

GEOGRAPHY

Exam Board: AQA
Subject: Geography
Paper: 1

Marks available: 88
Length of paper: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Topics:

- The Challenge of Natural Hazards
 - Natural hazards
 - Tectonic hazards
 - Weather hazards
 - Climate change
- The Living World
 - Ecosystems
 - Tropical rainforests
 - Cold environments
- UK physical landscapes
 - UK physical landscapes
 - Coastal landscapes in the UK
 - River landscapes in the UK

Exam Information, guidance and hints

Command words:

- Assess:** Make an informed judgement.
- Calculate:** Work out the value of something.
- Compare:** Identify similarities and differences.
- Complete/Draw/Label:** Finish the task by adding to given information.
- Describe:** Set out characteristics.
- Discuss:** Present key points about different ideas or strengths and weaknesses of an idea.
- Evaluate:** Judge from available evidence.
- Explain:** Set out purposes or reasons.
- Identify/Name/State/Give/Define:** Produce an answer from recall/Express in clear terms/Name or otherwise characterise.
- Justify:** Support a case with evidence.
- Outline:** Set out main characteristics.
- Suggest:** Present a possible case.
- To what extent:** Judge the importance or success of (strategy, scheme, project, etc).

Videos:

 **YouTube** ^{GB}
[AQA GCSE Geography | Revision Blasts for 2024](#)



Markschemes:


[AQA | Geography | GCSE](#)



Paper 1 Section A: Natural hazards

Topic	Key information related to topic	Resources/Information related to topic	How well do you understand this topic? RAG		
			Red	Amber	Green
Natural hazards	Define a natural hazard.	BBC Bitesize: Natural Hazards  Revision guide page 15			
	State at least 3 examples of tectonic (caused by land and tectonics) hazards.				
	State 3 types of climatic (caused by weather and climate) hazards.				
	Outline two factors that affect hazard risk.				
Tectonic hazards - Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are the result of physical processes.	Draw and label the structure of the earth.	BBC Bitesize: Plate margins and plate tectonics  Revision guide page 16 - 18			
	Name the two types of earth's crust and outline their differences.				
	Explain how tectonic plates move (ridge push and slab pull).				
	Describe the global distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes.				
	Explain how earthquakes form at conservative plate margins.				
	Explain how earthquakes and volcanoes form at destructive plate margins.				
	Explain how volcanoes form at constructive plate margins.				

Tectonic hazards - The effects of, and responses to, a tectonic hazard vary between areas of contrasting wealth.	Define a primary and secondary effect of an earthquake and give examples.	BBC Bitesize: Earthquakes  BBC Bitesize: Volcanoes  Revision guide page 19 - 20			
	Define an immediate and long-term response of an earthquake and give examples.				
	<i>Discuss the primary and secondary effects of the Chile earthquake 2010 (HIC).</i>				
	<i>Discuss the primary and secondary effects of the Nepal earthquake 2015 (LIC).</i>				
	<i>Discuss the immediate and long-term responses of the Chile earthquake 2010 (HIC).</i>				
	<i>Discuss the immediate and long-term responses of the Nepal earthquake 2015 (LIC).</i>				
	<i>Compare the effects and responses of the Chile and Nepal earthquakes.</i>				
Tectonic hazards - Management can reduce the effects of a tectonic hazard.	Explain at least three reasons why people continue to live in areas at risk from earthquakes and volcanoes (tectonic hazards).	BBC Bitesize: Benefits of living by a volcano  BBC Bitesize: Prediction, protection and preparation  Revision guide page 21 - 22			
	Describe how monitoring reduces the risk from a tectonic hazard.				
	Describe how prediction reduces the risk from a tectonic hazard.				
	Describe how protection reduces the risk from a tectonic hazard.				
	Describe how planning reduces the risk from a tectonic hazard.				

Skills focus - Dispersion graphs.	Construct and interpret a dispersion graph.	Revision guide page 23			
Weather hazards - Tropical storms (hurricanes, cyclones, typhoons) develop as a result of particular physical conditions.	Describe the global atmospheric circulation model.	BBC Bitesize:Global atmospheric circulation  BBC Bitesize:Features and development of tropical  BBC Bitesize: Impact of climate change on tropical storms  Revision guide page 24 - 27			
	Locate the pressure belts and surface winds in the global atmospheric circulation model.				
	Describe the global distribution of tropical storms.				
	Explain the relationship between a tropical storm and the global atmospheric circulation.				
	State the conditions required for a tropical storm to form.				
	Outline the sequence of the formation of tropical storms and their development.				
	Describe the structure and features of a tropical storm.				
	Discuss how climate change might affect the distribution, frequency and intensity of tropical storms.				
Weather hazards - Tropical storms have significant effects on people and the environment.	Define a primary and secondary effect of a tropical storm.	Revision guide page 28 - 29			
	Define an immediate and long-term response of a tropical storm.				

	• Discuss the primary and secondary effects of the Typhoon Haiyan 2014, Philippines.				
	• Discuss the immediate and long-term responses of the Typhoon Haiyan 2014, Philippines.				
	• Describe how monitoring reduces the risk from a tropical storm.				
	• Describe how prediction reduces the risk from a tropical storm.				
	• Describe how protection reduces the risk from a tropical storm.				
	• Describe how planning reduces the risk from a tropical storm.				
Weather hazards - Extreme weather events in the UK have impact on human activity.	• Outline the types of weather hazards experienced in the UK.	BBC Bitesize: Extreme UK weather  Revision guide page 30 - 32			
	• Describe the Somerset Levels flooding 2014 causes.				
	• Outline the Somerset Levels flooding 2014 social, economic and environmental impacts.				
	• Evaluate the Somerset Levels flooding 2014 management strategies to reduce the risk.				
	• Outline evidence that weather is becoming more extreme in the UK.				

Skills focus - OS Maps.	• Interpret an OS map.	Revision guide page 33			
	• Interpret an aerial photograph.				

Climate change - Climate change is the result of natural and human factors, and has a range of effects.	• Outline evidence for climate change from the beginning of the Quaternary period to today, including ice cores, glacial retreat and tree rings.	BBC Bitesize: Climate change  Revision guide page 34 - 38			
	• Outline natural causes of climate change (orbital changes, volcanic activity and solar output).				
	• Outline human causes of climate change (use of fossil fuels, agriculture and deforestation).				
	• Discuss the effects of climate change on people and the environment (Tuvalu).				
Climate change - Managing climate change involves both mitigation (reducing causes) and adaptation (responding to change)	• How can climate change be mitigated (mitigation - reducing causes)? Alternative energy production, carbon capture, planting trees, international agreements.				
	• How can people adapt to climate change (adaptation - responding to changes)? Change in agricultural systems, managing water supply, reducing the risk from rising sea levels.				

Skills focus - Line graphs.	• Construct and interpret a line graph.	Revision guide page 39			
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Paper 1 Section B: The living world

Ecosystems - Ecosystems exist at a range of scales and involve the interaction between biotic and abiotic components.	Define a food chain.	BBC Bitesize:Ecosystems  Revision guide page 41 - 43			
	Define a food web.				
	Define nutrient cycling.				
	Define producers, consumers and decomposers.				
	<i>State a range of producers, consumers and decomposers in a pond ecosystem.</i>				
	<i>Describe the interrelationships between producers, consumers and decomposers in a pond ecosystem.</i>				
	Outline the impact on an ecosystem when one component changes.				
	Describe the distribution of large scale natural global ecosystems (biomes).				
	Outline the characteristics of large scale natural global ecosystems (biomes).				
Tropical rainforests - Tropical rainforest ecosystems have a range of distinctive characteristics.	Name the layers of a tropical rainforest.	BBC Bitesize:Tropical rainforests 			
	Outline the characteristics of each layer.				
	Outline two examples of how plants have adapted to live in the tropical rainforest.				

	Outline two examples of how animals have adapted to live in the tropical rainforest.	Revision guide page 44 - 49			
	Define biodiversity.				
	Explain why tropical rainforests have high biodiversity.				
	Outline two factors that affect biodiversity in tropical rainforests.				
Tropical rainforests - Deforestation has economic and environmental impacts	Describe how deforestation rates are changing globally.				
	<i>Outline the causes of deforestation in the Malaysia rainforest (subsistence and commercial farming, logging, road building, mineral extraction, energy development, settlement and population growth).</i>				
	<i>Outline the impacts of deforestation in the Malaysia rainforest (economic development, soil erosion and contribution to climate change).</i>				
Tropical rainforests Tropical rainforests need to be managed to be sustainable.	State three values of tropical rainforests to people.				
	State three values of tropical rainforests to the environment.				
	Outline the following strategies used to manage the rainforest sustainably; Selective logging / Conservation and education / Ecotourism / International agreements about tropical hardwoods / Debt reduction.				

Skills focus - Bar graphs and pie charts.	• Construct and interpret a bar graph.	Revision guide page 50			
	• Construct and interpret a pie chart.				

Cold environments - Cold environments (polar and tundra) have a range of distinctive characteristics.	• Outline the physical characteristics of cold environments (climate / soil / plants / animals).	BBC Bitesize: Cold environments  Revision guide page 57 - 62			
	• Define permafrost .				
	• Explain the interdependence of climate, permafrost , soils, plants, animals and people.				
	• Outline two examples of how plants have adapted to live in cold environments.				
	• Outline two examples of how animals have adapted to live in cold environments.				
	• Define biodiversity.				
	• Explain why cold environments have low biodiversity.				
	• Outline two factors that affect biodiversity in cold environments.				
Cold environments - Development of cold environments creates opportunities and challenges.	• <i>Assess the development opportunities in Svalbard (mineral extraction, energy, fishing and tourism).</i>				
	• <i>Assess the challenges of developing cold environments (extreme temperature, inaccessibility, provision of buildings and infrastructure).</i>				

Cold environments - Cold environments are at risk from economic development.	• Explain the value of cold environments as wilderness areas .				
	• Explain why fragile environments should be protected.				
	• Outline four strategies used to balance needs of economic development and conservation (1. Use of technology, 2. Role of governments, 3. International agreements, 4. Conservation groups).				

Paper 1 Section C: Physical landscapes in the UK

UK physical landscapes - The UK has a range of diverse landscapes.	• Describe the location of major upland and lowland areas in the UK.	BBC Bitesize:UK physical landscapes  Revision guide page 64			
	• Describe the location of major river systems in the UK.				

Coastal landscapes in the UK - The coast is shaped by a number of physical processes.	• Name the two different wave types.	BBC Bitesize:Coastal processes  Revision guide page 65 - 67			
	• Describe the characteristics of each type of wave.				
	• Explain how weathering processes (mechanical and chemical) affect the coast.				
	• Explain three types of mass movement at the coast (sliding, slumping and rock falls).				

	Define three types of erosion (hydraulic power, abrasion and attrition).				
	Explain how longshore drift transport sediment along the coast.				
	Explain why deposition occurs in coastal areas.				
Coastal landscapes in the UK - Distinctive coastal landforms are the result of rock type, structure and physical processes.	Explain how geological structure and rock type influence coastal forms (hard and soft rock / concordant and discordant coastlines).	BBC Bitesize:Coastal landforms  Revision guide page 68 - 70			
	- Explain the characteristics and formation of the following erosional landforms; - Headlands and bays - Cliffs - Wave cut platforms - Caves, arches and stacks				
	- Explain the characteristics and formation of the following depositional landforms; - Beaches - Sand dunes - Spits and bars				
	Name the major erosional landforms found along the Dorset Coastline (Swanage and Studland).				
	Name the major depositional landforms found along the Dorset Coastline (Swanage and Studland).				
Coastal landscapes in	Describe the costs and benefits of the following hard engineering coastal management strategies;				

the UK - Different management strategies can be used to protect the coastlines from the effects of physical processes.	Sea walls, rock armour, gabions and groynes	BBC Bitesize:Coastal management  Revision guide page 72 - 75			
	- Describe the costs and benefits of the following soft engineering coastal management strategies; - Beach nourishment and reprofiling, dune regeneration				
	Describe the costs and benefits of managed retreat (coastal realignment).				
	<i>Explain the reasons for coastal management in Lyme Regis.</i>				
	<i>Describe the management strategy in Lyme Regis.</i>				
	<i>Evaluate the effects of the management strategy at Lyme Regis, including conflicts.</i>				
Skills focus - OS Maps.	Interpret an OS map.	Revision guide page 71			
	Interpret an aerial photograph.				
River landscapes in the UK - The shape of river valleys changes as rivers flow downstream	Describe the long profile of a river.	BBC Bitesize:River processes  Revision guide page 76 - 77			
	Explain how a cross section of a river changes from source to mouth.				
	Define the fluvial (river) processes of erosion (hydraulic power, abrasion, attrition, solution, vertical and lateral erosion).				

	Define the fluvial (river) processes of transportation (traction, saltation, suspension and solution).				
	Define the fluvial (river) processes of deposition (why rivers drop sediment).				
River landscapes in the UK - Distinctive fluvial result from different physical processes.	- Explain the characteristics and formation of the following erosional landforms; - Interlocking spurs - Waterfalls - Gorges	BBC Bitesize:River landforms  Revision guide page 78 - 80			
	- Explain the characteristics and formation of the following landforms resulting from erosion and deposition; - Meanders and ox-bow lakes				
	- Explain the characteristics and formation of the following depositional landforms; - Levees - Flood plains - Estuaries				
	<i>Identify the major landforms of the River Tees.</i>				
River landscapes in the UK - Different management strategies can be used to protect river landscapes from the effects	Outline how physical factors (precipitation, geology and relief) affect flood risk.	BBC Bitesize:River management 			
	Outline how human factors (land use) affect flood risk.				
	Define a flood hydrograph.				

of flooding.	Explain how hydrographs show the relationship between precipitation and discharge?	Revision guide page 82 - 84			
	- Describe the costs and benefits of the following hard engineering river management strategies; - Dams and reservoirs, straightening, embankments, flood relief channels				
	- Describe the costs and benefits of the following soft engineering river management strategies; - Flood warnings and preparation, flood plain zoning, planting trees and river restoration				
	<i>Explain the reasons for river flood management on the River Parrot (Somerset Levels)</i>				
	<i>Describe the management strategy on the River Parrot (Somerset Levels)</i>				
	<i>Evaluate the social, economic and environmental issues associated with the flood defences in the Somerset Levels</i>				
Skills focus - OS Maps.	Interpret an OS map.	Revision guide page 81			
	Interpret an aerial photograph.				