



Maximising Attainment Information

Which topics are covered at Higher? Geography

Unit	Topics
Physical Environments	Atmosphere
	Biosphere
	Hydrosphere
	Lithosphere – Coasts / Glaciation
Human Environments	Population
	Rural
	Urban
Global Issues	Climate Change
	Development and Health
Application of Geographical Skills (mapwork)	
Assignment - Based on the practical fieldwork	

Are there important dates of which I should be aware?

December – Prelim

January- February – Assignment write-up (27% of final grade)

March – Final Assignment to QS for external marking

April-May – Final exam (73% of final grade)

How is the course assessed?

COMPONENT		DETAILS	LENGTH	MARKS	%
Final exam	Paper 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical Environments Human Environments 	1hr 50m	100	73
	Paper 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Global Issues Application of Geographical Skills 	1hr 10m	60	
Assignment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will have a notional period of 8 hours to complete the research stage, this will include a (pupil led) fieldwork trip to collect data Student will then write this up in class within 1 hr 30m. 	1hr 30m	30	27

What are the exam question command words?

Account for - give reasons which are often (but not exclusively) from a resource, for example: differences in development between contrasting developing countries.

Comment on the effectiveness – give information about the advantages and disadvantages of a project, or the impact of a change. This might not be a balanced argument, but you should give a range of advantages/disadvantages/impacts within your answer.

Describe – Provide relevant, factual points. If describing a graph say what you see and use numbers from the graph to back up your points.

Discuss – give information about the advantages and disadvantages of a project, or the impact of a change. This might not be a balanced argument, but you should give a range of advantages/disadvantages/impacts within your answer. [For the application of Geographical Skills question back up your points with **evidence** from the map/diagrams]

Explain – Say **why** something happens.

Evaluate - making a judgement of the success, failure, or impact of something. Give a brief description of the strategy or project being evaluated, before offering an evidenced conclusion.

Suggest/give reasons – Suggest **why** something happens.

Where do I find more information about the course?

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47446.html>

What resources can I use to support my learning?

Teams/OneNote – all lesson PowerPoints are available on Teams, and course notes will be posted in the *Content Library* on OneNote

Achieve - <https://achieve.hashtag-learning.co.uk/> - revision materials with past papers and mark schemes all arranged by topic (use code use VdfELiH)

BBC Bitesize -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/znbw2hv>

Quizlet - <https://quizlet.com/en-gb> (search for National 5 Geography) – electronic flash cards which useful for testing yourself

RSGS Chalk Talks - <https://www.rsgs.org/chalk-talks-higher>

Where can I find more information about the exam and assignment?

The SQA Understanding Standards provides exemplars and grades awarded.

<https://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/>

Where do I find the past papers?

You can find papers on the SQA website.

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm>

How do I ensure top marks?

- Regular revision of the different topics (interleaving)
- Check how many marks a question is worth
- Make sure you understand what the question is asking (pay close attention to the **command word**)
- Practice as many past paper questions as you can.