

GCSE Geography Component 2 – Problem Solving Geography

Decision Making Exercise

This paper takes the form of a decision making exercise, and lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes. You will be presented with a scenario and a problem / issue that needs solving. You will have a booklet of resources which will help you to become familiar with the scenario – this will most likely be about a place you have never studied or heard of, but you must apply your geographical knowledge to this place.

The paper is divided into Parts A, B and C. Parts A and B will question you about the resources, enabling you to become familiar with the situation. Part C is a report writing exercise which is worth 12 marks. There is an additional 4 marks available in this section for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. You are normally advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section of the exam.

Follow the outline below to see what you must include in your answer for Part C.

- **Read the paper really carefully to see what criteria your plan needs to meet.** Make a decision, and **state clearly at the start of your extended writing what it is you have chosen to do.** Make sure to take note of the criteria that your plan needs to meet, i.e. does your plan have to be affordable? Does it have to involve the actions of individuals and authorities? Does it need to work in the short term and / or long term?
- Explain why you have chosen the option or options you decided on. Make sure to justify the reasons why you have chosen the things you did. You can refer to Social, Economic and Environmental advantages of your choice. You may also refer to any Social, Economic and Environmental disadvantages of your choice - it is not a problem to note disadvantages of your chosen option(s), this is actually a good thing as it shows that you understand that options aren't always perfect.
- You may also explain why you discarded the options that you haven't chosen, i.e. why are your choice better than the other choices that were available?
- Make sure to refer to the sustainability of your choice i.e. how it will work into the short and long term, longevity, cost effectiveness, environmental impacts etc.

It is a good idea to try and write your answer as an integrated and comparative piece of work, rather than explaining why your chosen option is best, and following on with separate sections on why the options you discarded are not so good. Be explicit in your choice of words, **directly referring to Social, Economic and Environmental advantages and disadvantages, and sustainability.**

Remember: What can the examiner SEE? Social, Economic, Environmental.



Component 3: Applied Fieldwork Enquiry

This paper focuses on the fieldwork that you carried out, and geographical skills, and lasts for 1 hour 30 minutes. The paper is divided into Parts A, B and C. Parts A and B will question you about your fieldwork; for the 2019 exams Part A is on Measuring Flows, and Part B is Mitigating Risk. You will need to revise the fieldwork you did about these hypotheses:

- **House prices are higher in safer neighbourhoods**
- **Visitor impacts at the Blue Lagoon decrease with distance from the carpark.**

Part C is about The Wider UK, and includes a mini decision making exercise which is worth 12 marks. There is an additional 4 marks available in this section for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar.

Year 11 Revision Tips:

Making Revision Materials

- Make revision materials for each unit – spider diagram, mind map, flash cards, poster, post it notes, lists.
- Using colour and pictures helps you to remember better. Read through notes regularly.
- Do 30-45 mins revision at a time, properly concentrating – no phones, laptops, ipads, TV etc. Get someone to test you. Explaining things to other people helps you to remember.

Where to Find Information

- Exercise books, revision guides from Eduqas (My Revision notes, approx. £9.99 on Amazon), textbooks .
- Moodle has lesson plans and PowerPoints.
- Each Geography classroom has a ‘working wall.’ The folders on these contain details on sustainability (definition and analysis), exam technique cards and sample questions. You can borrow these at any time – or take a photo of them – just let your teacher know.
- Only use the internet if you can’t find the information in your exercise book, textbook or revision guide.
- Our core textbooks are usually available to purchase from Amazon, at around £23.99. They are relatively new, and therefore second hand ones are not typically available at this time. WJEC Eduqas GCSE (9–1) Geography B, by Alan Brown, Bob Digby, Val Davis, Andy Leeder.
- Use the exam board website – Eduqas. In the Geography GCSE section you will find sample exam papers and mark schemes. <http://www.eduqas.co.uk/qualifications/geography/gcse-b/>

