

# AQA GCSE Geography

## Unit 1 Living with the physical environment

	G	A	R
<i>Section A - you must study the challenge of natural hazards</i>			
<b>Tectonic hazards</b>			
Describe and explain the distribution of earthquakes and volcanoes			
Explain the processes involved in plate movement; Constructive			
Explain the processes involved in plate movement; Destructive			
Explain the processes involved in plate movement; Conservative			
Assess and compare the impacts of an earthquake in two contrasting areas of the world (LIC/HIC)			
Assess and compare the responses to an earthquake in two contrasting areas of the world (LIC/HIC)			
Explain why people choose to live in tectonically active areas			
Examine how countries are reducing the risk of tectonic hazards via planning, predicting and preparing			
<b>Weather hazards</b>			
Describe and explain the global atmospheric circulation (temperate, desert and tropical climates)			
Describe the distribution of tropical storms			
Explain how tropical storms are formed			
Examine the structure of a tropical storm and their associated features			
Assess the causes and impacts of a named tropical storm			
Examine how countries are reducing the effects of tropical storms			
Know the different types of weather hazards in the UK			
Assess the causes and impacts of a named extreme weather event in the UK			
Explain why extreme weather is increasing in the UK			
<b>Climate change</b>			
Evaluate the evidence for climate change			
Explain the natural causes of climate change			
Explain the human causes of climate change			
Examine how the impacts of climate change can be managed via adaptation and mitigation			
<i>Section B - you must study the living world and either hot deserts OR cold environments</i>			
<b>The living world</b>			
<b>Ecosystems</b>			
Define what an ecosystem is and know their key components			
Explain changes to an ecosystem can have a knock-on effect on its features			
Describe and explain the distribution of global ecosystems			
<b>Tropical rainforests</b>			
Describe and explain the physical characteristics of tropical rainforests: Climate, soils and vegetation (and examine their interaction).			
Describe how plants and animals have adapted to living in the TRF			
Examine the causes of deforestation			
Evaluate the impacts deforestation with a named case study			
Know the importance of TRF and ways in which they can be managed effectively			
Explain how TRF can be managed sustainably with key examples			
<b>Option 1- Hot deserts</b>			
Describe and explain the global distribution of hot deserts			
Describe and explain the physical characteristics of hot deserts: Climate, soils and vegetation (and examine their interaction).			
Assess the opportunities for developments in hot deserts with a named example			
Evaluate the challenges faced when developing in a hot desert with a named example			
Describe and explain the causes of desertification			
Examine how countries are reducing the risk desertification			
<i>Section C - you must study two of the following options; Coastal landscapes in the UK, River landscapes in the UK and Glacial landscapes in the UK</i>			
<b>UK Physical landscapes</b>			
Explain the different relief across the UK			
Read a cross section of contour lines on an OS map			
<b>Coastal landscapes in the UK</b>			

Describe and explain the characteristics of both constructive and destructive waves			
Explain the different types of sub aerial processes (weathering and mass movement)			
Describe the different types of erosion and explain how a variety of associated landforms are created			
Describe how deposition and long shore drift create a number of different landforms			
Know a named case study and explain how different processes and factors have influenced the coast			
Study a coastal area using an OS map and pick out features using the key			
Asses how coasts can be managed using hard engineering techniques			
Asses how coasts can be managed using soft engineering techniques			
Explain the effectiveness of a managed retreat			
Evaluate the management of a named coastline			
<b>River landscapes in the UK</b>			
Recognise the difference in long and cross river profile and how the river changes downstream			
Describe and explain the different processes of erosion, transportation and deposition			
Describe and explain the formation of key erosional features (waterfall and gorges)			
Describe and explain the formation of key middle course features (meanders and ox bow lakes)			
Examine the changes of a named river from source to mouth			
Explain the causes of flooding			
Analyse the difference in storm hydrographs and lag times (urban and rural)			
Asses how rivers can be managed using hard engineering techniques			
Asses how rivers can be managed using soft engineering techniques			
Assess how a named area has been impacted by flooding and the solutions put in place to limit the risk			

## Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment

	G	A	R
<b>Section A: Urban issues and challenges</b>			
<i>A growing percentage of the world's population lives in urban areas.</i>			
Describe and explain the global pattern of urban change.			
Describe urban trends in different parts of the world comparing HICs and LICs.			
Describe and explain factors affecting the rate of urbanisation – migration (push–pull theory), natural increase.			
Describe the emergence of megacities.			
<i>Urban growth creates opportunities and challenges for cities in LICs and NEEs.</i>			
Describe, explain and assess a case study of a major city in an LIC or NEE to illustrate:			
Describe the location and explain the importance of the city, regionally, nationally and internationally			
Describe and explain the causes of growth: natural increase and migration			
Explain how urban growth has created opportunities:			
• social: access to services – health and education; access to resources – water supply, energy			
• economic: how urban industrial areas can be a stimulus for economic development			
Explain how urban growth has created challenges:			
• managing urban growth – slums, squatter settlements			
• providing clean water, sanitation systems and energy			
• providing access to services such as health and education			
• reducing unemployment and crime			
• managing environmental issues – waste disposal, air and water pollution, traffic congestion.			
Using an example describe and explain how urban planning is improving the quality of life for the urban poor.			
<i>Urban change in cities in the UK leads to a variety of social, economic and environmental opportunities and challenges.</i>			
Describe the distribution of population and the major cities in the UK.			
Use a case study of a major city in the UK to describe and explain:			
• the location and importance of the city in the UK and the wider world			
• the impacts of national and international migration on the growth and character of the city			
• how urban change has created			
• social and economic: cultural mix, recreation and entertainment, employment, integrated transport systems			
• environmental: urban greening			
Describe and explain and assess how urban change has created challenges:			

• social and economic: urban deprivation, inequalities in housing, education, health and employment			
• environmental: dereliction, building on brownfield and greenfield sites, waste disposal			
• the impact of urban sprawl on the rural–urban fringe, and the growth of commuter settlements.			
Using an example of an urban regeneration project to describe, explain and assess:			
• the reasons why the area needed regeneration			
• the main features of the project.			
<i>Urban sustainability requires management of resources and transport.</i>			
Describe, explain and assess the features of sustainable urban living of:			
• water and energy conservation			
• waste recycling			
• creating green space.			
Describe and explain how urban transport strategies are used to reduce traffic congestion.			
<b>Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment</b>			
<b>Section B: The changing economic world</b>			
<i>There are global variations in economic development and quality of life.</i>			
Explain that there are different ways of classifying parts of the world according to their level of economic development and quality of life.			
Describe and explain the different economic and social measures of development: gross national income (GNI) per head, birth and death rates, infant mortality, life expectancy, people per doctor, literacy rates, access to safe water, Human Development Index (HDI).			
Explain the limitations of economic and social measures.			
Describe and explain the links between stages of the Demographic Transition Model and the level of development.			
Describe and explain the causes of uneven development: physical, economic and historical.			
Describe the consequences of uneven development: disparities in wealth and health, international migration.			
<i>Various strategies exist for reducing the global development gap.</i>			
Outline the strategies used to reduce the development gap: investment, industrial development and tourism, aid, using intermediate technology, Fairtrade, debt relief, microfinance loans.			
Using an example describe and explain how the growth of tourism in an LIC or NEE helps to reduce the development gap.			
<i>Some LICs and NEEs are experiencing rapid economic development which leads to significant social, environmental and cultural change.</i>			
Using a case study of a LIC or NEE to:			
• explain the location and importance of the country, regionally and globally			
• describe and explain the wider political, social, cultural and environmental context within which the country is placed			
• outline explain the changing industrial structure of the country, the balance between different sectors of the economy and how manufacturing industry can stimulate economic development.			
• outline the role of transnational corporations (TNCs) in relation to industrial development. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of TNC(s) to the host country			
• describe the changing political and trading relationships with the wider world			
• describe international aid and the types of aid and explain the impacts of aid on the receiving country			
• describe the environmental impacts of economic development			
• describe the effects of economic development on quality of life for the population.			
<i>Major changes in the economy of the UK have affected, and will continue to affect, employment patterns and regional growth.</i>			
Economic futures in the UK:			
• describe and explain the causes of economic change: de-industrialisation and decline of traditional industrial base, globalisation and government policies			
• describe and explain reasons for moving towards a post-industrial economy: development of information technology, service industries, finance, research, science and business parks			
• describe the impacts of industry on the physical environment. Using an example explain how modern industrial development can be more environmentally sustainable			
• describe and explain the social and economic changes in the rural landscape in one area of population growth and one area of population decline			
• describe and explain the improvements and new developments in road and rail infrastructure, port and airport capacity			
• explain the north–south divide. Outline strategies used in an attempt to resolve regional differences			

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe the place of the UK in the wider world. Describe and explain the links through trade, culture, transport, and electronic communication and the economic and political links looking specifically at the European Union (EU) and Commonwealth.</li> </ul>			
<b>Paper 2: Challenges in the human environment</b>			
<b>Section C: The challenge of resource management (Compulsory content)</b>			
<i>Food, water and energy are fundamental to human development.</i>			
Describe and explain the significance of food, water and energy to economic and social well-being.			
Outline the global inequalities in the supply and consumption of resources.			
<i>The changing demand and provision of resources in the UK create opportunities and challenges.</i>			
Out line the resources in relation to the UK.			
Food:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe and explain the growing demand for high-value food exports from low income countries and all-year demand for seasonal food and organic produce</li> <li>Explain the reasons for larger carbon footprints due to the increasing number of ‘food miles’ travelled, and moves towards local sourcing of food</li> <li>Describe and explain the trend towards agribusiness.</li> </ul>			
Water:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe and explain the changing demand for water</li> <li>Describe and explain water quality and pollution management</li> <li>Describe and explain matching supply and demand – areas of deficit and surplus</li> <li>Explain the need for transfer to maintain supplies.</li> </ul>			
Energy:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Describe and explain the changing energy mix – reliance on fossil fuels, growing significance of renewables</li> <li>Describe and explain the reduced domestic supplies of coal, gas and oil</li> <li>Describe, explain and assess the economic and environmental issues associated with exploitation of energy sources.</li> </ul>			
<b>Section C: The challenge of resource management (Options content)</b>			
<b>Water</b>			
<i>Key Idea - Demand for water resources is rising globally but supply can be insecure, which may lead to conflict.</i>			
Describe and explain areas of surplus (security) and deficit (insecurity):			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>describe and explain global patterns of water surplus and deficit</li> <li>describe an explain reasons for increasing water consumption: economic development, rising population</li> <li>describe and explain factors affecting water availability: climate, geology, pollution of supply, over-abstraction, limited infrastructure, poverty.</li> </ul>			
Describe, explain and assess the impacts of water insecurity – waterborne disease and water pollution, food production, industrial output, potential for conflict where demand exceeds supply.			
<i>Key Idea - Different strategies can be used to increase water supply.</i>			
Outline the strategies used to increase water supply:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>diverting supplies and increasing storage, dams and reservoirs, water transfers and desalination</li> <li>use an example of a large scale water transfer scheme to show how its development has both advantages and disadvantages.</li> </ul>			
Explain and discuss the moving towards a sustainable resource future using:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>water conservation, groundwater management, recycling, ‘grey’ water</li> <li>use an example of a local scheme in an LIC or NEE to describe and explain how to increase sustainable supplies of water.</li> </ul>			