read carefully the article below about organic farming in Malta and then answer the questions.

Organic agriculture in Malta has been growing in popularity in recent years. However, this type of farming, is still in its early stages, according to the 'Malta Organic Agriculture Movement'. This movement was set up in 1999 to promote organic farming in the Maltese Islands.

(Maltese Farming, 2019)

- a. What is organic farming?

(3)

- b. Underline the correct characteristics of organic farming.

- i. (Artificial, natural, mixed) manure is used to increase the fertility of the soil.
- ii. The price of organic products is (cheaper, the same, higher) than conventional products.
- iii. In organic farming, pests can be controlled by (biological controls, artificial chemicals, fertiliser).
- iv. Organic farming products are (good, bad, worse) for human health.
- v. All organic products must be (imported, exported, certified).
- vi. Organic farming conserve the (buildings, rocks, environment).

(12)

- c. Explain **one** method how an organic farmer can get rid of insects which can harm the crops.

(3)

- d. Explain **two** problems which a farmer has to face when changing to organic farming practices.

(6)

- e. Explain **one** problem which customers must face when trying to buy organic products.

(3)

4. Answer the following questions about water stored in the aquifers.

- a. Explain **two** ways how the quantity of water in the aquifers is decreasing.

(6)

b. Explain **three** ways how water in the aquifers can be polluted.

(9)

c. What is a sewage treatment plant?

(3)

d. Mention **two** ways how water from sewage treatment plants can be used.

(4)

5a. In the Maltese Islands there are a number of natural water courses. Give the name of **one** natural water course in Malta **or** Gozo.

(3)

b. Choose **three** human activities from the following table and explain how these can harm the valley ecosystems.

Introduction of alien species	Clean-up schemes
Construction of houses or places of entertainment	Noise pollution by visitors

Activity 1: _____

Explanation:

Activity 2: _____

Explanation:

Activity 3: _____

Explanation:

(12)