

Geography

Section II (continued)

Marks

Question 18 (10 marks)

Refer to Sources I and K.

- (a) Identify TWO human activities that may place the Avon–Heathcote Estuary at risk. 2

Two human activities that place this estuary at risk is its containing heavy metals that washes into the estuary and Sewerage works that could cause eutrophication of the estuary.

- (b) Identify a management strategy currently used in the Avon–Heathcote Estuary, and evaluate its likely success in terms of the ecological sustainability of this ecosystem. 4

A management strategy used in the estuary has been the dredging. While it was in place and the estuary was being dredged regularly the heavy metals were kept down to low levels, thus stop them building up in the sediment. In terms of ecological sustainability, no ecosystem can exist with the presence of heavy metals such as lead or mercury so it is imperative to the survival of the estuary that these toxins be removed before the environment is severely degraded like the Blue Danube in western Europe.

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Blue Danube in western Europe.

Question 18 (continued)

- (c) What are TWO important questions that a geographer could ask to determine the validity and reliability of the 'Selected Bird Numbers' information? 4

Was there a standard measuring or counting system so that the results are reliable. And was the entire area completely surveyed. There has to be a standard measure of measurement, such as counting parents nesting, and not counting degraded nest sites. For the survey to be valid also, the entire area has to be surveyed not just pockets of protected wilderness so that a clear indication of human impact

End of Question 18

can be assessed.