



OPTIONS 2026 - Geography



GCSE Geography

- What is GCSE Geography about?
- Where will we go?
- Why is GCSE Geography important?
- What can I do with GCSE Geography?

What is GCSE Geography about?

Course Summary

3 written exams – 1 hour 30 minutes and require the use of a calculator

- **Paper 1:** Global Geographical Issues
- **Paper 2:** UK Geographical Issues
- **Paper 3:** People and Environment Issues

Paper 1: Global Geographical Issues

- **Topic 1:** Hazardous Earth
- **Topic 2:** Development dynamics
- **Topic 3:** Challenges of an Urbanising world



Paper 2: UK Geographical Issues

- **Topic 4:** The UK's evolving physical landscape
- **Topic 5:** The UK's evolving human landscape
- **Topic 6:** Geographical investigations (fieldwork)

The largest migrant populations in each borough of London



Paper 3: People and Environment Issues

- **Topic 7:** People and the biosphere
- **Topic 8:** Forests under threat
- **Topic 9:** Consuming energy resources



What skills/qualities are required 50% of the paper!

- Critical thinking and problem solving
- Numeracy skills through collection, analysis and interpretation of geographical data
- Ability to interpret spatial patterns such as those shown on maps and graphs
- An enquiring mind – to question the world around you and seek valid answers



Where will we go?
Kings Cross and The River Wye

Why is GCSE Geography important?



Geography in the news



Volcano in Iceland erupts for fourth time in three months

China records population decline for second straight year

Lagos: The megacity set to triple by 2050

Hurricane season set to be one of the most active on record

Amazon rainforest: Deforestation rate halved in 2023

European court rules human rights violated by climate inaction

Hurricane Melissa devastates Jamaica November 2025



Geographers like to **ask questions** and **find solutions**....

We ask:

- what happened?
- Why?
- how can humans respond?
- how can we prepare better in the future?
- how can we make our world a fairer and better place for everyone?

What can I do with GCSE Geography?

- 1. Environmental Scientist:** Conducting research to address environmental issues, such as climate change, pollution, and conservation.
- 2. Climate Change Analyst:** Analyzing data to understand climate patterns and trends, and developing strategies to address climate change impacts.
- 3. Urban Planner:** Designing and planning cities to ensure efficient land use, infrastructure, and sustainability.
- 4. GIS Specialist (Geographic Information Systems):** Using technology to analyze and interpret geographical data, creating maps and visualizations for various purposes.
- 5. Marine Biologist:** Studying marine ecosystems, biodiversity, and conservation to protect and preserve ocean environments.
- 6. Travel Blogger/Writer:** Exploring and documenting travel experiences, providing insights into different cultures, landscapes, and geographical locations.
- 7. Disaster Relief Coordinator:** Working with organizations to plan and coordinate responses to natural disasters and humanitarian crises.
- 8. Cartographer:** Creating maps and visual representations of geographical data, combining artistic and technical skills.
- 9. Geospatial Analyst:** Utilizing geospatial technology to analyze data for industries such as agriculture, forestry, or environmental monitoring.
- 10. Renewable Energy Consultant:** Advising on the development and implementation of sustainable energy solutions, such as wind, solar, or hydroelectric power.

What can I do with GCSE Geography?

Dr. Kathryn Sullivan

- Geologist, Oceanographer, Nasa astronaut & US Navy Officer
- First American woman to walk in space
- First woman to dive to lowest point on Earth

"My way of thinking about it never crystallised into: I want that job, I want that title or that label. But what I knew really clearly was what I wanted my life to be like, **I wanted it to have that mixture of inquiry and adventure and competency**".





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