



Noadswood

# Year 11 GCSE Geography Information



# The Course



**Exam Board:** AQA

**Syllabus:** GCSE Geography (8035)

## Key Topic areas:

### Living with the Physical Environment:

- Challenge of Natural Hazards
- Physical Landscapes in the UK
- The Living World

### Managing the Human Environment:

- Urban Issues and Challenges
- Changing Economic World
- Challenge of Resource Management

### Geographical Applications:

- Issues Evaluation
- Fieldwork

Course teaching has been completed.

# Assessment Structure 2020:

There are 3 parts to the assessment at GCSE, all of which will be assessed in June 2021

**Paper 1** – Living with the Physical Environment (35%) – 1 hour 30

**Paper 2** – Managing the Human Environment (35%) – 1 hour 30

These papers remain the same as previous years in 2021 and have not been adjusted as a result of COVID.

**Paper 3** – Geographical Applications (30%)

- Reduced from 1 hour 15 minutes to 1 hour

- Removal of familiar fieldwork element

- Reduction of 20 marks from 76 to 56



# Upcoming Assessments

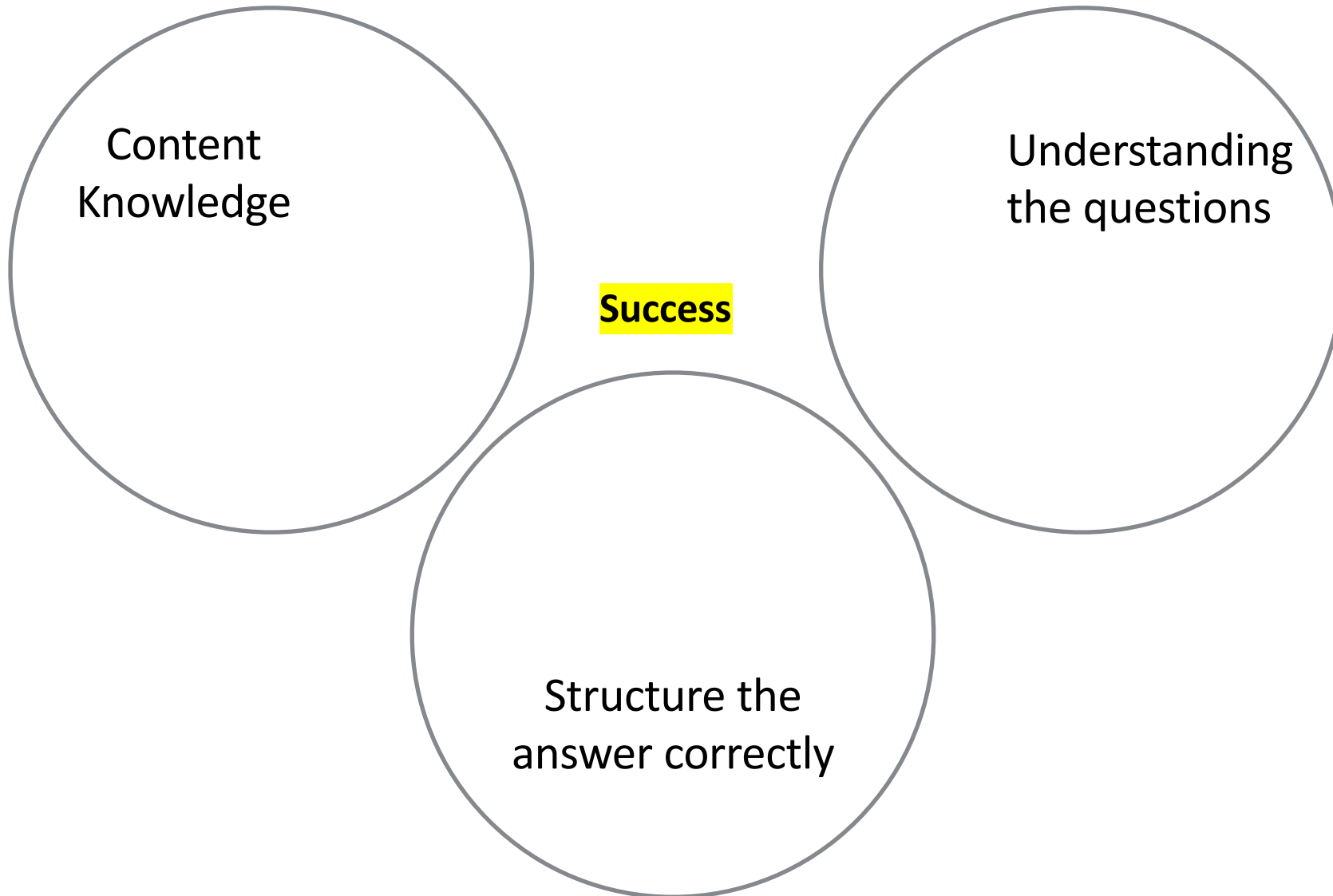
- Most recent topic, Urban Issues and Challenges will be assessed in the penultimate week of this term during lesson time.
- Mock exams will be in February
- Paper 1 is 5<sup>th</sup> February
- Paper 2 is 10<sup>th</sup> February
- Paper 3 will be delivered in class during in March as it requires preparation time.



# Tips for success

- Complete the revision tasks set for them.
- Use a range of different techniques for revision.
- Learn key vocabulary.
- Revision should be repetitive, revisiting it once is unlikely to be enough.
- High levels of effort.
- Focus revision on the parts that are most difficult first.
- Practice, practice, practice

# How to get through an exam paper



Content  
Knowledge

Understanding  
the questions

**Success**

Structure the  
answer correctly

# Revision Techniques

- Revision clocks
- Power hours
- Revision Cards
- Mind maps
- Mind Palaces
- Practice Questions
- Read, Cover, Repeat
- Key word tests
- Online quizzes
- [Brainscape](#) Cards
- GCSE Bitesize
- Checklist Questions

**Three common revision techniques that are least effective in helping you revise are:**

- Highlighting texts
- Re-reading texts
- Summarising texts

These methods may make you feel like you are revising, but there are better methods to help you retain the information. Follow the globe round to find out more.

**Flash cards**  
Simply create with questions on one side and answers on the other. You can colour code them for different topics and quiz yourself or others.

**How to use in geography:**

- Key words** Create for key words and terms
- Case studies/examples** Create for the causes, effects and responses of case studies and example events
- Formations and processes** Create for showing the stages of geographical formations and processes
- Evaluation** Create for giving the advantages and disadvantages of management techniques

**Transform it**  
Graphic organisers are a great way of transforming your notes/information into visual revision topics. They can be used to create links, show a narrative, identify the causes/consequences and importance of something.

**How to use in geography:**

- Concept mapping** At the end of the week map all you can remember about a topic and link areas together. Then use your notes to further add to your mind map.
- Case studies/examples** Create a venn diagram to compare two tectonic case studies.
- Processes** create a visual flow diagram to show the formation of geographical landforms.

**Dual coding**  
Dual coding is the method of putting your knowledge into visual form along side words.

1. Look at your notes and visuals, compare these to the words
2. Look at visuals and explain in your own words what they mean
3. Take information you are trying to learn and draw visuals to go with it

**How to use in geography:**  
create a comic strip to show the impacts of Haiti, 2010

**Interleaving**  
Rather than revising all your topics in one go (cramming) you should revise chunks of a topic for small amounts of time (15 minutes) and then move onto another chunk form a different topic.

**How to use in geography:**

- Practice exam from past topics** questions mixed in with more recent ones
- Knowledge organisers** Use these to create 'must know quizzes'
- Processes** 'Explain the formation of...'
- Spaced** Test on old and new
- Case studies/examples** To identify the main features of case studies and examples

**Retrieval practice**  
Testing what you know is a powerful tool in revision; the effort to remember something really strengthens your memory. Apps such as Memrise and Quizlet allow you to create your own or use quizzes based on topics. Create them, test yourself or get someone to test you!

**The Cornell method**  
This method is a great way to get you to 'think' about your revision.

**The big picture**  
The best way to aid your understanding of geography is to make sure you are confident with the big overview of each topic and the connections between topics.

**How to use in geography:**

- create a mind map to show the links between each topic
- write down everything you know about a topic before you revise it

**Deliberate practice**  
Set time aside to practice improving your knowledge or geographical skills. Choose what you need to do; it must be tough enough to challenge you and practice, practice, practice! You should focus on something you are almost able to do but not just yet!

**How to use in geography:**

- use a model answer from your teacher, put it apart and identify the key parts. Then answer a similar question and try to replicate
- study material, complete practice questions in timed conditions. Then use your notes to correct/improve your answer. A week later re-do a similar question. Repeat as necessary.

## Revision ⌚ POWER HOUR

Mark your answer  
Using the mark scheme for the past paper mark your answer. This will help you to think like an examiner

Revise  
Spend 20 minutes revising what you need to know to answer your chosen question

Do the question  
Set a timer for 20 minutes and answer the past paper question you chose

Get feedback  
Show your teacher your work. Ask them whether your marking is accurate and how you could improve your answers

Choose a past paper question  
Google your subject, level and exam board e.g. "Geography A-Level Past Papers AQA"

STEP 01

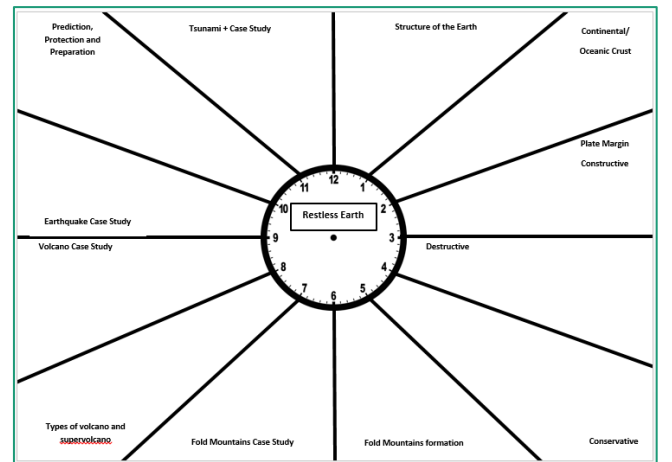
STEP 02

STEP 03

STEP 04

STEP 05

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## PIXL MY REVISION JOTTER

Notes / mindmap / brainstorm / question attempt / working out:

The big picture: sample exam questions

Key words in the question

How will I remember this?

I MUST NOT FORGET

WHAT NEXT?

My confidence rating

Keywords & concepts

What do I need to Answer?

Subject:

Unit:

Topic:

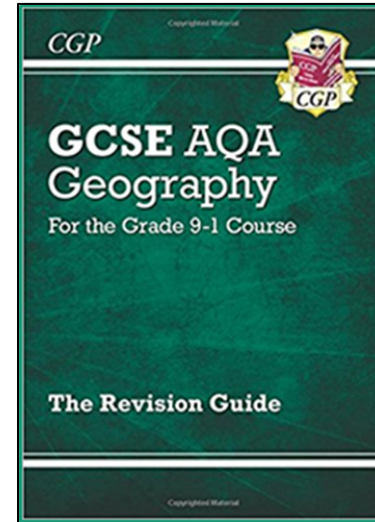
Based on an original idea by Chris Stamp and Reilly Phillips, 2010. (Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike license)



# Useful sources of information



- CGP revision guide
- BBC Bitesize
- Brainscape Flash Cards
- Knowledge Organisers for each topic (available on FROG)
- Seneca (online resource)
- Classwork notes



**What is an Ecosystem?**  
An ecosystem is a system in which organisms interact with each other and with their environment.

| Biome                      | Location   | Temperature   | Rainfall   | Flora   | Fauna  |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Tropical rainforest</b> | Centred along the Equator                                  | Hot all year (25-30°C)                              | Very high (over 2000mm/year)                               | Tall trees forming a canopy, wide variety of species                                      | Greater range of different animal species. Most live in canopy layer |
| <b>Tropical savannah</b>   | Between latitudes 5°-20° north & south of Equator          | Warm all year (20-30°C)                             | Wet + dry season (500-2000mm/year)                         | Grasslands with widely spaced trees   | Large hoofed herbivores and carnivores dominate                      |
| <b>Hot desert</b>          | Found along the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn            | Hot by day (over 30°C) Cold by night                | Very low (below 300mm/year)                                | Lack of plants and few species; adapted to drought  | Many animals are small and nocturnal; except for the camel.          |
| <b>Temperate forest</b>    | Between latitudes 40°-60° north of Equator                 | Warm summers + mild winters (5-20°C)                | Variable rainfall (500-2000mm/year)                        | Mainly deciduous trees; a variety of species  | Animals adapt to colder and warmer climates. Some regions            |
| <b>Tundra</b>              | Far latitudes of 60° north and south of Equator            | Cold winter + cool summers (below 10°C)             | Low rainfall (below 500mm/year)                            | Small plants grow close to the ground and only in summer                                  | Low number of species. Most animals found along coast.               |
| <b>Coastal marsh</b>       | Found within 30° north-south of Equator in tropical waters | Warm water all year round with temperatures of 28°C | Wet + dry seasons. Rainfall varies greatly due to location | Small range of plant life which includes algae and sea grasses that shallow reef approach | Dominated by pelagic and a diverse range of fish species.            |

**Unit 1b The Living World**

**Tropical Rainforest Biome**  
Tropical rainforests cover about 2 per cent of the Earth's surface yet they are home to over half of the world's plant and animals.

**Interspecific Interdependence in the Rainforest**  
A rainforest works through interspecific interdependence. This is where the plants and animals depend on each other for survival. If one component changes, there can be serious knock-on effects for the entire ecosystem.

**Distribution of Tropical Rainforests**  
Tropical rainforests are centred along the Equator between the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn. Rainforests can be found in South America, central Africa and South East Asia. The Amazon is the world's largest rainforest and takes up the majority of northern South America, encompassing countries such as Brazil and Peru.

**Layers of the Rainforest**

| Emergent                                     | Canopy  | Understorey  |
|--|---|--|
| Highest layer with trees reaching 50 metres. | Most life is found here as it receives 70% of the sunlight and 80% of the rain. | Consists of trees that reach 20 metres high.                           |
|  |   | Lowest layer with small trees that have adapted to being in the shade. |

**Biological nutrient cycle**  
The fast, dark conditions on the forest floor allow for the rapid decomposition of dead plant material. This provides plentiful nutrients that are readily absorbed by plant roots. However, as these nutrients are in high demand from the many fast-growing plants, they do not remain in the soil for long and they rise to the surface. If vegetation is removed, the soil quickly becomes infertile.

**Control of Tropical Rainforest**

- Evening temperatures rarely fall below 22°C
- Due to the presence of clouds, temperatures rarely rise above 32°C
- Most afternoons have heavy showers.
- At night with no clouds insulating, temperature drops.





# Parental Support

- Test pupil's on their key terms and command words.
- Encourage them to vary their revision techniques.
- Ask to see their revision, get them to tell you about what they've revised.
- Encourage them to make effective use of the time available for revision in school.
- Direct them to the dedicated revision FROG page.
- At this stage 1-2 hours revision a week, little and often is the key.
- Make sure they aren't working too hard, breaks and relaxation are important too.



# Extending knowledge

There are some excellent resources out there for pupils who wish to extend their knowledge further.

- GeoGessr – use geographical knowledge to identify places using Google street view images.
- GeoLounge – interesting physical and human geography articles and research
- Where is that? Geography Quiz – developing place knowledge
- Sustainable Human – You Tube channel
- Prisoners of Geography – book about how geography affects global politics.
- National Geographic



# Concerns or questions:

If you have any concerns or have any questions you can contact me via ePraise

The ePraise logo consists of a solid blue square with the word "epraise" centered inside in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font.

epraise



