SUPERVISOR'S USE ONLY

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Draw a cross through the box (☒) if you have NOT written in this booklet

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NZQA | Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 2 Geography 2026

91243 Apply geography concepts and skills to demonstrate understanding of a given environment

Credits: Four

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Apply geography concepts and skills to demonstrate understanding of a given environment.	Apply geography concepts and skills with precision to demonstrate in-depth understanding of a given environment.	Apply geography concepts and skills with precision to demonstrate comprehensive understanding of a given environment.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should attempt ALL parts of the question in this booklet.

Pull out Resource Booklet 91243R from the centre of this booklet.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–12 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in the margins (////). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

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INSTRUCTIONS

Read the resource booklet about the Pacific Ocean, before answering the question in this booklet.

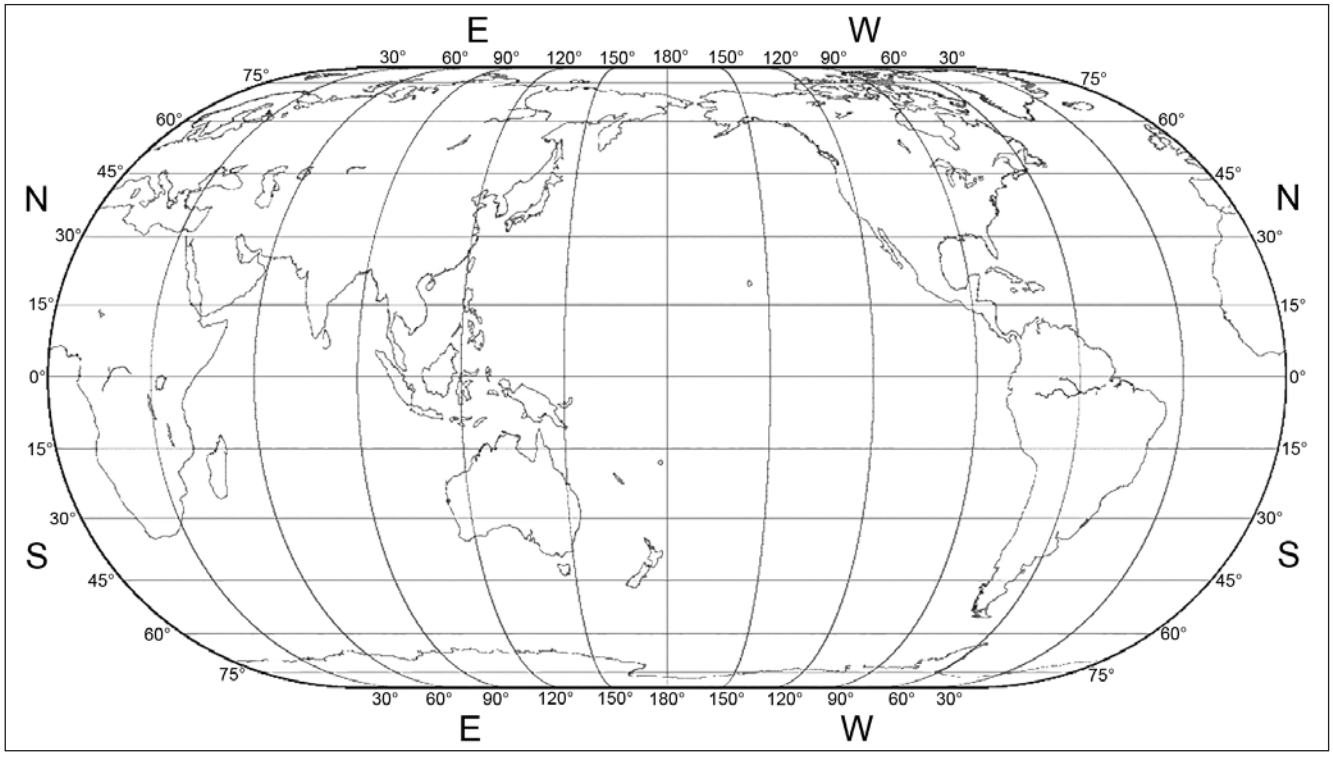
QUESTION

(a) (i) Using Figures 1, 3, 4, and 11 (pages 4, 5, and 8 of the resource booklet), complete the précis map below to show the location of:

- the area of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch: 135°W to 155°W longitude and 35°N to 42°N latitude
- United States
- Japan
- China
- Canada
- North Pacific Gyre
- South Pacific Gyre

Include all mapping conventions.

Title: _____

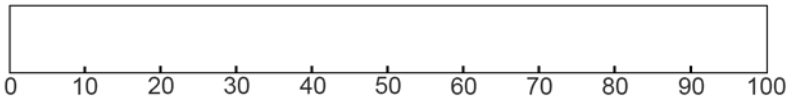


Key

	Great Pacific Garbage Patch		Canada
	United States		North Pacific Gyre
	Japan		South Pacific Gyre
	China		

(ii) Use Figure 10 (page 7 of the resource booklet) and any other resources to accurately graph the source of plastic within the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

Title: _____



Key

Source of plastic	Shading	Percentage of total mass

(b) **A problem over time**

(i) Using Figure 12 (page 9 of the resource booklet) and other resources, describe the relationship between population growth and plastic production. Use evidence to support your answer.

(ii) Explain the reasons for the relationship between the countries mapped in part (a)(i) and the origin of plastics found in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

(iii) Identify TWO possible solutions to the problem of plastic in the oceans, from the resources provided.

Solution One:

Solution Two:

(iv) Which of the solutions identified in part (iii) will have the most impact? Justify your response.

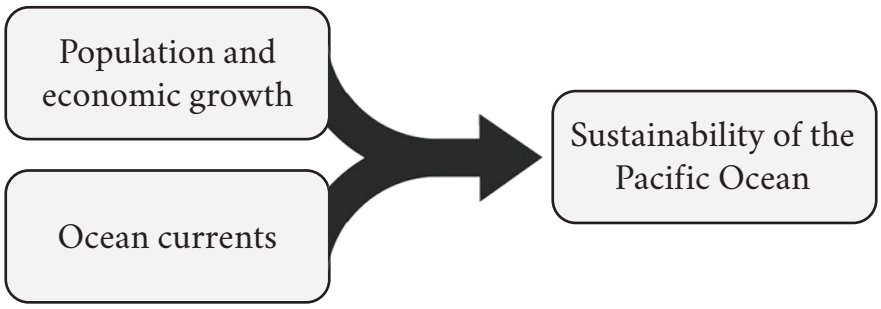
(v) Explain which of the people from Figure 18 (page 13 of the resource booklet) would agree with your choice of solution in part (iv).

(c) **Interaction and sustainability**

Explain how population and economic growth have interacted with ocean currents to impact the sustainability of the Pacific Ocean.

In your answer, show how the development of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is linked to:

- human activities both on land and at sea
- naturally occurring ocean currents.



PLANNING

Acknowledgements
Material from the following sources has been adapted for use in this assessment:

Page 2: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Map_projection-Eckert_IV.png

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