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| **Criteria** | **(Level 3) Excellent-Good** | **(Level 2) Satisfactory** | **(Level 1) Poor** |
| ***Writing skills 5 marks***   * Taking into consideration structure and presentation * Use of brief introduction and conclusion. * Logical discussion and use of sub-headings. | **5 4**  Suitable introduction and conclusion.  Sophisticated, coherent and structured writing.  Sub-headings and paragraphs have been effectively used.  Essay is concise, well-structured and succinct. | **3 2**  Introduction and conclusion present, although not ideal.  Attempts to adhere to sub-headings and use of paragraphs.  Essay deviates from the point in places and lacks brevity. | **1 0**  Writing is weak and almost unintelligible.  No introduction or conclusion provided.  No use/adherence to sub-headings.  Long sentences, poor grammar and ineffective use of paragraphs.  Essay is repetitive.  Bullet points may have been used. |
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| ***Content knowledge 12 marks***   * Correct use of geographical terminology and concepts * Adherence to topic and sub-headings | **12 11 10 9**  Relevant content and detailed discussion of topic.  Good usage of geographical terminology and concepts. Appropriate number of facts presented/sub-heading. | **8 7 6 5**  Some relevant content. An overview / general discussion of key issues. Basic usage of geographical concepts and terminology.  (50 - 60 % of required facts presented/sub-heading). | **4 3 2 1 0**  Digression from the topic.  Weak grasp of concepts and terminology. Superficial/poor discussion.  Almost no relevant facts /sub-heading. |
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| ***Supporting evidence -***  ***analysis and understanding 5 marks***   * The ability to analyse and evaluate the topic is assessed in this category. * Reference made to case study material/fact file/source material provided. * If appropriate, reference must be made to familiar/local or other examples. | **5 4**  The candidate is able to argue and evaluate appropriately.  There is strong evidence of accurate application of understanding and evidence provided.  Essay demonstrates understanding and integration of relevant case study/fact file/source material into the context of the essay discussion. | **3 2**  Superficial links made to case study/fact file source material. Although reference to supporting examples has been made, it is not clear that the candidate has a good understanding of the example/case study material.  Supporting evidence does not always relate appropriately to the sub-heading or context of discussion. Discussion lacks depth. | **1 0**  Limited to no reference made to case study/fact file/source material.  Examples not provided.  Has little to no geographical meaning.  Little analysis or understanding.  Demonstrates minimal understanding of topic. |

**22 marks**