

# GEO GRA PHY

**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:**



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





**Markschemes:**










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## 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
<b>Natural hazards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define a <b>natural hazard</b>.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize: Natural Hazards    Revision guide page 15			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State at least 3 examples of <b>tectonic</b> (caused by land and tectonics) hazards.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State 3 types of <b>climatic</b> (caused by weather and climate) hazards.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline two factors that affect <b>hazard risk</b>.</li> </ul>				
<b>Tectonic hazards</b> - Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are the result of physical processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draw and label the <b>structure of the earth</b>.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize: Plate margins and plate tectonics    Revision guide page 16 - 18			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name the two types of <b>earth's crust</b> and outline their differences.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain how <b>tectonic plates</b> move (ridge push and slab pull).</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the global distribution of <b>earthquakes</b> and <b>volcanoes</b>.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain how earthquakes form at <b>conservative</b> plate margins.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain how earthquakes and volcanoes form at <b>destructive</b> plate margins.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain how volcanoes form at <b>constructive</b> plate margins.</li> </ul>				

<b>Tectonic hazards</b> - The effects of, and responses to, a tectonic hazard vary between areas of contrasting wealth.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define a <b>primary and secondary effect</b> of an earthquake and give examples.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize: Earthquakes    BBC Bitesize: Volcanoes    Revision guide page 19 - 20			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define an <b>immediate and long-term response</b> of an earthquake and give examples.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Discuss the primary and secondary effects of the Chile earthquake 2010 (HIC).</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Discuss the primary and secondary effects of the Nepal earthquake 2015 (LIC).</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Discuss the immediate and long-term responses of the Chile earthquake 2010 (HIC).</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Discuss the immediate and long-term responses of the Nepal earthquake 2015 (LIC).</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Compare the effects and responses of the Chile and Nepal earthquakes.</i></li> </ul>				
<b>Tectonic hazards</b> - Management can reduce the effects of a tectonic hazard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain at least three reasons why people continue to live in areas at risk from earthquakes and volcanoes (tectonic hazards).</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize: Benefits of living by a volcano    BBC Bitesize: Prediction, protection and preparation    Revision guide page 21 - 22			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how monitoring reduces the risk from a tectonic hazard.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how prediction reduces the risk from a tectonic hazard.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how protection reduces the risk from a tectonic hazard.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how planning reduces the risk from a tectonic hazard.</li> </ul>				

<b>Skills focus</b> - Dispersion graphs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct and interpret a dispersion graph.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 23			
<b>Weather hazards</b> - Tropical storms (hurricanes, cyclones, typhoons) develop as a result of particular physical conditions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the global atmospheric circulation model.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:Global atmospheric circulation			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Locate the pressure belts and surface winds in the global atmospheric circulation model.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the global distribution of tropical storms.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:Features and development of tropical			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the relationship between a tropical storm and the global atmospheric circulation.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State the conditions required for a tropical storm to form.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize: Impact of climate change on tropical storms			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline the sequence of the formation of tropical storms and their development.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the structure and features of a tropical storm.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 24 - 27			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discuss how climate change might affect the distribution, frequency and intensity of tropical storms.</li> </ul>				
<b>Weather hazards</b> - Tropical storms have significant effects on people and the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define a primary and secondary effect of a tropical storm.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 28 - 29			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define an immediate and long-term response of a tropical storm.</li> </ul>				


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the primary and secondary effects of the Typhoon Haiyan 2014, Philippines.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the immediate and long-term responses of the Typhoon Haiyan 2014, Philippines.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how monitoring reduces the risk from a tropical storm.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how prediction reduces the risk from a tropical storm.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how protection reduces the risk from a tropical storm.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe how planning reduces the risk from a tropical storm.</li> </ul>				
<b>Weather hazards</b> - Extreme weather events in the UK have impact on human activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline the types of weather hazards experienced in the UK.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize: Extreme UK weather    Revision guide page 30 - 32			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the Somerset Levels flooding 2014 causes.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline the Somerset Levels flooding 2014 social, economic and environmental impacts.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evaluate the Somerset Levels flooding 2014 management strategies to reduce the risk.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline evidence that weather is becoming more extreme in the UK.</li> </ul>				


<b>Skills focus</b> - OS Maps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpret an OS map.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 33			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpret an aerial photograph.</li> </ul>				

<b>Climate change</b> - Climate change is the result of natural and human factors, and has a range of effects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline evidence for climate change from the beginning of the Quaternary period to today, including ice cores, glacial retreat and tree rings.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize: Climate change    Revision guide page 34 - 38			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline natural causes of climate change (orbital changes, volcanic activity and solar output).</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline human causes of climate change (use of fossil fuels, agriculture and deforestation).</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the effects of climate change on people and the environment (Tuvalu).</li> </ul>				
<b>Climate change</b> - Managing climate change involves both mitigation (reducing causes) and adaptation (responding to change)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can climate change be mitigated (mitigation - reducing causes)? Alternative energy production, carbon capture, planting trees, international agreements.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>				

<b>Skills focus</b> - Line graphs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construct and interpret a line graph.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 39			
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## Paper 1 Section B: The living world


<b>Ecosystems</b> - Ecosystems exist at a range of scales and involve the interaction between biotic and abiotic components.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define a food chain.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:Ecosystems    Revision guide page 41 - 43			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define a food web.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define nutrient cycling.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define producers, consumers and decomposers.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>State a range of producers, consumers and decomposers in a pond ecosystem.</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Describe the interrelationships between producers, consumers and decomposers in a pond ecosystem.</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline the impact on an ecosystem when one component changes.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the distribution of large scale natural global ecosystems (biomes).</li> </ul>				

<b>Tropical rainforests</b> - Tropical rainforest ecosystems have a range of distinctive characteristics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name the layers of a tropical rainforest.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:Tropical rainforests  			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline the characteristics of each layer.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline two examples of how plants have adapted to live in the tropical rainforest.</li> </ul>				




	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline two examples of how animals have adapted to live in the tropical rainforest.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 44 - 49			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define biodiversity.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain why tropical rainforests have high biodiversity.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline two factors that affect biodiversity in tropical rainforests.</li> </ul>				
<b>Tropical rainforests</b> - Deforestation has economic and environmental impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe how deforestation rates are changing globally.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><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></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Outline the impacts of deforestation in the Malaysia rainforest (economic development, soil erosion and contribution to climate change).</i></li> </ul>				
<b>Tropical rainforests</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tropical rainforests need to be managed to be sustainable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State three values of tropical rainforests to people.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State three values of tropical rainforests to the environment.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline the following strategies used to manage the rainforest sustainably; Selective logging / Conservation and education / Ecotourism / International agreements about tropical hardwoods / Debt reduction.</li> </ul>				


<b>Skills focus</b> - Bar graphs and pie charts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct and interpret a bar graph.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 50			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct and interpret a pie chart.</li> </ul>				


<b>Cold environments</b> - Cold environments (polar and tundra) have a range of distinctive characteristics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline the physical characteristics of cold environments (climate / soil / plants / animals).</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize: Cold environments    Revision guide page 57 - 62			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define <b>permafrost</b>.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the interdependence of climate, <b>permafrost</b>, soils, plants, animals and people.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline two examples of how plants have <b>adapted</b> to live in cold environments.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline two examples of how animals have <b>adapted</b> to live in cold environments.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define biodiversity.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain why cold environments have low biodiversity.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline two factors that affect biodiversity in cold environments.</li> </ul>				
<b>Cold environments</b> - Development of cold environments creates opportunities and challenges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Assess the development opportunities in Svalbard (mineral extraction, energy, fishing and tourism).</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Assess the challenges of developing cold environments (extreme temperature, inaccessibility, provision of buildings and infrastructure).</i></li> </ul>				



<b>Cold environments</b> - Cold environments are at risk from economic development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain the value of cold environments as <b>wilderness areas</b>.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain why fragile environments should be protected.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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).</li> </ul>				



### Paper 1 Section C: Physical landscapes in the UK

<b>UK physical landscapes</b> - The UK has a range of diverse landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the location of major upland and lowland areas in the UK.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:UK physical landscapes  Revision guide page 64			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the location of major river systems in the UK.</li> </ul>				

<b>Coastal landscapes in the UK</b> - The coast is shaped by a number of physical processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Name the two different wave types.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:Coastal processes  Revision guide page 65 - 67			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the characteristics of each type of wave.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain how weathering processes (mechanical and chemical) affect the coast.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain three types of mass movement at the coast (sliding, slumping and rock falls).</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define three types of erosion (hydraulic power, abrasion and attrition).</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain how longshore drift transport sediment along the coast.</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain why deposition occurs in coastal areas.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Coastal landscapes in the UK</b></p> <p>- Distinctive coastal landforms are the result of rock type, structure and physical processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain how geological structure and rock type influence coastal forms (hard and soft rock / concordant and discordant coastlines).</li> </ul>	<p>BBC Bitesize:Coastal landforms</p>  <p>Revision guide page 68 - 70</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the characteristics and formation of the following erosional landforms;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Headlands and bays</li> <li>Cliffs</li> <li>Wave cut platforms</li> <li>Caves, arches and stacks</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the characteristics and formation of the following depositional landforms;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beaches</li> <li>Sand dunes</li> <li>Spits and bars</li> </ul> </li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name the major erosional landforms found along the Dorset Coastline (Swanage and Studland).</li> </ul>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name the major depositional landforms found along the Dorset Coastline (Swanage and Studland).</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Coastal landscapes in the</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the costs and benefits of the following <b>hard engineering</b> coastal management strategies;</li> </ul>			

<b>UK</b> - Different management strategies can be used to protect the coastlines from the effects of physical processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sea walls, rock armour, gabions and groynes</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:Coastal management    Revision guide page 72 - 75			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe the costs and benefits of the following <b>soft engineering</b> coastal management strategies;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Beach nourishment and reprofiling, dune regeneration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe the costs and benefits of managed retreat (coastal realignment).</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Explain the reasons for coastal management in Lyme Regis.</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Describe the management strategy in Lyme Regis.</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Evaluate the effects of the management strategy at Lyme Regis, including conflicts.</i></li> </ul>				
<b>Skills focus</b> - OS Maps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interpret an OS map.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 71			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interpret an aerial photograph.</li> </ul>				
<b>River landscapes in the UK</b> - The shape of river valleys changes as rivers flow downstream	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe the <b>long profile</b> of a river.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:River processes    Revision guide page 76 - 77			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain how a <b>cross section</b> of a river changes from source to mouth.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Define the fluvial (river) processes of erosion (hydraulic power, abrasion, attrition, solution, vertical and lateral erosion).</li> </ul>				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define the fluvial (river) processes of transportation (traction, saltation, suspension and solution).</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define the fluvial (river) processes of deposition (why rivers drop sediment).</li> </ul>				
<b>River landscapes in the UK</b> - Distinctive fluvial result from different physical processes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the characteristics and formation of the following erosional landforms;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interlocking spurs</li> <li>Waterfalls</li> <li>Gorges</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:River landforms    Revision guide page 78 - 80			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the characteristics and formation of the following landforms resulting from erosion and deposition;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meanders and ox-bow lakes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explain the characteristics and formation of the following depositional landforms;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Levees</li> <li>Flood plains</li> <li>Estuaries</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Identify the major landforms of the River Tees.</i></li> </ul>				
<b>River landscapes in the UK</b> - Different management strategies can be used to protect river landscapes from the effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline how physical factors (precipitation, geology and relief) affect flood risk.</li> </ul>	BBC Bitesize:River management  			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline how human factors (land use) affect flood risk.</li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define a flood hydrograph.</li> </ul>				

of flooding.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Explain how hydrographs show the relationship between precipitation and discharge?</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 82 - 84			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe the costs and benefits of the following <b>hard engineering</b> river management strategies;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dams and reservoirs, straightening, embankments, flood relief channels</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Describe the costs and benefits of the following <b>soft engineering</b> river management strategies;               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Flood warnings and preparation, flood plain zoning, planting trees and river restoration</li> </ul> </li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Explain the reasons for river flood management on the River Parrot (Somerset Levels)</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Describe the management strategy on the River Parrot (Somerset Levels)</i></li> </ul>				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <i>Evaluate the social, economic and environmental issues associated with the flood defences in the Somerset Levels</i></li> </ul>				

<b>Skills focus</b> - OS Maps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interpret an OS map.</li> </ul>	Revision guide page 81			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interpret an aerial photograph.</li> </ul>				