

GCSE Geography Performance Profile

| Grade | Descriptors |
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| 9 | To achieve grade 9, students' evidence will show that they have securely met all the statements within the grade 8 descriptor, with stronger performance in most or all aspects of the grade 8 statements. |
| 8 | To achieve grade 8, candidates will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate relevant and comprehensive knowledge, understanding and application of geographical information and issues. • Demonstrate perceptive understanding of complex interactions and interrelationships between people and the environment and between geographical phenomena. • Construct sustained and convincing arguments to draw well-evidenced conclusions. • Use and evaluate a wide range of geographical skills and techniques effectively. |
| 7 | To achieve grade 7, students' evidence will show that they have securely met all the statements within the grade 6 descriptor, with stronger performance in most or all aspects of the grade 6 statements. However, their evidence does not meet the minimum requirements of most of the grade 8 statements. |
| 6 | To achieve grade 6, candidates will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate relevant and broad knowledge, understanding and application of geographical information and issues. • Demonstrate strong understanding of some complex interactions and interrelationships between people and the environment and between geographical phenomena. • Construct convincing arguments with occasional complexities to reach reasoned judgements with some substantiation. • Use a range of geographical skills and techniques effectively with some evaluation. |
| 5 | To achieve grade 5, candidates will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate mostly accurate and appropriate knowledge, understanding and application of geographical information and issues. • Demonstrate clear understanding of interactions and interrelationships between people and the environment and between geographical phenomena. • Construct coherent arguments to draw conclusions supported by evidence. • Use a range of geographical skills and techniques accurately, showing understanding of their purpose. |
| 4 | To achieve grade 4, candidates will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate some accurate and appropriate knowledge, understanding and application of geographical information and issues. • Demonstrate some understanding of interactions and interrelationships between people and the environment and between geographical phenomena. • Construct some coherent arguments to draw conclusions supported by evidence. • Use a basic range of geographical skills and techniques with some accuracy, showing some understanding of their purpose. |
| 3 | Characteristics that differentiate a grade 3 from a grade 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate geographical knowledge and understanding with more gaps and inaccuracies; language is generally basic, but some geographical terms are used. • Offer some understanding of interactions and relationships between people and the environmental, and this will vary in depth. • Construct simple conclusions, with some brief evidential support. • Use a basic range of geographical skills and techniques with some accuracy and limited understanding of their purpose. |
| 2 | To achieve grade 2, candidates will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate limited knowledge, understanding and application of geographical information and issues. • Demonstrate basic understanding of aspects of interactions and interrelationships between people and the environment and between geographical phenomena. • Make straightforward comments with some reference to evidence. • Use some basic geographical skills and techniques with limited accuracy. |

To achieve a grade 1, students' evidence will show that they have demonstrated engagement with sufficient content, achieved some credit across elements of the specification content and achieved credit in some assessment objectives. Where the evidence for a student does not support this, the student should be graded unclassified (U).