

# GCSE Geography Handbook



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## Pearson Edexcel B breakdown

### **Paper 1: Global Geographical Issues**

**94 marks and 1h and 30 minutes**

- Section 1: Hazardous Earth (30 marks)
- Section 2: Development Dynamics (30 marks)
- Section 3: Challenges of an Urbanising World (30 marks)

1 question will include 4x SPaG marks

Paper 1 is worth 37.5% of your total GCSE grade

### **Paper 2: UK Geographical Issues**

**94 marks and 1h and 30 minutes**

- Section 4: The UK's evolving Physical Landscape
- Section 5: The UK's evolving Human Landscape
- Section 6: Geographical Investigation

Paper 2 is worth 37.5% of your total GCSE grade

### **Paper 3: People and Environment Issues**

**64 marks and 1h and 30 minutes**

- Section 7: People and the Biosphere
- Section 8: Forests Under Threat
- Section 9: Consuming energy resources
- Section 10: Making a Geographical Decision

Paper 3 is worth 25% of your total GCSE grade

## GCSE Geography Assessment Objectives

Assessment objectives are a set of outcomes that your GCSE questions will be marked against. Questions either relate to one or more assessment objectives, and range from 1x mark to 16x marks. Below you can find each of the AO's and a brief example using our GCSE case study of the 2010 Haiti Earthquake.

<b>AO1</b>	<b>Knowledge</b>	<p>AO1 is about <b>remembering geographical information:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• key term definitions</li> <li>• Facts and statistics about case studies</li> <li>• key landforms and processes names</li> </ul>	15%	<p>“The primary social effects of the Haiti earthquake in 2010 included 220,000 deaths and 180,000 homes destroyed.”</p>
<b>AO2</b>	<b>Understanding</b>	<p>AO2 is about <b>giving reasons for and explaining geographical processes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “this is because...”</li> <li>• “this means that...”</li> <li>• “this leads to...”</li> </ul>	25%	<p>“One of the reasons for the high number of deaths was the high population density surrounding the capital, and the homes in Port au Prince were poorly built. This means that many lived in slum housing which collapsed quickly.”</p>
<b>AO3</b>	<b>Application</b>	<p>AO3 is about <b>analysing and evaluating information and creating an argument.</b> All arguments must be supported with factual information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “To a large extent I agree...”</li> <li>• “The most significant impact was...”</li> <li>• “Some people may argue...”</li> </ul>	35%	<p>“The most significant impact of the Haiti earthquake was the economic impact. The cost of damage was \$11.5 billion which increased Haiti’s debt and has made future development difficult.”</p>
<b>AO4</b>	<b>Skills</b>	<p>AO4 is about <b>geographical skills.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fieldwork</li> <li>• map reading</li> <li>• interpreting graphs and photographs</li> <li>• using GIS.</li> </ul>	25%	<p>“The map shows an uneven distribution of cholera outbreaks in Haiti. The highest concentration of new cases was in the south east, with over 300 cases per week. The lowest number of outbreaks was in the north with no cases.”</p>

## Year 10 and Year 11 Running Order

### Year 10

	Autumn Half-Term 1	Autumn Half-Term 2
Topics	<b>Development Dynamics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the scale of global inequality and how can it be reduced?</li> <li>• How is one of the world's emerging countries developing?</li> </ul>	<b>Challenges of an Urbanising World</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the causes and challenges of rapid urban change?</li> </ul>

	Spring Half-Term 1	Spring Half-Term 2
Topics	<b>Challenges of an Urbanising World</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why does the quality of life vary so much within one megacity?</li> </ul>	<b>Hazardous Earth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does the world's climate system function, why does it change and how can this be hazardous for people?</li> </ul>

	Summer Half-Term 1	Summer Half-Term 2
Topics	<b>Hazardous Earth</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does the structure of our earth cause specific tectonic hazards?</li> </ul>	<b>The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is there a variety of distinctive coastal landscapes in the UK and what are the processes that shape them?</li> <li>• What are the challenges for coastal landscapes and communities and why is there conflict about how to manage them?</li> </ul>

### Year 11

	Autumn Half-Term 1	Autumn Half-Term 2
Topics	<b>The UK's Evolving Physical Landscape</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is there a variety of river landscapes in the UK and what are the processes that shape</li> </ul>	<b>The UK's Evolving Human Landscape</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why are places and people changing in the UK?</li> <li>• How is one major UK city changing?</li> </ul>

	<p>them?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the challenges for river landscapes, people and property and how can they be managed?</li> </ul>	
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	Spring Half-Term 1	Spring Half-Term 2
Topics	<p><b>People and the Biosphere</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is the biosphere so important to human wellbeing and how do humans use and modify it to obtain resources?</li> </ul> <p><b>Forests Under Threat</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the threats to forest biomes and how can they be reduced?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Consuming Energy Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can the growing demand for energy be met without serious environmental consequences?</li> </ul>

	Summer Half-Term 1	Summer Half-Term 2
Topics	Revision	<b>GCSE Exams</b>

## Suggested reading list for KS4 and KS5

- Adventures of the Anthropocene by Gaia Vince
- Factfulness by Hans Rosling
- Divided by Tim Marshall
- Prisoners of Geography by Tim Marshall
- Power of Geography by Tim Marshall
- Sapiens by Yuval Noah Harari
- Rivers of Power by Laurence Smith
- Inequality and the 1% by Danny Dorling
- The Shock Doctrine by Naomi Klein
- No Logo by Naomi Klein
- Invisible Women by Caroline Criado Perez
- Violent Borders by Reece Jones

## Film/ TV

- BBC Panorama - Climate Change: What can we do?
- The Americas Series by Simon Reeve
- Netflix Our Planet by David Attenborough
- BBC Earth's Great Rivers Series by
- Netflix Explained - The World's Water Crisis and Can We Live Forever?
- Netflix Cowspiracy: The Sustainability Project
- Netflix Seaspiracy: Overfishing

## Webpages

- Atlas Obscura
- Political Geography Now
- GeoQuest
- BBC Geography
- National Geographic

## Edexcel B Terminology and Topic Booklets

### ***Geographical language and Key Terminology + Command Words***

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-B/2016/teaching-and-learning-materials/geog-b-key-terms-and-lang-student-guide.pdf>

### ***Knowledge Organisers:***

Paper 1: Global Geographical Issues

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-B/2016/teaching-and-learning-materials/gcse-9-1-geography-b-knowledge-organiser-paper-1-global-geographical-issues.pdf>

Paper 2: UK Geographical Issues

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-B/2016/teaching-and-learning-materials/gcse-9-1-geography-b-knowledge-organiser-paper-2-uk-geographical-issues.pdf>

Paper 3: Making Geographical Decisions

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-B/2016/teaching-and-learning-materials/gcse-geography-b-knowledge-organiser-paper-3-making-geographical-decisions.pdf>