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**Tuesday 24 May 2016 – Afternoon**

**GCSE GEOGRAPHY A**

**A731/01/02/I** Contemporary Themes in Geography  
(Foundation and Higher Tier)

**INSERT**



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**Fig. 1a Mountain environment**



**Fig. 1b Hot desert environment**

*Never again shall you see such light and air and colour;  
Never such mirage, such rosy dawn, such fiery twilight.*

*And wherever you go, by land or by sea,  
You shall not forget that which you saw not but rather felt -  
The desolation and the silence of the desert..."*

**Fig. 2 Extract from *The Desert* by John C. Van Dyke**



**Fig. 3 A salt pan**

## Assess the risk, take precautions

The diagram below will help when assessing the risk of avalanches.

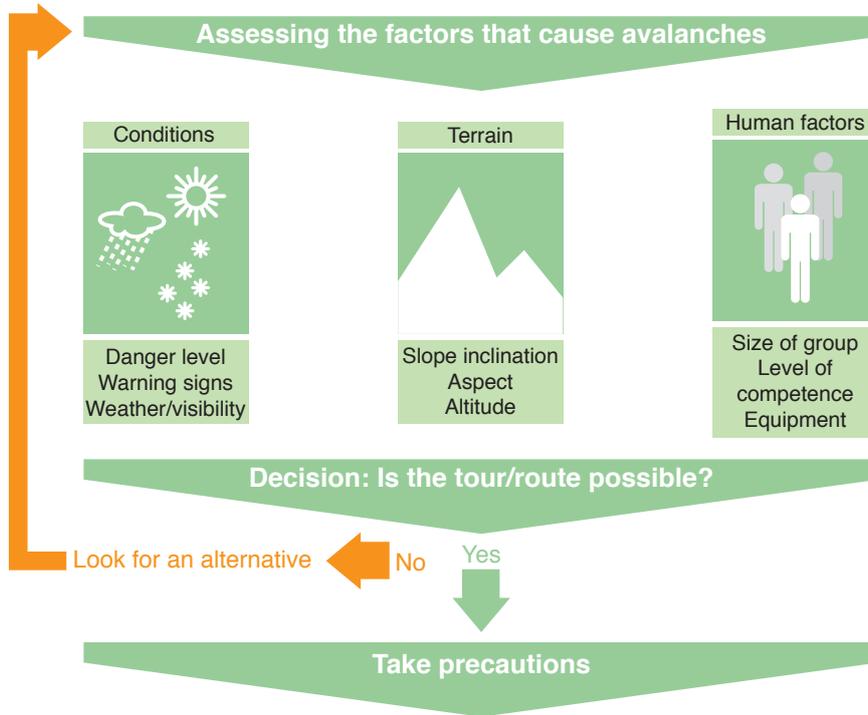
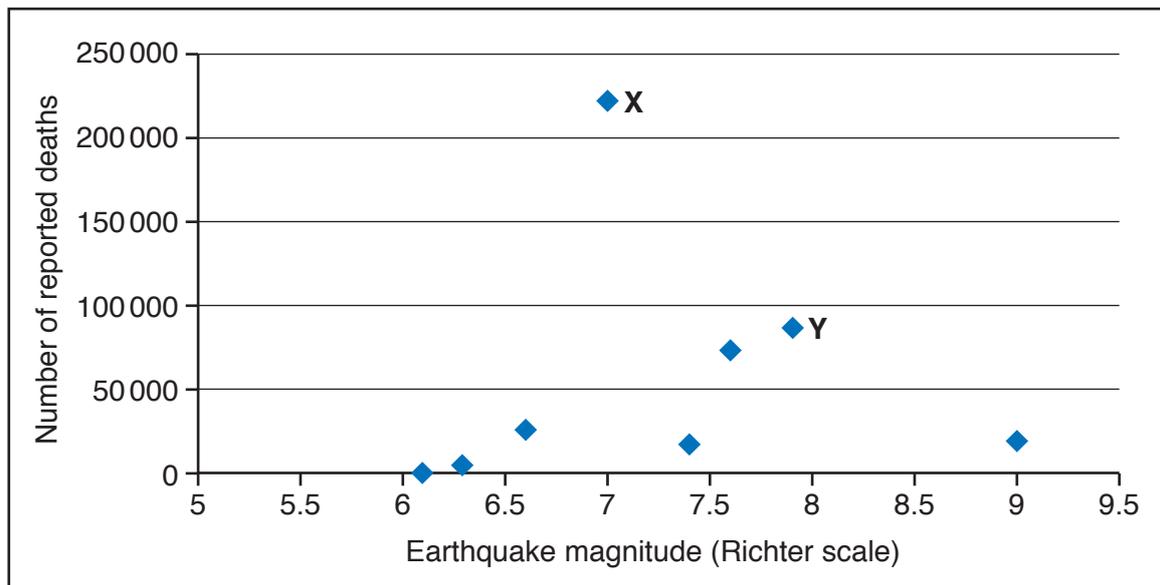


Fig. 4a A guide to avalanche risk management



Fig. 4b An avalanche warning sign

Location and year	Magnitude (Richter scale)	Number of reported deaths
Japan 2011	9.0	20 896
New Zealand 2011	6.1	181
Haiti 2010	7.0	222 570
China 2008	7.9	87 476
Indonesia 2006	6.3	5 749
Pakistan 2005	7.6	73 338
Iran 2003	6.6	26 796
Turkey 1999	7.4	17 127



**Fig. 5 Comparison of recent earthquake events**

## **Chinese factories turn to Bangladesh as labour costs rise.**

Chinese firms are turning to Bangladesh to make clothes, as factories in China are not competitive anymore because of increasing wages of workers and a sharp rise in overall production costs. Bangladesh, a country known for its skilled textile workers, lies within easy reach of China's borders, meaning that the costs of transporting goods are relatively low.

One factory owner stated 'In my factory in China, the salary of workers has been increasing steadily over the last few years. It has reached around \$400 to \$500 (£250 – £315) a month per worker. If I continue to produce there, our business will disappear.'

'In Bangladesh the average monthly salary for workers is only around \$70 to \$100 (£45–£65). If I produce here, my prices are much more competitive.'

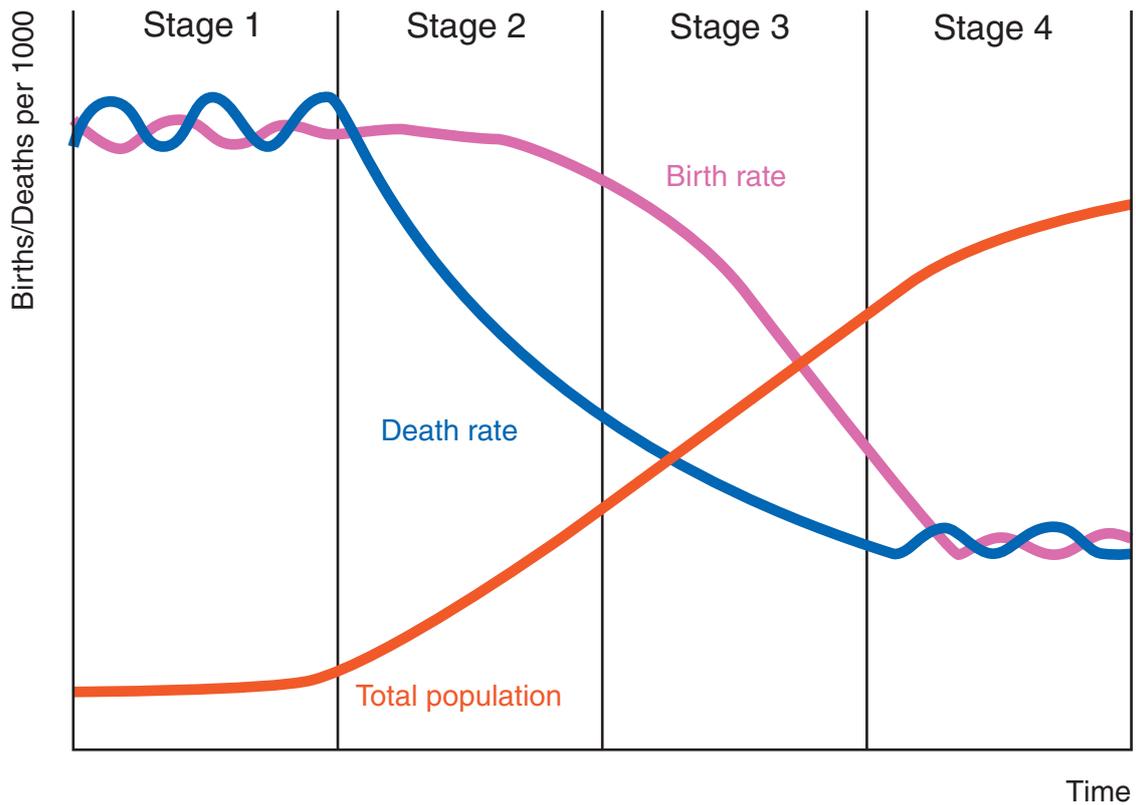
Chinese manufacturers say that if they source clothes from Bangladesh, prices can come down by 10%.

Bangladeshi exporters say that the other advantage they have is that for most of their products, such as T-shirts, jeans, sweaters and trousers, they enjoy free access to Chinese markets as they are charged no import taxes to sell their goods in China.

However some critics want this to change. They say Bangladeshi workers are being exploited as they are among the lowest paid in the world for this type of work. Major global companies like Walmart and GAP have urged the country's factories to increase salaries.

### **Fig. 6 A newspaper report about the clothing industry in Bangladesh**

REN21. 2013. Renewables 2013 Global Status Report (Paris: REN21 Secretariat).  
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**Fig. 8 The Demographic Transition Model**

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