

At a glance comparison of the  
**Eduqas GCSE (9-1) Geography A**  
and **Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography**  
specifications

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# At a glance comparison of the **Eduqas A** and **Edexcel** specifications

<b>Eduqas A</b>	<b>Edexcel A</b>	<b>Edexcel B</b>
<p><b>Paper 1: Changing physical and human landscapes</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landscapes and physical processes</li> <li>• Rural-urban links</li> <li>• Tectonic landscapes and hazards</li> <li>• Coastal hazards and their management</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 1: The physical environment</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The changing landscapes of the UK</li> <li>• Weather hazards and climate change</li> <li>• Ecosystems, biodiversity and management</li> <li>• Integrated skills</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 1: Global geographical issues</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hazardous Earth</li> <li>• Development dynamics</li> <li>• Challenges of an urbanising world</li> <li>• Integrated skills</li> </ul>
<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour and 30 minutes 84 marks 35% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour 30 minutes 94 marks 37.5% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour 30 minutes 94 marks 37.5% of GCSE</p>
<p><b>Paper 2: Environmental and developmental issues</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weather, climate and ecosystems</li> <li>• Development and resource issues</li> <li>• Social development issues</li> <li>• Environmental challenges</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 2: The human environment</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changing cities</li> <li>• Global development</li> <li>• Resource management</li> <li>• Integrated skills</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 2: UK geographical issues</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UK's evolving physical landscape</li> <li>• UK's evolving human landscape</li> <li>• Integrated skills</li> <li>• Geographical investigations – fieldwork</li> </ul>
<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour and 30 minutes 84 marks 35% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour and 30 minutes 94 marks 37.5% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour and 30 minutes 94 marks 37.5% of GCSE</p>
<p><b>Paper 3: Applied fieldwork enquiry</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approaches to fieldwork methodology</li> <li>• Fieldwork enquiry</li> <li>• Making a decision (UK context)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 3: Geographical investigations</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geographical investigations – physical fieldwork</li> <li>• Geographical investigations – human fieldwork</li> <li>• UK challenges</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 3: Decision making exercise</b></p> <p><b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People and the biosphere</li> <li>• Forests under threat</li> <li>• Consuming energy resources</li> <li>• Integrated skills</li> </ul>
<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour 30 mins 72 marks 30% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour and 30 minutes 64 marks 25% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b></p> <p>1 hour and 30 minutes 64 marks 25% of GCSE</p>

## Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography A

### Key similarities

- A lot of the content is similar, for example; UK landscapes, coasts, rivers, urban and rural geography, climate change, ecosystems, water, and development.
- Case studies in a similar context: a major UK city, a major city in a developing or an emerging country and development in a developing or emerging country.
- Two fieldwork enquiries to be carried out in contrasting environments.
- Fieldwork will be assessed in Paper 3.
- Fieldwork will be assessed on the student's own experience of fieldwork and applied questions on an unfamiliar context.
- A synoptic element in Paper 3, in the Edexcel specification the UK challenges question will always be based on one of four prescribed people-environment challenges we face in the UK, whereas in the Eduqas specification the decision making question in Paper 3 can be based on any of the topics in Papers 1 and 2.
- Geographical skills that are integrated into all aspects of the subject

## Edexcel GCSE (9-1) Geography B

### Key similarities

- A lot of the content is similar, for example; tectonic hazards, weather hazards, climate change, ecosystems, rainforests, coasts, and rivers.
- Two fieldwork enquiries to be carried out in contrasting environments of both human and physical geography.
- Fieldwork will be assessed on the student's own experience of fieldwork and applied questions on an unfamiliar context.
- A synoptic element in Paper 3, in the Edexcel specification the DME will always be based on an energy issue in either the Tropical Rainforest or the Taiga, whereas in the Eduqas specification the decision making question in Paper 3 can be based on any of the topics in Papers 1 and 2.
- Geographical skills that are integrated into all aspects of the subject.
- Case studies in a similar context: a major UK city, a megacity in a developing or emerging country and development in an emerging country.

## Key benefits of the Edexcel specifications

- Two distinct specifications with familiar approaches.
- Clear specifications with signposted integrated skills, case studies and located examples.
- Specified fieldwork that will stay the same for the lifetime of the qualifications, so you can be confident students are meeting the fieldwork requirements.
- Command words that are used consistently to assess particular skills, making it clear the type of response that is required.
- Command word definitions that will stay the same for the lifetime of the qualifications and, together with question styles, will enable students to focus on 'thinking geographically'.
- More [support](#) than ever before including detailed schemes of work and topic booklets for every topic, additional specimen papers, examiner marked student exemplars and much more.
- Expert support every step of the way from our Geography Subject Advisor, Jon Wolton. [Sign up](#) now to receive Jon's subject updates.

