

hints

Use this sheet to help make a case for or against changing farming methods in the region pictured in picture A. Before making a case, consider the following points

In picture A you can see in the foreground untidy, unfarmed waste ground. Once the land is levelled and small plots are put together to make large fields, these patches between fields are likely to disappear.

Rice paddies store rain water temporarily. This helps to prevent flooding and landslides.

Different crops flourish on different types of soil.

Before the land can be pooled, all the individual plot holders have to agree on the new plans.

If the fields are re-organised, roads may need to be re-routed.

Larger fields can be cultivated using large, efficient equipment. If several farms are working together, they can afford to invest in such equipment, or hire it.

Larger equipment may need bigger roads.

Changing the landscape will have an effect on local wildlife.

Is it an area popular with tourists? Will the changes have any effect on that?