



WESTMINSTER
SCHOOL

The Challenge (Core)

Specimen Paper First Examination 2027

GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

Time: 60 minutes

Instructions to candidates:

- You must answer **all of Section A** and **one question** from **Section B**.
- Section A is worth 25 marks and Section B is worth 25 marks.
- Answer all questions in the answer booklets provided – do not answer in the exam paper.
- Please start your answer to Section B in a separate booklet.

SECTION A: Geography (25 marks)

Answer all questions in Section A

Question 1

Study **Figure 1** below, which shows the size and scale of the earthquakes in Syria and Turkey on February 6th 2023

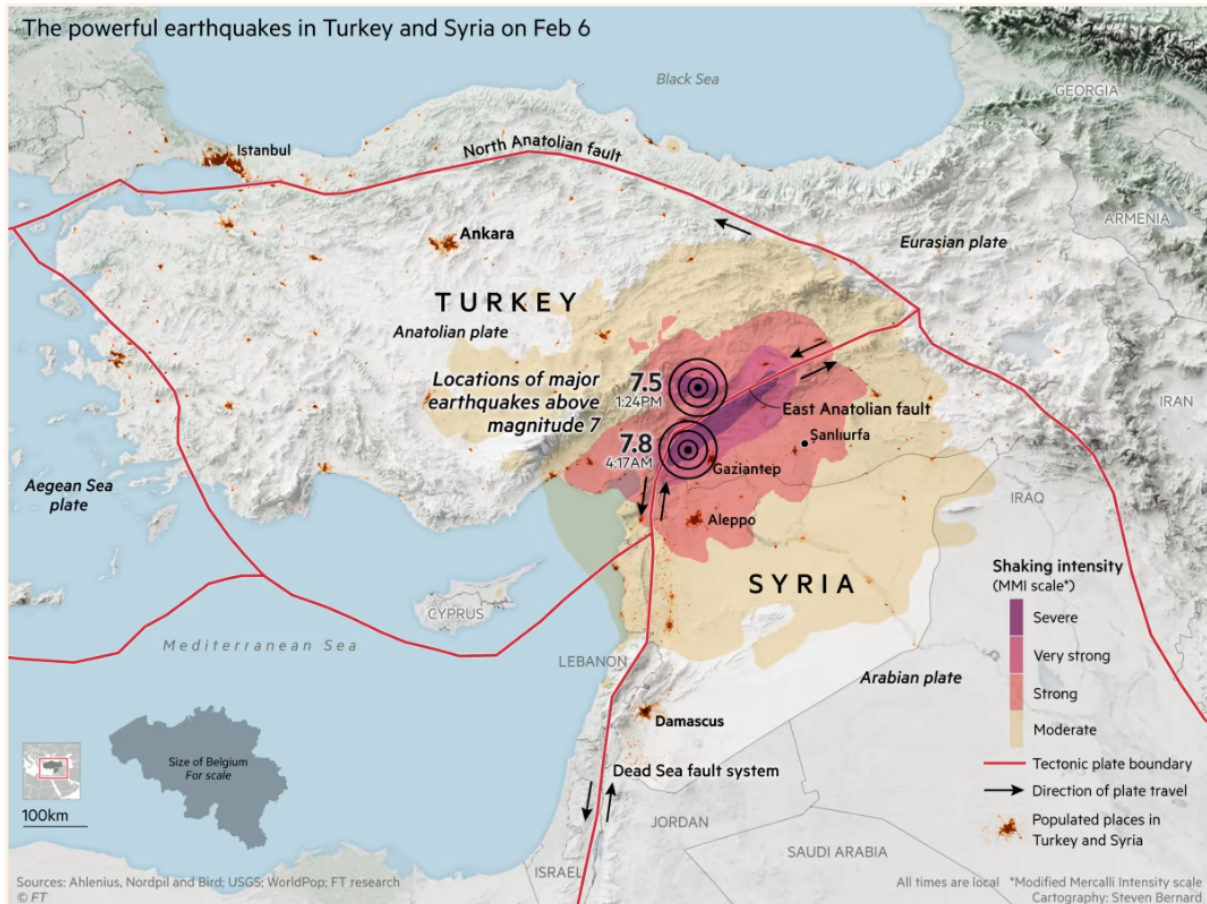


Figure 1

Source: The Financial Times online

1. Using the map, suggest why this earthquake occurred. [1]
2. Using the map, list two cities which would have been affected by severe or very strong shaking. [1]
3. The first earthquake struck at 4.17 am. Suggest why this might cause more deaths than if it had happened in the afternoon. [3]

Question 2

Study **Figure 2** below, which shows annual deaths from malaria between 2000 – 2020, across the world by region.

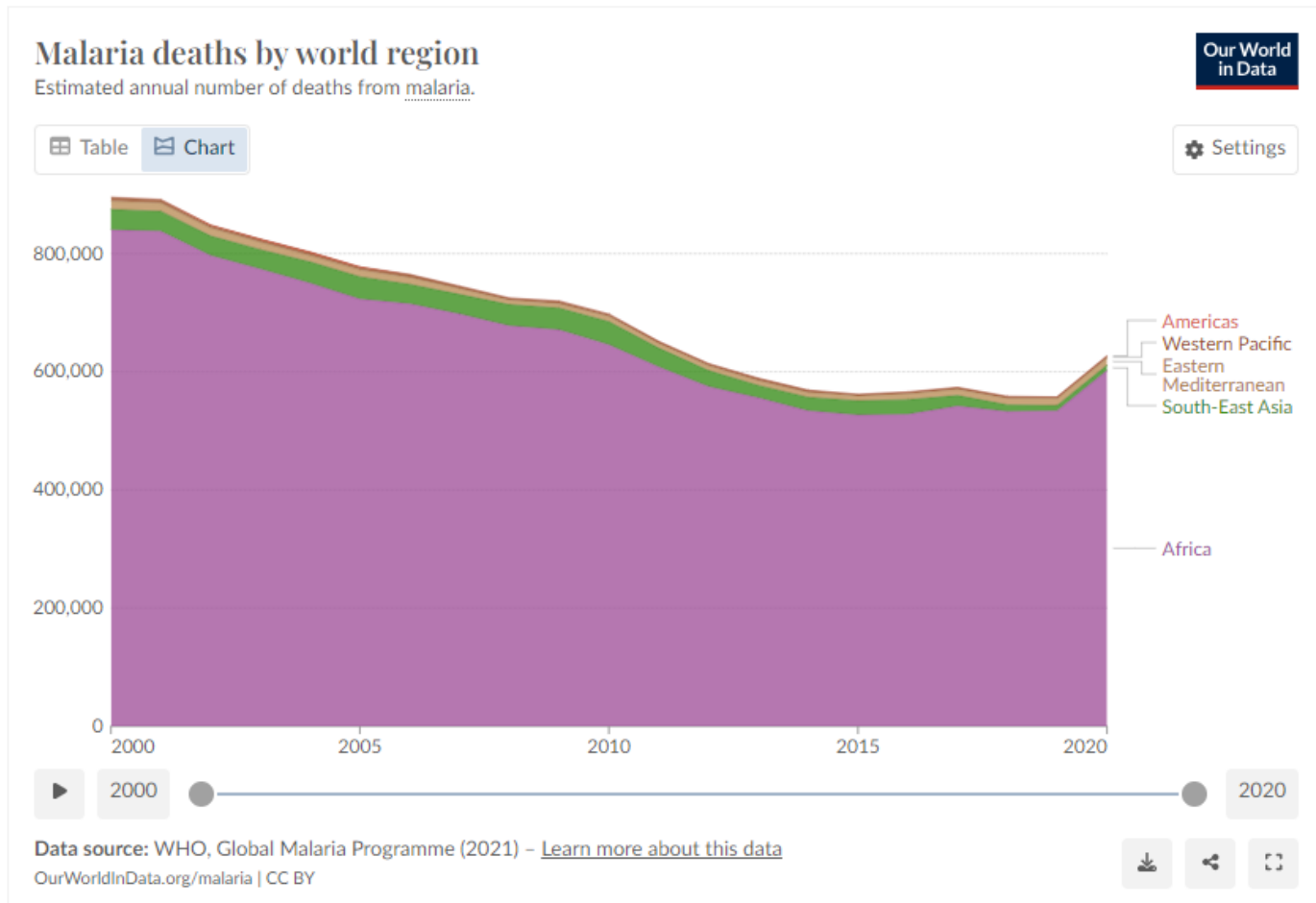


Figure 2

Source: Graph from Our World in Data, data from the WHO, Global Malaria project.

1. Which region has the greatest number of deaths from malaria? **[1]**
2. Describe the overall pattern of deaths due to malaria from 2000 – 2020. **[2]**
3. Suggest why there was a slight increase in deaths from malaria from 2019 – 2020. **[2]**

Question 3

Study the map (see end of paper) which shows Walshaw Moor in Yorkshire, 6 miles Northeast of Hebden Bridge, a market town of approximately 12,000 people.

Also read the news extract (**Figure 3**) below from the BBC about a proposed wind farm to be built on the Moor. **The area outlined in purple is the approximate location of the proposed wind farm.**

“The largest onshore wind farm in England could be built on moorland in the Pennines if plans get the go-ahead.

Calderdale Windfarm Ltd is exploring options for 65 turbines on Walshaw Moor, near the Walshaw Dean reservoirs above Hebden Bridge in Calderdale.

The company said the scheme would generate enough electricity to power more than 286,000 homes a year.

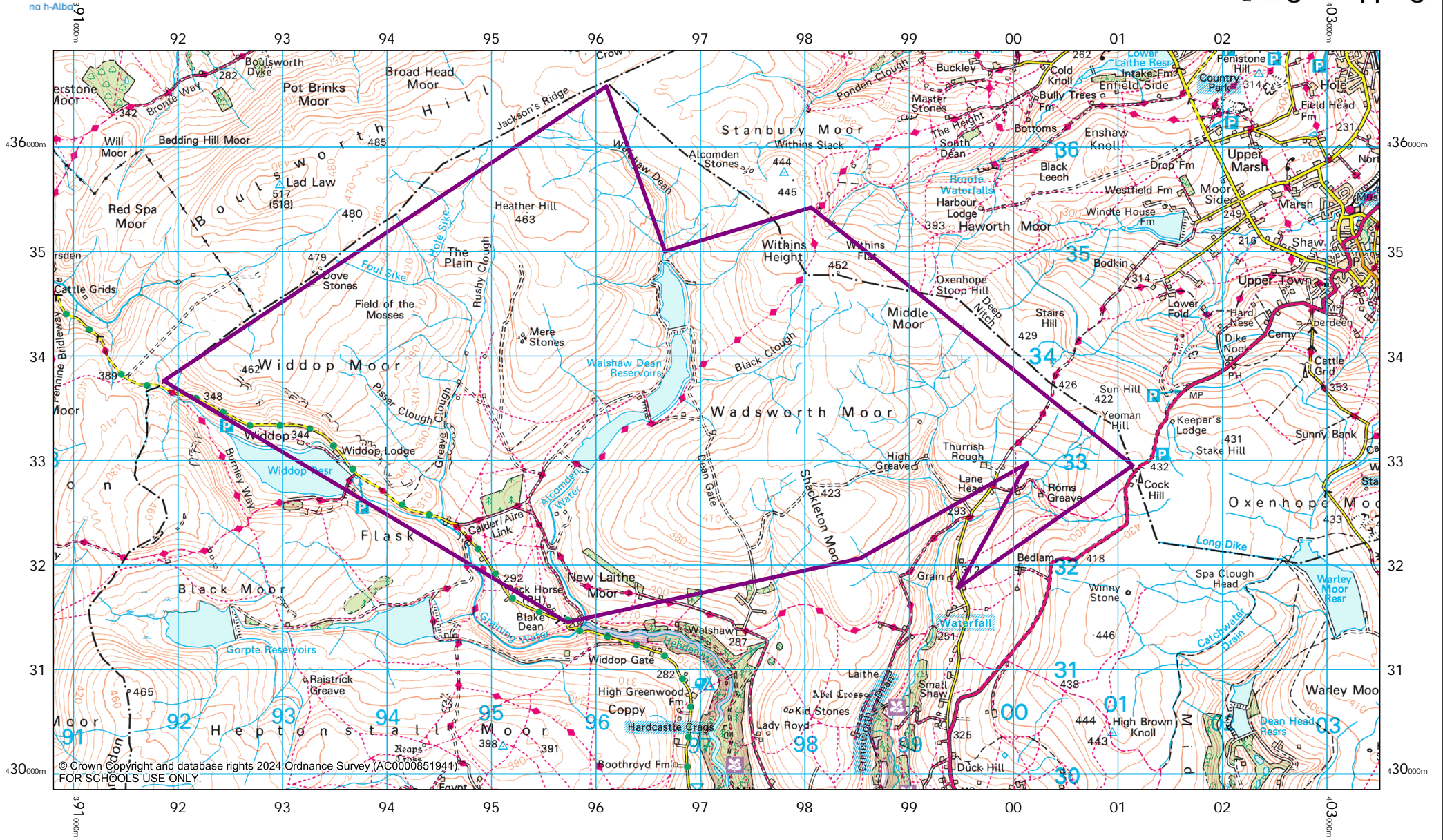
Environmental campaigners warned the development would disturb peat bogs, releasing carbon into the atmosphere.

A spokesperson for Calderdale Windfarm, which is backed by Worldwide Renewable Energy (WWRE), said the proposal was an “incredibly exciting opportunity”.

Figure 3

Source: BBC Online 13 November 2023

1. Using evidence from the map and your own ideas, suggest why this location may have been chosen as a site for an onshore wind farm. **[5]**
2. Suggest what advantages the wind farm might create at both a local **and** national scale. **[5]**
3. With reference to the map and your own ideas, suggest some conflicts that might arise between local residents, Calderdale wind farm and environmentalists with the development of the wind farm. **[5]**

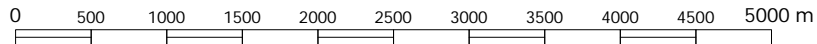


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SECTION B – History (25 marks)

Answer **one** of the following essay titles.

In answering your chosen question, you should try to use examples and comparisons from your own study of History, together with wider knowledge and reading, and you must write in good English. Remember to explain your answer fully.

1. Why do some historical figures become famous while others are forgotten?
2. Is it individuals or larger forces that have the greatest impact on history?
3. Which is more important in causing change: conflict or cooperation?
4. Can historians ever know what really happened in the past?
5. Why do different historians sometimes disagree about the same event?
6. To what extent does technology drive historical change?
7. Are revolutions more likely to succeed or fail?
8. How useful is the study of ordinary people's lives for understanding history?
9. Does history show that power usually corrupts those who hold it?
10. Why do empires rise and fall?
11. How far does geography shape the course of history?
12. Is there such a thing as historical progress?
13. Which has had a greater impact on societies: ideas or economic factors?
14. Why do societies choose to remember some events and forget others?
15. What makes an event historically significant?