

GCSE GEOGRAPHY

Resources for Paper 3 Geographical Applications
June 2023

Pre-release resources booklet

To be issued to students on Friday 24 March 2023.

This booklet contains three resources as follows:

- Figure 1 – Tourism and development: pages 2–3
- Figure 2 – A new cruise ship terminal and port for the Cayman Islands: pages 4–5
- Figure 3 – Different views about the proposed cruise ship and port facility in Grand Cayman: pages 6–7.

Information

- HIC is a higher income country.
- LIC is a lower income country.
- NEE is a newly emerging economy.

Figure 1

Tourism and development

Tourism and development

Tourism contributes to three important development goals:

- it creates job opportunities
- it generates income
- it has a positive effect on the balance of trade.

Consequently, for many countries the tourism sector plays an important role in development and improves the quality of life for local people. The economic effect of tourism is felt both directly, by people working in hotels and tourist related activities, and indirectly, through the multiplier effect, by creating demand for other economic activities.

The income distribution effect of tourism

Often tourists visit places with limited industrial development where job opportunities are limited and local incomes are low. As a result, tourism can create economic opportunities and increase living standards in some of the poorest parts of a country.

Which countries rely most on tourism?

According to the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) the tourism sector accounts for 13.6% of the world economy, as well as 9.9% of all jobs. However, the figure is much higher for many LICs/NEEs, where tourism can account for over 20% of total income. In comparison, tourism accounts for 3.7% of income in the UK, while in the USA the figure is even lower, at 2.6%.

The top 20 destinations most reliant on tourism for their income

1. Maldives – 39.6%
2. British Virgin Islands – 35.4%
3. Macau – 29.3%
4. Aruba – 28.1%
5. Seychelles – 26.4%
6. Curacao – 23.4%
7. Anguilla – 21.1%
8. Bahamas – 19%
9. Vanuatu – 18.2%
10. Cape Verde – 17.8%
11. Belize – 15%
12. St Lucia – 15%
13. Fiji – 14.4%
14. Malta – 14.2%
15. Cambodia – 14.1%
16. US Virgin Islands – 13.3%
17. Antigua and Barbuda – 13%
18. Barbados – 13%
19. Dominica – 12.4%
20. Montenegro – 11%

International tourist arrivals by world region

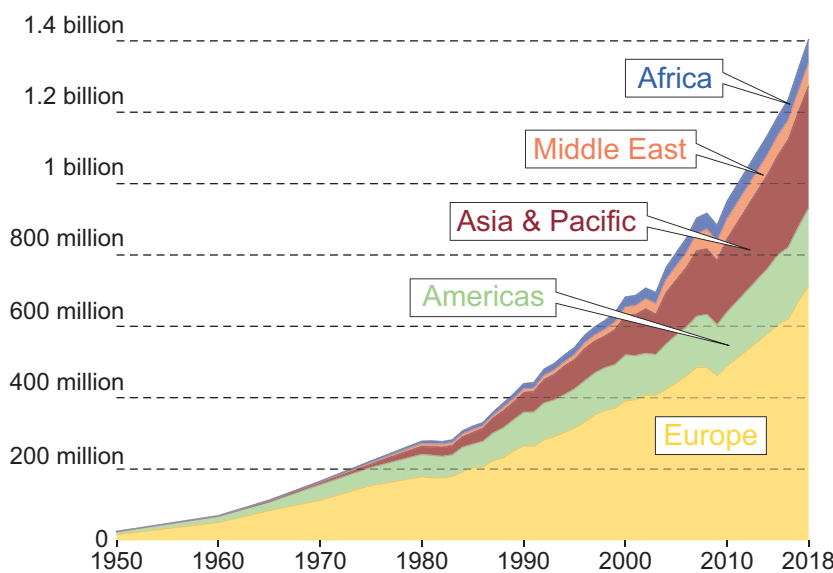
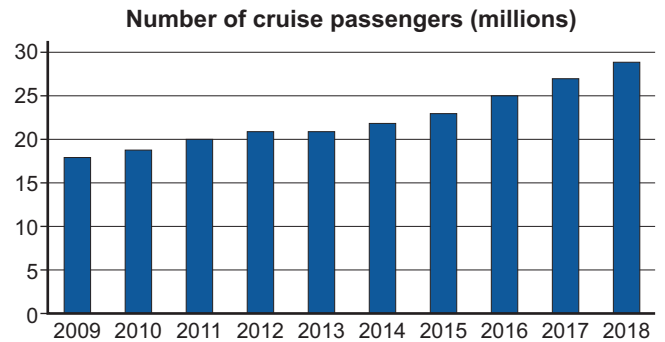


Figure 1 continued

The growth of cruise tourism

Between 2009 and 2019 there was continued growth in the cruise tourism industry, with the number of cruise passengers reaching 30 million in 2019. The Caribbean continues to be the most popular destination, with over a third of the market. However, other areas such as China and South America have seen rapid growth and there are now over 1000 cruise liner ports globally.



Cruise industry overview

- Over \$130 billion was generated by the global cruise industry, creating jobs paying \$50 billion in wages (2019).
- 50 new ocean-going cruise ships have been commissioned to be built by 2025.

Is tourism worth the trouble in the Caribbean?



Most of our visitors come from HICs and they expect to have the same quality of facilities that they would have at home in terms of safety, health and hygiene. This means that tourism development can also improve facilities for local people. In addition, taxes paid by visitors can be spent on improving conditions for local people, helping to improve their quality of life.

Tourism Minister



In the Caribbean it is estimated that:

- for every one dollar of visitor spending, an additional \$1.6 is generated by long-stay visitors and \$1.2 by cruise ship visitors
- for every \$100 000 invested in the tourism industry, 50 jobs are created
- every hotel room creates at least one job.



The impacts of tourism

- The marine tourism industry generates 200 million jobs.
- Tourism revenue going back into the local economy:
 - Ecotourism 95%
 - All-inclusive package tours 20%.
- Cruise ships in the Caribbean are estimated to produce more than 70 000 tonnes of wastewater per year. World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

Turn over ►

Figure 2

A new cruise ship terminal and port for the Cayman Islands

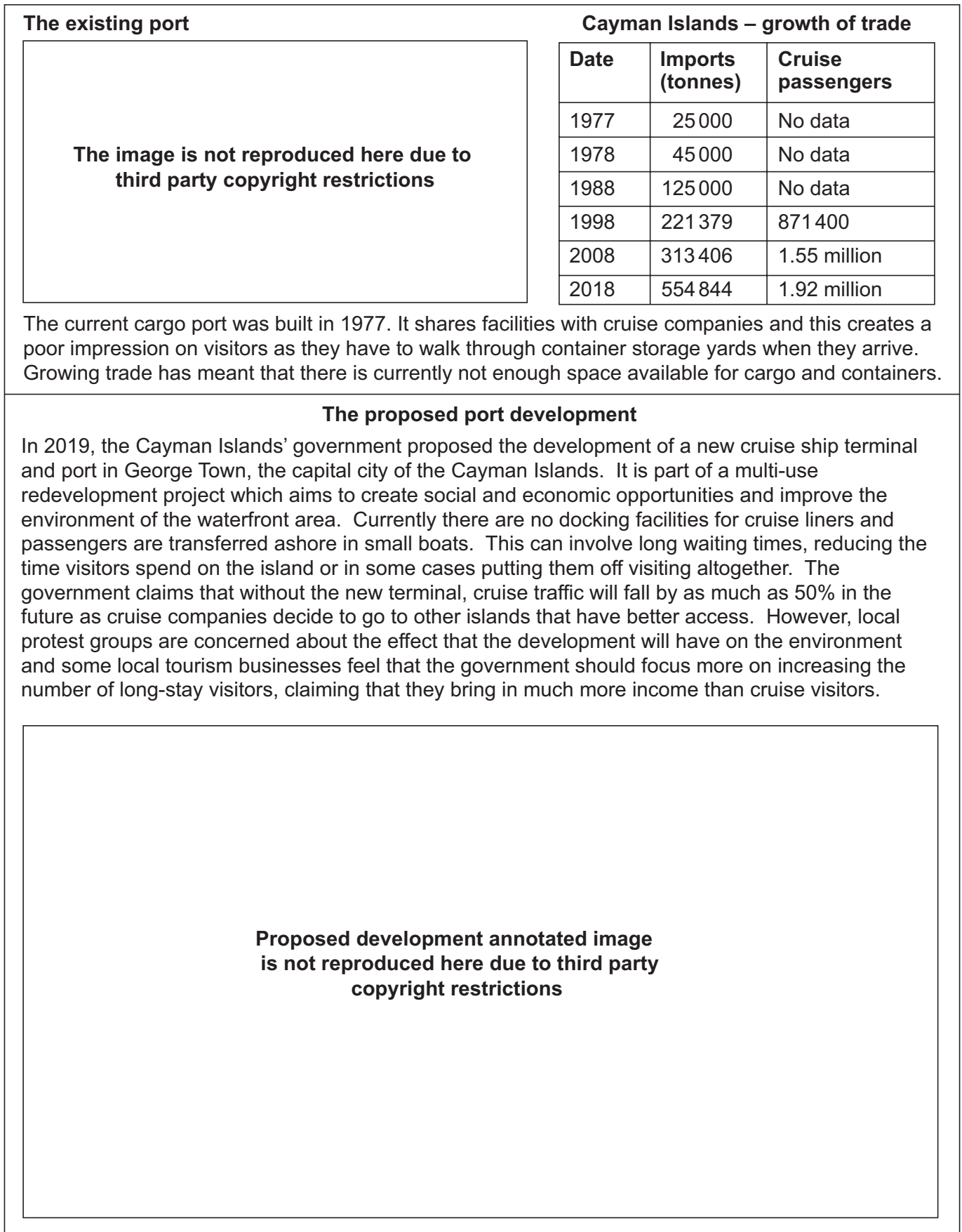


Figure 2 continued

Tourism development in the Cayman Islands – a question of economy versus environment

The proposed development of a new cruise terminal in the Cayman Islands will enable larger ships to visit the islands where visitors can disembark directly to the shore. Without this development there are fears for the future of cruise tourism in the area. The main issue is that as cruise ships get larger, without docking access, they will visit more accessible islands and cruise tourism will die out. Currently over 5000 local people rely on cruise tourism for employment and this number will increase significantly if the development goes ahead.

Environmentalists accept that the development will allow more cruise passengers to visit the island, but fear that damage to the environment will discourage many stay-over visitors, who come to the area because of the pristine and unique environment. As one local person said, “While we can see the value of the proposed cruise terminal development and appreciate the need to upgrade the port cargo facilities, the worry is that it will be a mixed blessing because it will damage the very environment that thousands of visitors come to experience.”

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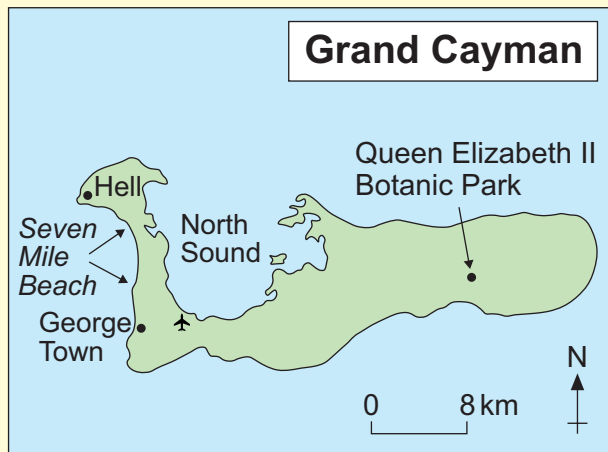
Visit the Cayman Islands

Grand Cayman fuses art with culture, and nature with wonder, to produce the perfect atmosphere. From the award winning Seven Mile Beach to the North Sound, home to an amazing variety of marine life and the iguanas of Queen Elizabeth II Botanic Park, the stunning natural environment has something for everyone. Away from the beaches you can enjoy the cultural delights and traditional architecture of George Town, and don't forget to visit the following 'must see' favourites:

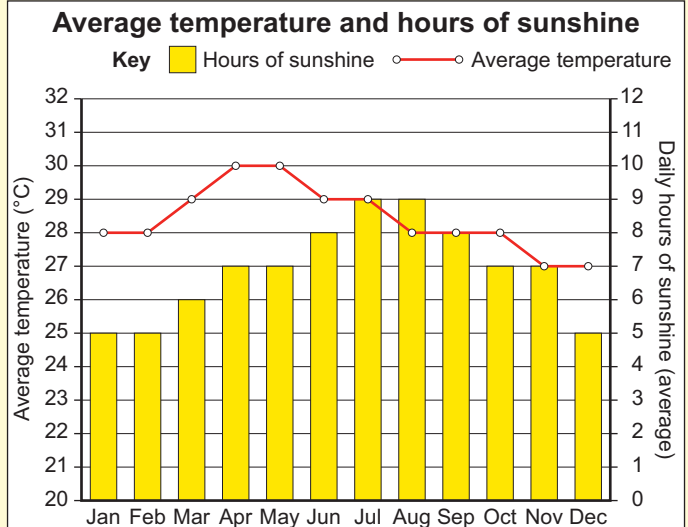
- The National Museum of The Cayman Islands
- The Turtle Centre
- The Mastic Trail through sub-tropical forests
- Cayman Islands' traditional craft markets.



Seven Mile Beach



Extract from a holiday brochure



Turn over ►

Figure 3

Different views about the proposed cruise ship and port facility in Grand Cayman

Creating opportunity in George Town

When cruise arrival numbers fall it means fewer people taking tours, visiting attractions and spending money. This means less money in the community and fewer job opportunities, leaving workers struggling to support their families. The cruise ship and port facility development will create hundreds of new jobs for both skilled and unskilled people and improve the quality of life for many families. It will also help to regenerate George Town, which has some of the poorest parts of the island. This will encourage new industry, bringing leisure and cultural opportunities to both visitors and local people.

The development will include the George Town Revitalisation Initiative, which will create both living and business space in a mixture of new and restored buildings, along with cafes and restaurants where people can gather and enjoy music and entertainment. The scheme will include a pedestrianised area with improved lighting, seating and green spaces with trees for shading and there will be improved access for cyclists.

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The government is aware that some local people are concerned about the environmental effects of the development but are determined to keep the environmental impacts to a minimum and ensure that the social and economic benefits outweigh any environmental costs. In order to do this the project team will:

- work with local environmental groups to identify the likely impacts
- use divers to monitor the effects on the marine environment and ensure that any damage is kept to acceptable levels
- put in place a coral transplanting, relocation and restoration plan to make sure that damage to the coral reef is kept to a minimum.

Cayman Islands Government, November 2019

Impact assessment of the proposed development

Positive

- Will guarantee continued growth of cruise tourism
- Higher proportion of cruise passengers coming ashore
- Increased trade for local business
- Reduced small boat traffic congestion and risk of marine accidents
- Regeneration of George Town harbour area
- Separation of cruise ship and cargo trade

Negative

- Damage to coral reef and removal of some snorkelling and diving sites
- Increased vehicle and pedestrian traffic in George Town
- Cost of managing increasing visitor numbers
- Reduction of visitors and loss of income for water sports and diving activities
- Loss of income for small boat operators
- Increased numbers of cruise visitors may deter stay-over visitors from visiting George Town

Figure 3 continued

Caribbean coral reef could be destroyed to make way for cruise ships in the Cayman Islands

It is one of the world's most prized coral reefs, sitting off the coast of the Cayman Islands, which were praised by Prince Charles as a "shining example" of a nation protecting its marine life. But 15 acres of the coral reef, home to critically endangered turtles, could be destroyed to make way for two cruise ship docks.

Environmental campaigners warn that the George Town harbour project "will see 22 acres of the seabed dredged and that silt sedimentation will turn the crystal clear waters to murky white." The Caribbean manager for the RSPB said, "It is difficult to believe that the cruise companies would support the project if they understood the true environmental impact because it will cause long-term damage to the ecosystem and a loss of wildlife." He added that, "Whilst we welcome sustainable tourism, backing this plan will mean the permanent loss of world-class coral reefs, one of the Cayman Islands' main tourist attractions."



The development could affect the Hawksbill Turtle, a critically endangered species.

Dredging causes added stress to coral reefs

It's early morning and already hundreds of visitors are being transferred from cruise ships to the Cayman Islands' main port of George Town by dozens of small boats. The coral reef, over which they are being moved, is at the heart of a dispute which threatens to create a major conflict in the local area. The Cayman Island government and the cruise companies want to develop the port area in order to create increased business opportunities while environmental scientists and conservationists, and a number of local businesses, fear that any development will damage the very environment that visitors find so attractive. The cruise companies suggest that unless a new port and jetty is built, their larger ships will no longer be able to stop in the Cayman Islands. Environmentalists and local diving businesses are worried that constructing new jetties will mean dredging or disturbing the sea bed and this will damage the marine environment to such an extent that businesses that rely on the coral reef will have to shut down. Opponents of any proposed development point out that in other parts of the Caribbean the extension of cruise port facilities has not always generated extra income and has nearly always created environmental problems.

Local views about the proposed development

Cayman has always catered for long-stay visitors but has ignored the cruise market up to now. This development will help to bring wealthy visitors all year around.

Business Owner

This is a unique marine environment; that is why it attracts thousands of visitors for diving and snorkelling holidays.

National Trust for the Cayman Islands

In 2018 cruise tourism accounted for over 4000 jobs in The Cayman Islands and these workers earned a total of nearly \$100 million, most of which is spent in the local area.

Cayman Islands Business Report

The marine environment is part of the cultural heritage of the Caymanian people and this development will have negative consequences for future generations.

Cayman Campaign Group

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