

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

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

Eduqas B	Edexcel A	Edexcel B
<p><b>Paper 1: Investigating geographical issues</b>  <b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changing places – changing economies</li> <li>• Changing environments</li> <li>• Environmental challenges</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 1: The physical environment</b>  <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>  <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>            1 hour and 45 minutes            96 marks            40% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b>            1 hour 30 minutes            94 marks            37.5% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b>            1 hour 30 minutes            94 marks            37.5% of GCSE</p>
<p><b>Paper 2: Problem solving geography</b>  <b>Content</b></p> <p>A decision making exercise (DME) style paper that can draw on any of the of topics assessed in Paper 1</p>	<p><b>Paper 2: The human environment</b>  <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>  <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>            1 hour and 30 minutes            72 marks            30% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b>            1 hour and 30 minutes            94 marks            37.5% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b>            1 hour and 30 minutes            94 marks            37.5% of GCSE</p>
<p><b>Paper 3: Applied fieldwork enquiry</b>  <b>Content</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fieldwork methodology, representation and analysis</li> <li>• Fieldwork to investigate geography's conceptual frameworks</li> </ul>	<p><b>Paper 3: Geographical investigations</b>  <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>  <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>            1 hour and 30 minutes            72 marks            30% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b>            1 hour and 30 minutes            64 marks            25% of GCSE</p>	<p><b>Assessment overview</b>            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; urbanisation, coasts, rivers, climate change, ecosystems, and water.
- 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.
- 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.
- Two fieldwork enquiries to be carried out in contrasting environments.
- A synoptic issue evaluation element, the UK challenges question in the Edexcel specification will be based on one of four prescribed people-environment challenges we face in the UK, whereas the Paper 2 problem solving paper can be based on any of the topics assessed in Paper 1.
- 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, coasts, and rivers.
- Fieldwork will be assessed on the student's own experience of fieldwork and applied questions on an unfamiliar context.
- Two fieldwork enquiries to be carried out in contrasting environments of both human and physical geography.
- A decision making element based on a global issue, in the Edexcel specification the DME will always be based on an energy issue in either the Tropical Rainforest or the Taiga, whereas the Paper 2 problem solving paper in the Eduqas specification can be based on any of the topics assessed in Paper 1.
- 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.

