

GEOGRAPHY

Exam Board: AQA
Subject: Geography

Paper: 1 & 2

Marks available: 88

Length of paper: 1 Hour 30 Minutes

Topics:

- The Living World **Paper 1**
 - Ecosystems
 - Tropical rainforests
 - Cold environments
- UK physical landscapes **Paper 1**
 - UK physical landscapes
 - Coastal landscapes in the UK
 - River landscapes in the UK
- Urban Issues and Challenges **Paper 2**
 - The Urban World (Rio)
 - Urban Change in the UK (Bristol)
 - Sustainable Urban Development

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:



[AQA GCSE Geography | Revision Blasts for 2024](#)



Markschemes:



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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 the UK	Describe the costs and benefits of the following hard engineering coastal management strategies;	BBC Bitesize:Coastal			

- Different management strategies can be used to protect the coastlines from the effects of physical processes.	○ Sea walls, rock armour, gabions and groynes	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 of flooding.	Outline how physical factors (precipitation, geology and relief) affect flood risk.	BBC Bitesize:River management  Revision guide page 82 - 84			
	Outline how human factors (land use) affect flood risk.				
	Define a flood hydrograph.				
	Explain how hydrographs show the relationship between precipitation and discharge?				

	- 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.				

Paper 2 Section A: Urban issues and challenges

Topic	Key information related to topic	Resources/Information related to topic	How well do you understand this topic? RAG		
			Red	Amber	Green
A growing percentage of the world's population lives in urban areas.	Describe the global pattern of urban change.	BBC Bitesize: Urban growth 			
	Compare urban trends in different parts of the world including HICs and LICs.				
	Outline the factors affecting the rate of urbanisation ○ migration (push–pull theory) ○ natural increase.				
	Discuss the emergence of megacities.				
A case study of a major city in an LIC or NEE (Rio)	Describe the location of Rio de Janeiro	internetgeography.net: Location and importance of Rio de Janeiro 			
	Outline the importance of Rio de Janeiro, regionally, nationally and internationally				
	Outline the causes of growth in Rio de Janeiro: ○ natural increase ○ migration	internetgeography.net: How has Rio de Janeiro grown? 			

Discuss how urban growth has created social and economic opportunities in Rio de Janeiro	Compare the access to services – health and education in Rio de Janeiro to Sertao (rural Brazil).	internetgeography.net: What are the social and economic opportunities associated with the growth of Rio? 			
	Compare the access to resources – water supply, energy in Rio de Janeiro to Sertao (rural Brazil).				
	Explain how urban industrial areas can be a stimulus for economic development (Michelin / Hyundai / Jaguar)				
Discuss how urban growth has created challenges in Rio de Janeiro	What are slums / squatter settlements?	internetgeography.net: What are the challenges associated with the growth of Rio? 			
	Describe water, sanitation systems and energy provision in slums				
	Explain why providing access to services – health and education is a challenge in slums				
	Explain how Rio de Janeiro is reducing unemployment and crime				
	Explain the challenge of managing environmental issues – waste disposal, air and water pollution, traffic congestion.				
	Evaluate an example of how urban planning is improving the quality of life for the urban poor in Rio de Janeiro (Favela Barrio Project).	internetgeography.net: How is urban planning improving the quality of life for the urban poor in Rio de Janeiro? 			

Urban change in cities in the UK	Describe the distribution of population and the major cities in the UK.	BBC Bitesize: Characteristics of the UK - population density 			
A case study of a major city in the UK (Bristol)	Describe the location of Bristol.	internetgeography.net: Location and importance of Bristol 			
	Outline the importance of Bristol in the UK and the wider world				
	Outline the impacts of national and international migration on the growth and character of Bristol.	internetgeography.net: Impacts of national and international migration in Bristol 			

Discuss how urban change has created opportunities in Bristol	Outline Bristol's cultural mix, recreation and entertainment, employment, integrated transport systems	internetgeography.net: How has urban change created opportunities in Bristol? 			
	Outline urban greening in Bristol (Queen Square)				
Discuss how urban change has created challenges in Bristol	Outline Bristol's urban deprivation, inequalities in housing, education, health and employment	internetgeography.net: How has urban change created challenges for Bristol? 			
	Outline: dereliction, building on brownfield (Wapping Wharf) and greenfield sites (Bradley Stoke), waste disposal in Bristol				
	Explain the impact of urban sprawl on the rural–urban fringe, and the growth of commuter settlements (Pucklechurch).				
An example of an urban regeneration project to show	Outline the reasons why the area needed regeneration	internetgeography.net: A Case Study of Urban Regeneration in Bristol 			
	Evaluate the main features of the project				

Features of sustainable urban living	Explain how Freiburg manages water and energy conservation	internetgeography.net: Sustainable Urban Living - Freiburg 			
	Explain how Freiburg manages waste recycling				
	Explain how Freiburg creates green spaces				
	Explain how urban transport strategies are used to reduce traffic congestion in Freiburg				

Skills focus	Complete a line chart	OUP Revision guide (2nd ed) page 104			
	Explain the links between a line chart and satellite image				
	Interpret ground photos	OUP Revision guide (2nd ed) page 111			
	Construct a pie chart				
	Construct a bar graph				