Global interactions

IB DP Geography HL extension: power, places and networks; development and diversity; global risks

One ship, one canal

> A problem in one place can spread everywhere.

- Paper 3 (HL only, 1 hour): one question from three, one per unit.
- Part (a) 12 marks; essay part (b) 16 marks.

Four global flows

Flow	Example	Size
goods	phones, software	exports: 30% of world GDP
money	FDI, aid, remittances	remittances: US$650 bn (2023)
people	migrants, students	280 million migrants
information	internet, films	two thirds online

Nodes and links

> Well-linked places gain; poorly linked places struggle to join in.

- Nodes: cities and ports. Links: shipping lanes, flights, cables.
- Many links bring trade, investment and power.

Who holds power

> The **G20** produces about 85% of world GDP and 75% of world trade.

- Superpowers: today the United States and China are usually named.
- The UN (193 members), IMF, World Bank and WTO set rules.

How TNCs organise

> Design and headquarters stay in the **core**; production goes to the **periphery**.

- **Outsourcing** or offshoring: factories where costs are lower.
- Most money is made in design, branding and selling.

Whose chocolate bar?

> The cacao farmer gets $0.06 of a 2.00$ bar: 3%.

- Most value is added far from where cacao is grown.
- Processing, manufacturing, branding, selling.

Power flows both ways

Firms from China, India and Brazil invest abroad; governments can tax, regulate or refuse TNCs.

- Emerging economies' companies now invest abroad.
- Governments set the terms for TNCs.

The Human Development Index

2022: Switzerland 0.967, China 0.788, Somalia 0.380.

- Health, education and income, each scored 0 to 1.
- The HDI is a kind of average of the three.

More than income

About 700 million people still live in **extreme poverty**.

- The **Gender Inequality Index**: health, education, work, politics.
- Extreme poverty: less than $2.15 a day.

Culture on the move

Diffusion, homogenisation, **glocalisation** and **hybrid** forms.

- Some fear every city with the same shops and films.
- Brands adapt; cultures mix.

Local responses

> Protect jobs, guarantee prices, campaign, defend land and language.

- Not everyone welcomes global interactions.
- **Fairtrade** guarantees a minimum price to about 2 million farmers.

Risks that cross borders

Risk	**Example**
pandemic	COVID-19: world GDP down about 3% in 2020
financial crisis	2008: US housing to banks everywhere
chokepoint	the Suez Canal blockage, 2021
transboundary pollution	Indonesian fire smoke, 2015
loss of **sovereignty**	outside rules limit a government

A chokepoint

> Block Suez, and Asia–Europe ships must go round southern Africa.

- When one **link** fails, every connected place feels it.
- The alternative route is far longer.

Resilience at every scale

Scale	Strategy	Example
global	agreements	**Montreal Protocol**, 1987
national	stockpiles, many suppliers	chips from several countries
local	warnings, insurance, savings	flood text messages

Technology cuts both ways

Reduces risk

Early-warning satellites.

Vaccines developed in under a year.

Creates risk

Cyber attacks on banks and power grids.

Answering Paper 3

Part (a), 12 marks

Explain or examine a **link**.

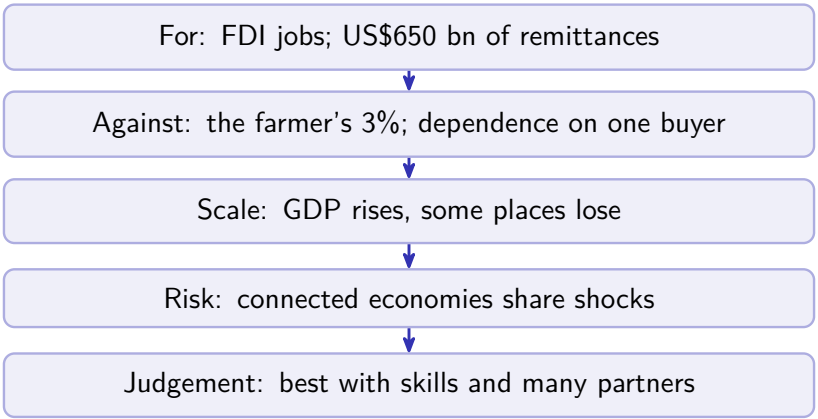
Two or three developed points, each with an example and a number.

Part (b), 16 marks

Discuss, evaluate, to what extent.

Both sides, several scales, a clear judgement.

A worked plan



Check yourself

Four flows; nodes and links; the **G20**

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TNCs, **core** and **periphery**; the 3% share

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HDI, GII, poverty; glocalisation; responses

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Five risks; Suez; resilience at three scales

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Paper 3: (a) 12 marks, (b) 16 marks