

Geography

Section II (continued)

Marks

Question 18 (5 marks)

Refer to Sources D, E and F.

An environmental impact report must be written before drilling for oil in AR 3593.

- (a) From the sources, identify ONE ecosystem that could be placed at risk as a result of drilling for oil. 1

The sand-dune ecosystem in AR 3593 could quite easily be placed at risk due to oil drilling.

- (b) Outline TWO likely impacts that the drilling could have on the ecosystem identified in part (a). 4

- One possible impact is sand dune destabilisation by heavy machinery and increased human traffic. The destabilisation of the dunes would lead to sand-dune erosion, loss of habitat and vegetation.
- Another possible impact is pollution and contamination of the ecosystem. Any spillages or run-offs from the oil-drill would have a disastrous effect on the ecosystem's functioning through destroying habitat and vegetation and also killing wildlife.