

© International Baccalaureate Organization 2025

All rights reserved. No part of this product may be reproduced in any form or by any electronic or mechanical means, including information storage and retrieval systems, without the prior written permission from the IB. Additionally, the license tied with this product prohibits use of any selected files or extracts from this product. Use by third parties, including but not limited to publishers, private teachers, tutoring or study services, preparatory schools, vendors operating curriculum mapping services or teacher resource digital platforms and app developers, whether fee-covered or not, is prohibited and is a criminal offense.

More information on how to request written permission in the form of a license can be obtained from <https://ibo.org/become-an-ib-school/ib-publishing/licensing/applying-for-a-license/>.

© Organisation du Baccalauréat International 2025

Tous droits réservés. Aucune partie de ce produit ne peut être reproduite sous quelque forme ni par quelque moyen que ce soit, électronique ou mécanique, y compris des systèmes de stockage et de récupération d'informations, sans l'autorisation écrite préalable de l'IB. De plus, la licence associée à ce produit interdit toute utilisation de tout fichier ou extrait sélectionné dans ce produit. L'utilisation par des tiers, y compris, sans toutefois s'y limiter, des éditeurs, des professeurs particuliers, des services de tutorat ou d'aide aux études, des établissements de préparation à l'enseignement supérieur, des fournisseurs de services de planification des programmes d'études, des gestionnaires de plateformes pédagogiques en ligne, et des développeurs d'applications, moyennant paiement ou non, est interdite et constitue une infraction pénale.

Pour plus d'informations sur la procédure à suivre pour obtenir une autorisation écrite sous la forme d'une licence, rendez-vous à l'adresse <https://ibo.org/become-an-ib-school/ib-publishing/licensing/applying-for-a-license/>.

© Organización del Bachillerato Internacional, 2025

Todos los derechos reservados. No se podrá reproducir ninguna parte de este producto de ninguna forma ni por ningún medio electrónico o mecánico, incluidos los sistemas de almacenamiento y recuperación de información, sin la previa autorización por escrito del IB. Además, la licencia vinculada a este producto prohíbe el uso de todo archivo o fragmento seleccionado de este producto. El uso por parte de terceros —lo que incluye, a título enunciativo, editoriales, profesores particulares, servicios de apoyo académico o ayuda para el estudio, colegios preparatorios, desarrolladores de aplicaciones y entidades que presten servicios de planificación curricular u ofrezcan recursos para docentes mediante plataformas digitales—, ya sea incluido en tasas o no, está prohibido y constituye un delito.

En este enlace encontrará más información sobre cómo solicitar una autorización por escrito en forma de licencia: <https://ibo.org/become-an-ib-school/ib-publishing/licensing/applying-for-a-license/>.

Global politics

Higher level and standard level

Paper 1

19 May 2025

Zone A afternoon | Zone B afternoon | Zone C afternoon

1 hour 15 minutes

Instructions to candidates

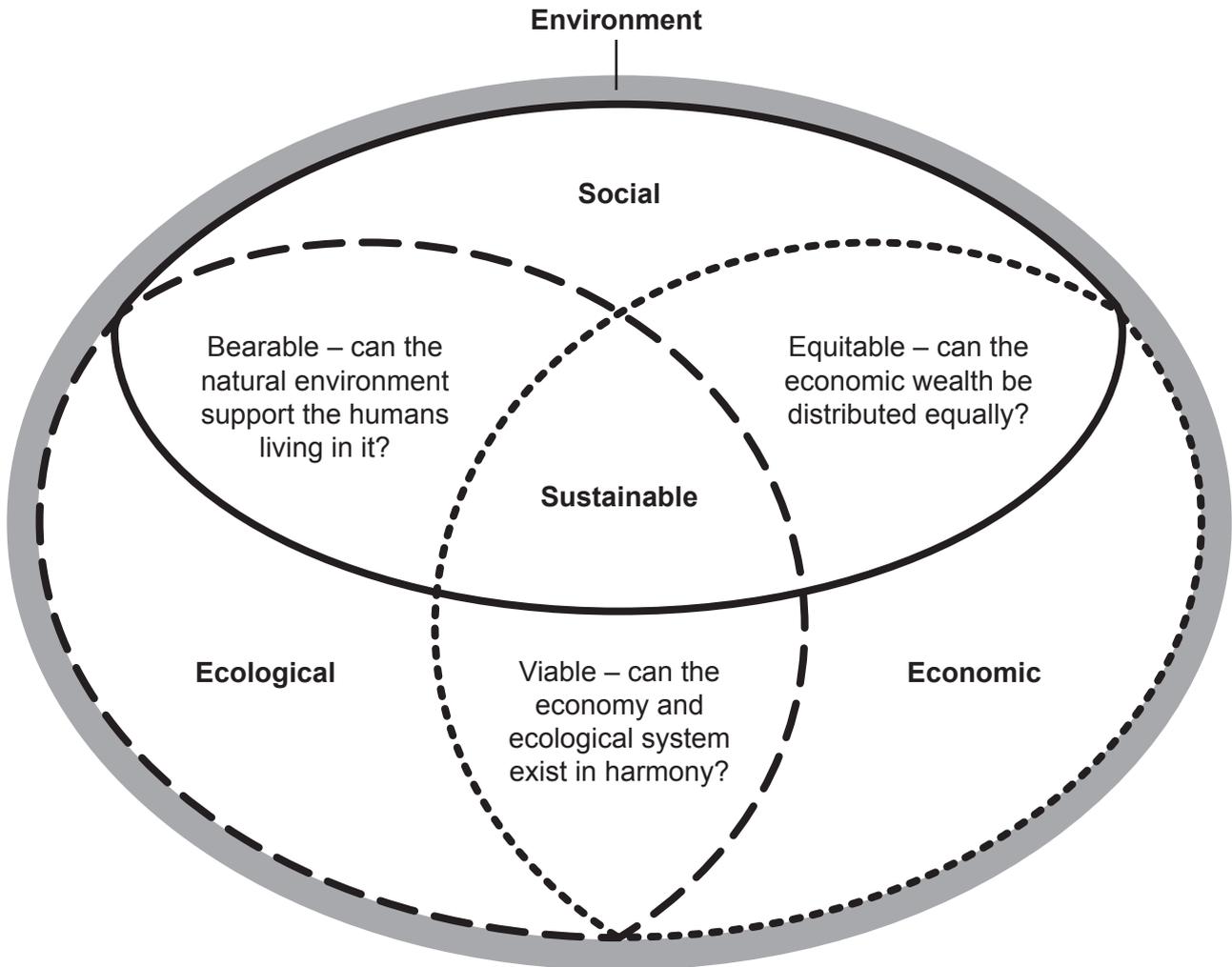
- Do not open this examination paper until instructed to do so.
- Answer all the questions.
- The maximum mark for this examination paper is **[25 marks]**.

Unit 3: Development

Read all the sources carefully and answer all the questions that follow.

Source A

Adapted from “Conceptual model of sustainability”, a diagram published by *The Open University* in their Sustainable Supply Chains online course (2021).



Source B Adapted from “Acting on climate change and poverty: if we fail on one, we fail on the other”, an academic paper published by the *Grantham Research Institute* (2022).

Managing climate change and overcoming poverty are the defining challenges of this century. They are deeply interdependent: if we fail on one, we fail on the other. Poorer people are more vulnerable to extreme events and shocks such as health issues, natural disasters, conflicts, and economic downturns, and they have fewer resources to recover from them. Climate change increases the frequency and intensity of these events, driving people into poverty and limiting their ability to escape. Poorer people are also more vulnerable to the more gradual effects of climate change, including sea-level rise, land and forest degradation, and desertification. It is clear that inaction on climate change undermines and sets back equitable development.

Source C Adapted from “The resource curse explained”, an online text posted on the *Green Economy Journal* (2022).

The resource curse is a phenomenon that occurs when a country has an abundance of natural resources but cannot grow its economy. The existence of these resources becomes a burden, leading to increased poverty and a lack of development.

Many countries, especially developing nations like Sierra Leone, Angola, Venezuela, and Zambia, actually grow more slowly as a result of relying on natural resources for much of their income. Here are some of the drivers of the resource curse:

Poor governance¹

Poor governance is a major problem in many developing countries that are rich in resources. This results in the mismanagement of the wealth gained from the export of the resources. Often, governments rely too much on funds from these resources and neglect other sectors of the economy.

Lack of transparency

The details of contracts between governments and multinational companies are often kept a secret. This creates a climate favourable to corruption and makes accountability very difficult to enforce.

Volatile² prices

Unstable resource prices also make countries that become over-reliant on their natural resources vulnerable to economic crashes.

Civil war

Countries rich in natural resources are often vulnerable to conflict and civil war, as different groups compete for control of these resources. War halts and even reverses economic development. However, the issue is complex. Unstable governments and poor governance often create the conditions for civil war.

¹ governance: the act of making political decisions and policies

² volatile: changing rapidly and unpredictably

Source D

Removed for copyright reasons

1. Outline what Source A says about sustainable development. [3]
 2. With explicit reference to Source B **and one** example you have studied, explain how environmental factors can inhibit development. [4]
 3. Compare and contrast how Source C **and** Source D view approaches to developing the economy. [8]
 4. “Development depends mostly on institutional factors.” Evaluate this view, using all the sources **and** your own knowledge. [10]
-

Disclaimer:

Content used in IB assessments is taken from authentic, third-party sources. The views expressed within them belong to their individual authors and/or publishers and do not necessarily reflect the views of the IB.

References:

- Source A** The Open University, 2021. *Conceptual model of sustainability*, [image online] 27 September. Available at: <https://www.open.edu/openlearncreate/mod/page/view.php?id=182620> [Accessed 3 April 2024]. Source adapted.
- Source B** Lankes, H. P., Soubeyran, E., & Stern, N., 2022. Acting on climate and poverty: if we fail on one, we fail on the other. *Grantham Research Institute*, [online]. Available at: https://www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Acting-on-climate-and-poverty_if-we-fail-on-one-we-fail-on-the-other-2.pdf [Accessed 3 April 2024]. Source adapted.
- Source C** Green Economy Journal, 2022. *The resource curse explained*, [online]. Licensed under CC BY 4.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>. Source adapted.