

**Question 25** (5 marks)

What is the relationship between dissolved oxygen and biochemical oxygen demand and why is it important to monitor both in natural ways?

5

The amount of dissolved oxygen<sup>(DO)</sup> is the amount of  $O_2$  dissolved in the water. Whilst the biochemical oxygen demand<sup>(BOD)</sup> is the amount of oxygen needed in the water to break down organic matter. The BOD is therefore determined by the amount of DO in the water. Therefore, it is important to monitor both in natural ways as if there is not enough DO in the water and the BOD is too high, the water will not be able to house marine organisms and plants thus, damaging the ecosystem.