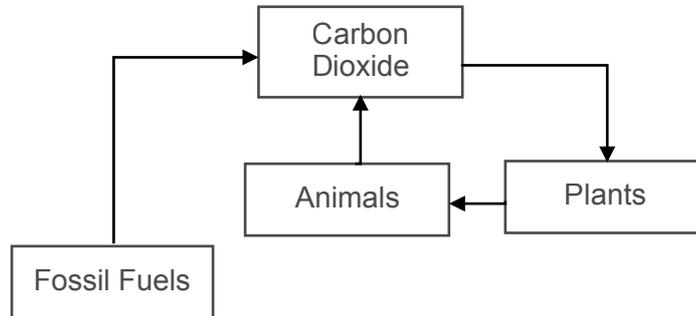


1 In this question you will be assessed on using good English, organising information clearly and using specialist terms where appropriate.

The diagram shows a small part of the carbon cycle.



Describe how carbon is cycled in the environment. In your answer you must include:

- Key processes
- How carbon is used in living things.

[6 marks]

(Total 6 marks)

0 marks	Level 1 (1-2 marks)	Level 2 (3-4 marks)	Level 3 (5-6 marks)
No relevant content	There is a simple description of the carbon cycle using mainly the stages shown. Not many relevant key words or processes.	There is a clear description of the carbon cycle with key processes mentioned correctly. One or two uses of carbon are mentioned There are more points than just the parts shown.	There is a detailed description of the carbon cycle with all the key processes mentioned correctly and most of the uses of carbon in the body of plants and animals mentioned.

Points that could be made:

Carbon used to make carbohydrate for energy, or cellulose or starch,

or to make protein for growth, and fat for stored energy.

Carbon in the form of carbon dioxide in the air.

Taken in by plants / algae by photosynthesis.

Taken in by plants or by animals eating plants.

Mention of decay of dead plants, animals and waste.

Respiration by plants, animals and microorganisms / detritus feeders.

Combustion of fossil fuels / plant material.

AQA only requires a simple understanding of the carbon cycle, but you will still get marks for knowing a little more, for example use of carbon to make cellulose or carbon being locked away in limestone. You can get full marks for just the material in the spec, however.