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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 1 Geography 2026

91934 Demonstrate understanding of how natural processes shape an environment

Credits: Five

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of how natural processes shape an environment.	Explain how natural processes shape an environment.	Examine how natural processes shape an environment.

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

There are two sections in this booklet. Answer the question parts for ONE resource from Section One. Answer BOTH parts of Section Two.

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 2–16 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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The assessment begins on the following page.

INSTRUCTIONS

There are two sections in this assessment.

Section One
This section contains resources from three unfamiliar environments. Choose ONE of these resources and answer the corresponding question parts.

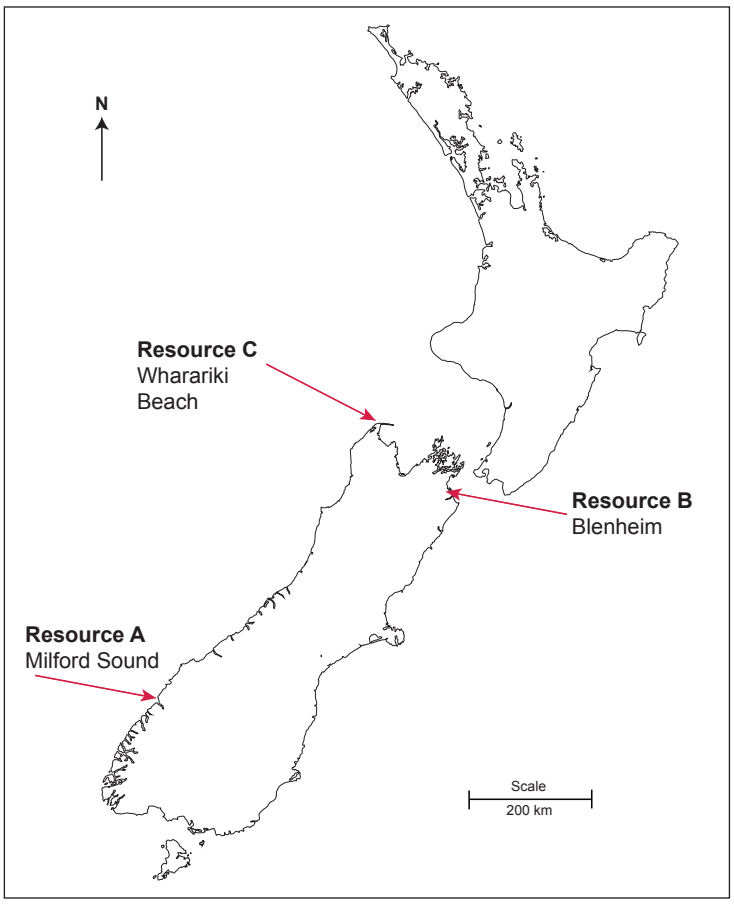
Use *EITHER*

- Resource A (page 4) *OR*
- Resource B (page 6) *OR*
- Resource C (page 8).

Section Two
Answer BOTH parts of this section (pages 10–11).

Note: a key to the topographic maps is provided on page 15. It is for reference only and it is not necessary to refer to it to complete the assessment.

Location of environments in Section One



SECTION ONE

Choose ONE resource (A, B, or C) and use it to answer the corresponding question parts.

EITHER: **RESOURCE A – Milford Sound**

Topographic map of Milford Sound



Sinbad Gully



Google Earth image of Milford Sound



Answer here if you are choosing to use **Resource A**. (Use the extra space on pages 13–14 if needed.)

(i) Name TWO natural processes that would have operated to shape the environment shown in Resource A.

Natural process 1: _____

Natural process 2: _____

(ii) Label the topographic map and / or photograph(s) in Resource A to show a range of features that have been shaped by the processes you named in part (i).

(iii) Explain how two of the features you labelled in part (ii) were formed by the processes you named in part (i). Use specific evidence from Resource A and geographic terminology in your answer.

Feature 1: _____

Feature 2: _____

OR: **RESOURCE B – Blenheim**

Topographic map of Blenheim



Google Earth image of Blenheim



Aerial view of Blenheim



Answer here if you are choosing to use **Resource B**. (Use the extra space on pages 13–14 if needed.)

(i) Name TWO natural processes that would have operated to shape the environment shown in Resource B.

Natural process 1: _____

Natural process 2: _____

(ii) Label the topographic map and / or photograph(s) in Resource B to show a range of features that have been shaped by the processes you named in part (i).

(iii) Explain how two of the features you labelled in part (ii) were formed by the processes you named in part (i). Use specific evidence from Resource B and geographic terminology in your answer.

Feature 1: _____

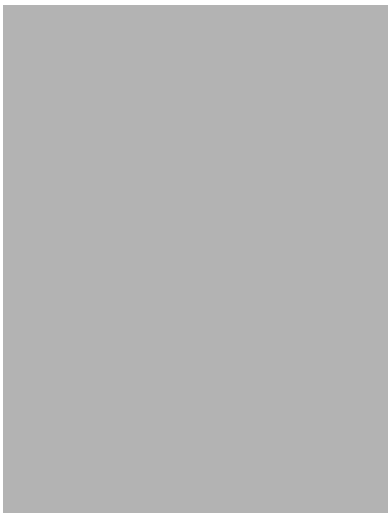
Feature 2: _____

OR: **RESOURCE C – Whararikí Beach**

Topographic map of Whararikí Beach



Whararikí Beach area





Answer here if you are choosing to use **Resource C**. (Use the extra space on pages 13–14 if needed.)

(i) Name TWO natural processes that would have operated to shape the environment shown in Resource C.

Natural process 1: _____

Natural process 2: _____

(ii) Label the topographic map and / or photograph(s) in Resource C to show a range of features that have been shaped by the processes you named in part (i).

(iii) Explain how two of the features you labelled in part (ii) were formed by the processes you named in part (i). Use specific evidence from Resource C and geographic terminology in your answer.

Feature 1: _____

Feature 2: _____

SECTION TWO

Use the case study or studies you have looked at this year to answer BOTH parts of Section Two.
Name your case study environment below.

Case study environment: _____

(iv) Explain how TWO natural processes operating in your case study environment have influenced the way people live their lives.

This could include but is not limited to:

- transport routes (roads, railways, ports, etc.)
- where they live
- land use (agriculture, industry, residential, etc.)
- the economy (job and business opportunities).

In your answer, include case study evidence and geographic terminology.

(v) Examine how the natural processes in your case study environment may have positive and / or negative implications for how people live their lives in the future.

In your answer, include case study evidence and geographic terminology. You may include map(s) and / or diagram(s) to support your answer.

There is more space for your answer over the page ➤

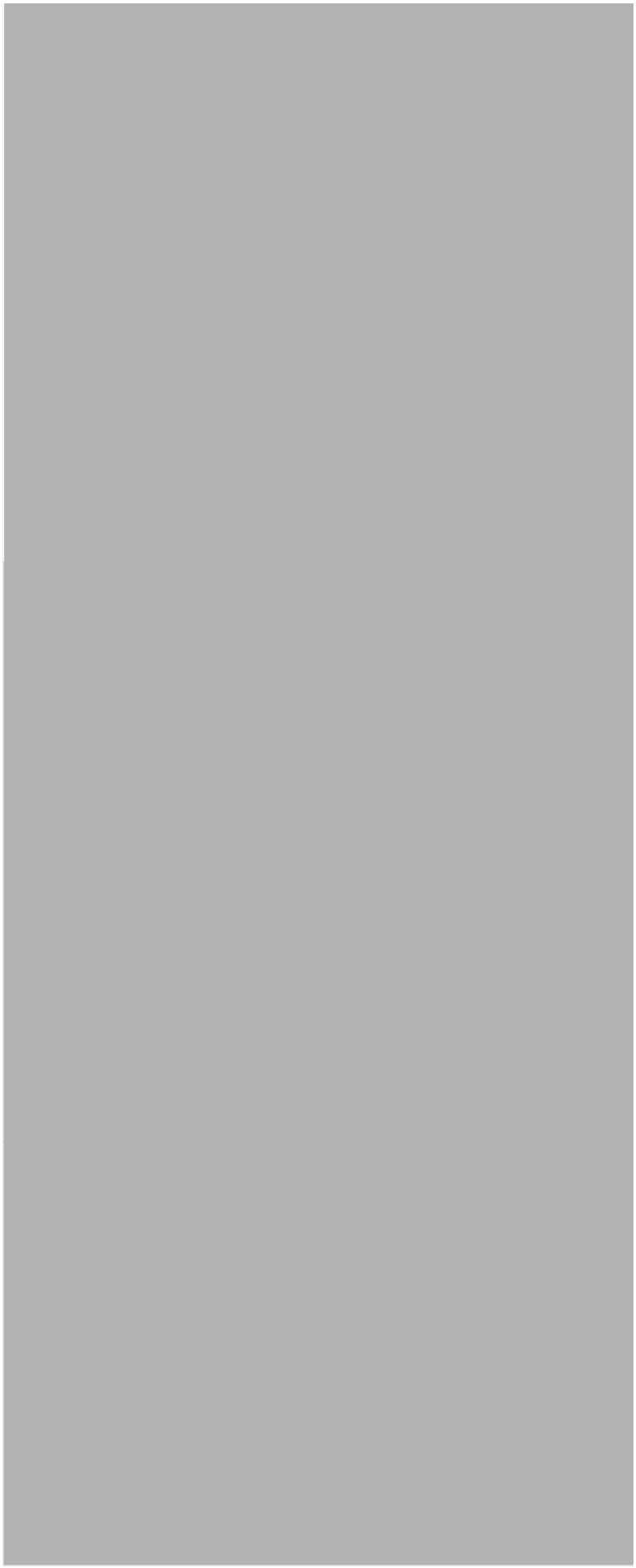
Extra space if required.
Write the question number(s) if applicable.

QUESTION NUMBER

Extra space if required.
Write the question number(s) if applicable.

QUESTION NUMBER

Key to topographic maps. This is for reference only.



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

Resource A
Map: https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap?v=2&ll=-44.640384,167.880363&z=13
Images: https://venturenewzealand.co.nz/place/sinbad-gully
https://earth.google.com/

Resource B
Map: https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap?v=2&ll=-41.496428,173.986273&z=13
Images: https://earth.google.com/
https://geographic.media/oceania/new-zealand/new-zealand-photos/blenheim-photos/blenheim/

Resource C
Map: https://www.topomap.co.nz/NZTopoMap?v=2&ll=-40.506246,172.673407&z=15
Images: https://www.schnitzel.kiwi/2023/05/16/cape-farewell-track/#gallery-14
https://offthemainroadnz.com/2021/04/03/whahariki-beach/

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https://www.topomap.co.nz/Topo50Legend