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School code

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Family name

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Attach your  
barcode ID label here

Book

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of

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books used

External assessment 2025

Question and response book

# Marine Science

## Paper 1

### Time allowed

- Perusal time — 10 minutes
- Working time — 90 minutes

### General instructions

- Answer all questions in this question and response book.
- QCAA-approved calculator permitted.
- Planning paper will not be marked.

### Section 1 (20 marks)

- 20 multiple choice questions

### Section 2 (24 marks)

- 7 short response questions



**DO NOT WRITE ON THIS PAGE**  
**THIS PAGE WILL NOT BE MARKED**

# Section 1

## Instructions

- This section has 20 questions and is worth 20 marks.
- Use a 2B pencil to fill in the A, B, C or D answer bubble completely.
- Choose the best answer for Questions 1–20.
- If you change your mind or make a mistake, use an eraser to remove your response and fill in the new answer bubble completely.

	A	B	C	D
Example:	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

	A	B	C	D
1.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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19.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
20.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Ensure you have filled an answer bubble for each question.

Do not write outside this box.

## Section 2

### Instructions

- Write using black or blue pen.
  - If you need more space for a response, use the additional pages at the back of this book.
    - On the additional pages, write the question number you are responding to.
    - Cancel any incorrect response by ruling a single diagonal line through your work.
    - Write the page number of your alternative/additional response, i.e. See page ...
    - If you do not do this, your original response will be marked.
  - This section has seven questions and is worth 24 marks.
- 

### QUESTION 21 (3 marks)

- a) Identify a source of atmospheric carbon and a carbon sink.

[2 marks]

Carbon source: \_\_\_\_\_

Carbon sink: \_\_\_\_\_

- b) Identify an abiotic factor in the ocean that is influenced by the concentration of atmospheric carbon dioxide.

[1 mark]

\_\_\_\_\_

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**QUESTION 22 (1 mark)**

Identify the ions used by coral to build their skeletons.

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**QUESTION 23 (2 marks)**

Describe two conditions necessary for a bleached reef to recover.

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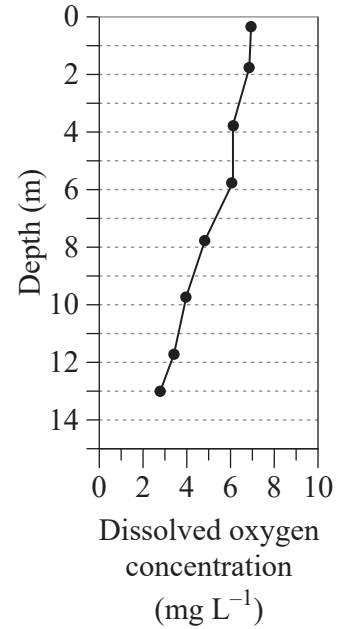
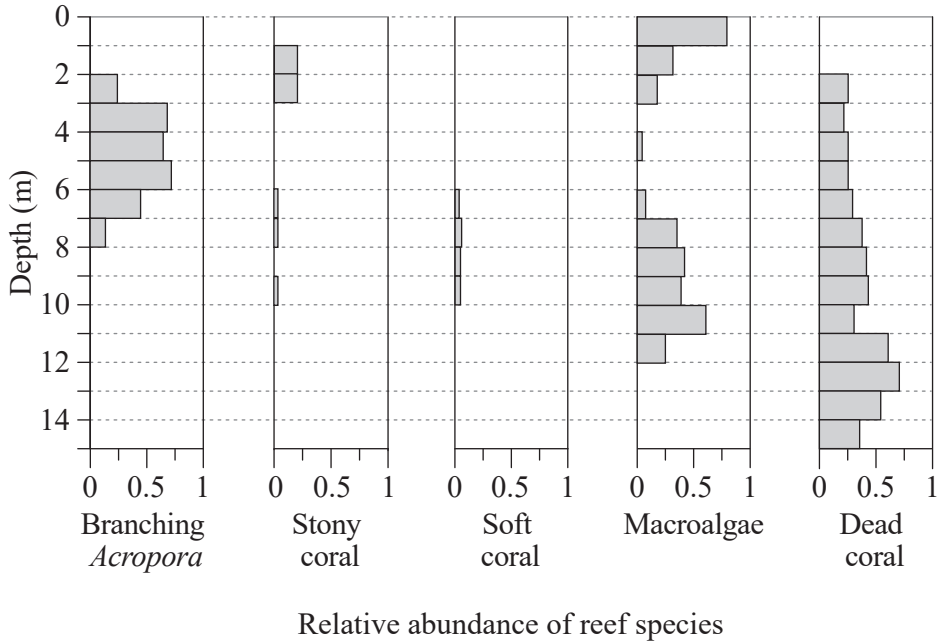
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**QUESTION 24 (5 marks)**

The first graph shows the relative abundance of different reef species observed at different depths on a coral reef. The second graph shows the concentration of dissolved oxygen measured at different depths on the same reef.



a) Identify the range in depth where branching *Acropora* were seen. [1 mark]

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b) Identify a trend in dissolved oxygen concentration. [1 mark]

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c) Draw a conclusion about dissolved oxygen concentration and the abundance of living coral. Justify your conclusion with data from both graphs.

[3 marks]

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**QUESTION 25 (2 marks)**

Over the past 25 years, some fish populations in coastal Australian waters have extended from subtropical areas into more temperate waters.

Explain why this change in distribution has occurred.

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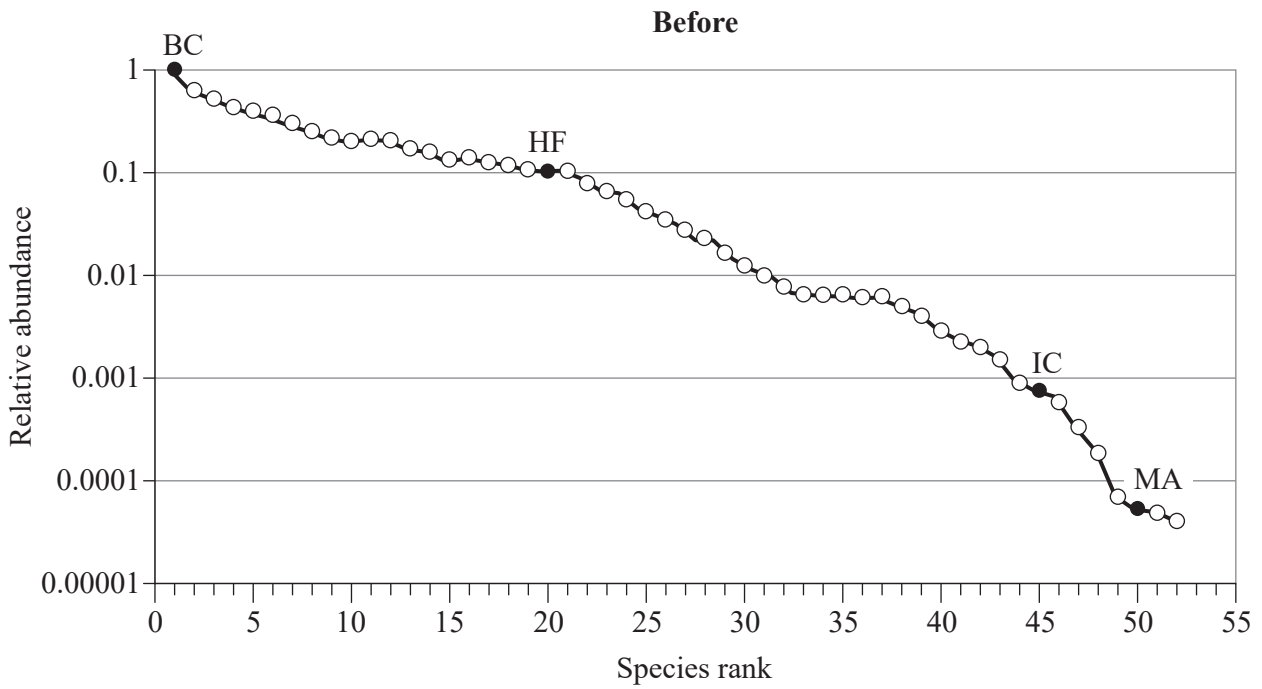
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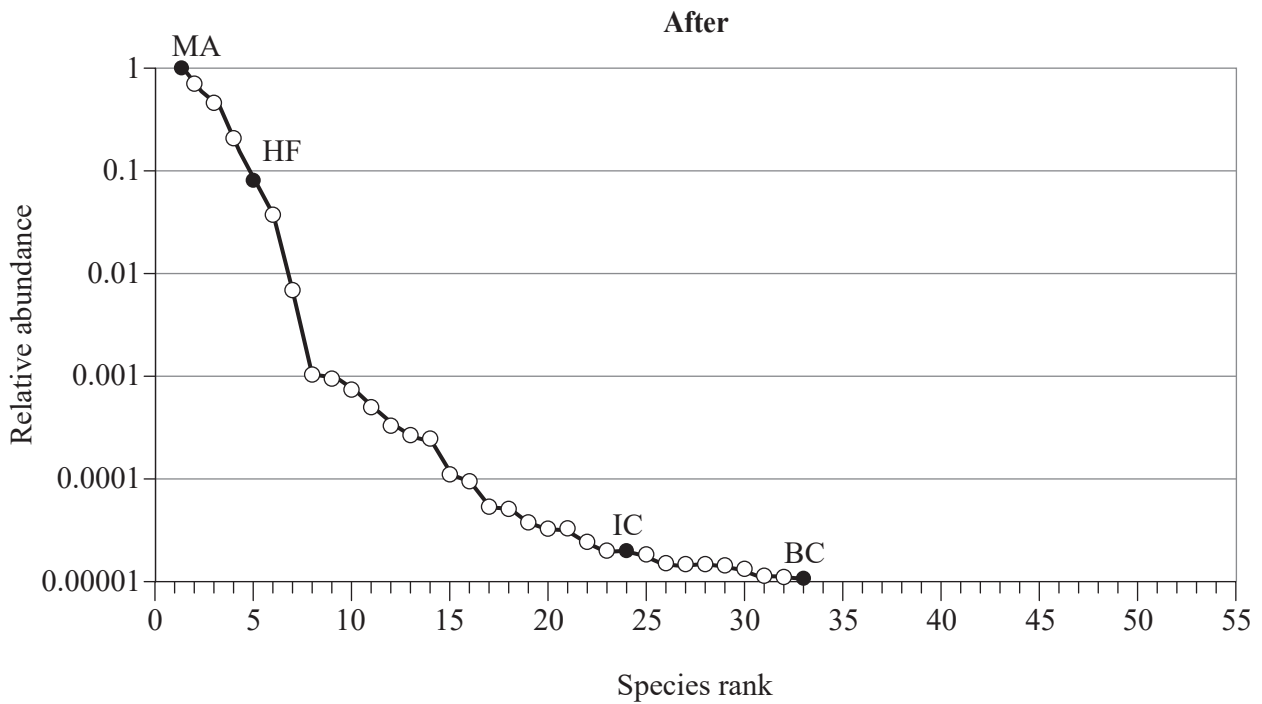
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**QUESTION 26 (6 marks)**

The graphs show the species rank and relative abundance of species on a reef before and after overfishing. Four representative species are also shown.



<b>Key</b>	BC Branching coral	HF Herbivorous fish
	IC Invertebrate corallivore	MA Macroalgae



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a) Identify the change in highest-ranking species after overfishing.

[1 mark]

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b) Contrast the species diversity of the reef before and after overfishing.

[2 marks]

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c) Infer how future species rank and relative abundance data could be used to determine if the reef does or does not show hysteresis. Show your reasoning.

[3 marks]

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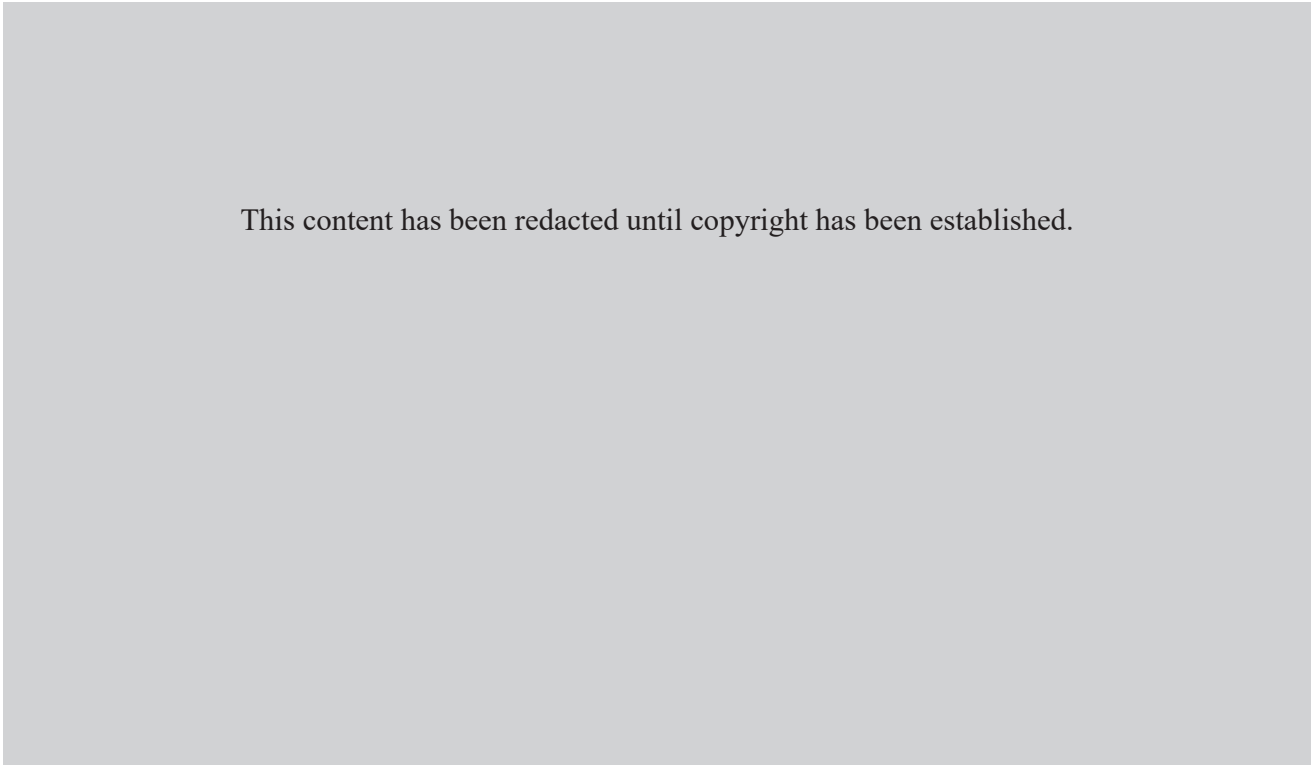
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**QUESTION 27 (5 marks)**

The map shows the zones in a section of the Great Barrier Reef: no-take marine reserves (NTMR); habitat protection zones, which are open to fishing; and general use zones, which have few restrictions.



a) Identify a criterion used to design the protected marine areas. *[1 mark]*

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b) Explain how the criterion identified in Question 27a) applies to coral trout species in this region. *[2 marks]*

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c) Identify a management strategy that would help maintain the coral trout population in the habitat protection zones. Show your reasoning.

*[2 marks]*

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**END OF PAPER**

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## References

### Question 23

Blakeway D 2018, 'Hypoxia shapes coral reefs', *Peer Journal Preprints*,  
<https://doi.org/10.7287/peerj.preprints.26794v1>.

### Question 27

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority 2016, 'Great Barrier Reef marine park zoning map 12 - Mackay', [https://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/retrieve/58ddc5f0-1c17-426a-900a-b2f09b53823c/WEB\\_Map12\\_Merge.pdf](https://elibrary.gbrmpa.gov.au/jspui/retrieve/58ddc5f0-1c17-426a-900a-b2f09b53823c/WEB_Map12_Merge.pdf)

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