



EXAM CHANGES 2022

GCSE Geography

Exam Board: AQA

SUMMARY OF ADAPTATIONS

- Students will still sit **3 exam papers**:
Paper 1 - Living with the Physical Environment
Paper 2 - Challenges in the Human Environment
Paper 3 - Geographical Applications
- There are **no changes to Paper 1**.
- Paper 2 now has **optionality and has reduced in length**:
- Paper 3 has **changes to how students are assessed on Fieldwork** and had **reduced in length**.

EXPLANATION OF OPTIONALITY/ADAPTATIONS

- Paper 2 has been reduced in length from 1 hour 30 minutes to 1 hour 15 minutes.
- Paper 2 now has optionality:
- Students must answer ALL questions in Section A – Urban Issues and Challenges.
- Students will not need to answer questions in Section B – Changing Economic World (although this Section will still appear in the Paper).
- Students will need to answer questions in Section C – Resource Management.
- The total marks for Paper 2 have been reduced from 88 to 63 marks.
- Paper 3 has also been adapted, as students no longer have to write about their own fieldwork experiences.
- Instead, students will be asked questions on ‘unfamiliar fieldwork’ in Section B.
- Section A of Paper 3 (Issue Evaluation) remains unchanged, apart from the addition of 3 SPaG (Spelling, punctuation and grammar) marks to one of the 6 mark questions.
- The total marks for Paper 3 have been reduced from 76 to 56 marks.
- Paper 3 has been reduced in length from 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour.

HOW THE SCHOOL IS USING THIS INFORMATION

- Practice and mock exams will be adapted to reflect summer 2022 exams.
- Intervention sessions at lunch on Tuesdays and after school on Thursdays will focus on the topics for each paper.
- Teaching will continue to focus both on the essential subject knowledge but also the application of this knowledge on practice exam questions.
- A unit of Unfamiliar Fieldwork has been taught in February 2022 to prepare students for the changes to Paper 3.
- The lesson revision programme will be adapted to reflect the dropping of the Changing Economic World unit in Paper 2 and Unfamiliar Fieldwork in Paper 3.

- Students will be given access to sample Papers to get used to knowing which sections they need to answer in Paper 2.
- Easter and May half-term revision sessions will be focussed on specific topics for each paper.

WHAT STUDENTS SHOULD DO

- Ensure that they have collected their Paper 1 & 2 folders from their teacher prior to the Easter Holidays.
- Use the RAG checklists for each topic to identify areas of strength and weakness.
- Revise the areas identified as an area of weakness – but do not neglect revising topics that are a strength.
- Make use of the exam board revision guides you were given in Year 10.
- Watch GCSE Pod videos and www.timeforgeography.co.uk knowledge boosters and grade boosters to revise key content and listen to subject specialists talk you through exam questions.
- Attend the weekly lunch/after school Geography revision sessions. Teachers will be delivering specific topics focussed on the GCSE exam.
- Sign up to attend the Easter and Whitsun revision sessions.