

GCSE Geography Handbook



Contents	Page
Curriculum Overview	2
Planner: Year 9	3
Planner: Year 10	4
Planner: Year 11	6
Course Reading and Resources	7
Command Words	8

Curriculum Overview

Examining body: Edexcel (Geography B)

The following topics will be covered in the Geography GCSE course:

- Development Dynamics
- Hazardous Earth
- Challenges of an Urbanising World
- The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape
- The UK's Evolving Human Landscape
- Fieldwork
- People and the Biosphere
- Forests Under Threat
- Consuming Energy Resources

Assessment:

Paper 1:	Global Geographical Issues	37.5%
Paper 2:	UK Geographical Issues	37.5%
Paper 3:	People and Environment Issues - Making Geographical Decisions	25%

Year 9 Planner

	Autumn Half Term 1	Autumn Half Term 2
Topics	Development Dynamics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the scale of global inequality and how can it be reduced? 	Development Dynamics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How is one of the world's emerging countries managing to develop?
Assessment	End of half term assessment	End of term assessment

	Spring Half Term 1	Spring Half Term 2
Topics	Challenges of an Urbanising World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the causes and challenges of rapid urban change? 	Challenges of an Urbanising World <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why does the quality of life vary so much within one megacity?
Assessment	End of half term assessment	End of term assessment (including all topics studied so far)

	Summer Half Term 1	Summer Half Term 2
Topics	Hazardous Earth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the world's climate system function, why does it change and how can this be hazardous for people? 	Hazardous Earth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How are extreme weather events increasingly hazardous for people?
Assessment	End of half term assessment	End of term assessment (including all topics studied so far)

Year 10 Planner

	Autumn Half Term 1	Autumn Half Term 2
Topics	The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why does the physical landscape of the UK vary from place to place? • Why is there a variety of distinctive coastal landscapes in the UK and what are the processes that shape them? • What are the challenges for coastal landscapes and communities and why is there conflict about how to manage them? 	The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is there a variety of river landscapes in the UK and what are the processes that shape them? • What are the challenges for river landscapes, people and property and how can they be managed?
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of half term assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of term assessment (including all topics studied so far)

	Spring Half Term 1	Spring Half Term 2
Topics	The UK's Evolving Human Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why are places and people changing in the UK? 	The UK's Evolving Human Landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is one major UK city changing?
Assessment	End of half term assessment	End of term assessment (including all topics studied so far)

	Summer Half Term 1	Summer Half Term 2
Topics	People and the Biosphere <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is the biosphere so important to human wellbeing and how do humans use and modify it to obtain resources? 	Physical Fieldwork Enquiry (including a residential trip to North Wales)
Assessment	End of half term assessment	End of term assessment (including all topics studied so far)

Year 11 Planner

	Autumn Half Term 1	Autumn Half Term 2
Topics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Human Fieldwork Enquiry (including a trip in the local area) 2. Consuming Energy Resources 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Forests Under Threat 2. Mock Exams Revision
Assessment	Fieldwork Assessment	Mock Exams

	Spring Half Term 1	Spring Half Term 2
Topics	Revision of Unit 1	Revision of Unit 2
Assessment	Focused end of term assessment	Focused end of term assessment

	Summer Half Term 1	Summer Half Term 2
Topics	Revision of Unit 3	GCSE Exams
Assessment		

Core Resources and Reading

Kerboodle ISBN: 978-0-19-836657-7

Every student will have access to the digital course textbook through the Kerboodle website. Students will be given login details for this. The resource will be used for Independent Learning and revision. Students should access this regularly for checking their knowledge and reading ahead.

Revision Guide ISBN: 978-1-29-213378-2

This is an excellent support material for students which they can use regularly for revision.

Exam Board Specification

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-B/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/Specification_GCSE_L1-L2_Geography_B.pdf

Recommended Additional Resources and Reading

- Any broadsheet newspaper
- National Geographic
- The Economist
- The Week
- Youtube playlists for each topic
- CIA: The World Factbook:
<http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/Fieldwork+and+local+learning/Fieldwork+techniques/Fieldwork+techniques.htm>
- The Urbanist podcast: <https://monocle.com/radio/shows/the-urbanist/>
- Royal Geographical Society:
<http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/Fieldwork+and+local+learning/Fieldwork+techniques/Fieldwork+techniques.htm>

Films and documentaries

- Human Planet, BBC
- Planet Earth, BBC
- Before the Flood, National Geographic
- Slumming It, BBC
- Slumdog Millionaire, Fox Searchlight

Command Words

Command Word	Definition
Identify/State/Name	Recall or select one or more pieces of information.
Define	State the meaning of a term.
Calculate	Produce a numerical answer, showing relevant working.
Draw/plot	Create a graphical representation of geographical information.
Label	Add a label/labels to a given resource, graphic or image.
Describe	Give an account of the main characteristics of something or the steps in a process. Statements in the response should be developed but do not need to include a justification or reason.
Compare	Find the similarities and differences of two elements given in a question. Each response must relate to both elements, and must include a statement of their similarity/difference.
Explain	Provide a reasoned explanation of how or why something occurs. An explanation requires a justification/exemplification of a point. Some questions will require the use of annotated diagrams to support explanation.
Suggest	Apply understanding to provide a reasoned explanation of how or why something may occur. A suggested explanation requires a justification/exemplification of a point.
Assess	Use evidence to determine the relative significance of something. Give consideration to all factors and identify which are the most important.
Evaluate	Measure the value or success of something and ultimately provide a substantiated judgement/conclusion. Review information and then bring it together to form a conclusion, drawing on evidence such as strengths, weaknesses, alternatives and relevant data.
Select...and justify	Select one option from those given and justify the choice, drawing across the resources provided and knowledge/understanding. The justification should include consideration of the alternative options in order to provide a supported argument in favour of the chosen option.