



# Geography

**GCSE 2012**

## **Geography B**

Teachers' Handbook

J385

Version 1  
September 2012

This handbook is designed to accompany the OCR GCSE Geography B specification for teaching from September 2012.

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# INTRODUCTION

OCR is offering new GCSEs for first teaching in September 2009.

We have improved the quality of our GCSEs for teachers and students alike. We've made improvements in two key areas: updated and relevant content and a focus on developing students' personal, learning and thinking skills.

In addition and in response to reforms announced by the Government and in response to Ofqual mandated changes to GCSEs, unitised assessment of this qualification is being replaced by linear assessment from September 2012. This means that candidates commencing a two year course from September 2012 will take all of their GCSE units at the end of the course in June 2014.

The main changes are:

- Controlled assessment has changed from two tasks to one with amended marking criteria
- Style of assessment and examination length. Please see the 2012 specification for further details.

Examinations provide opportunity for extended writing and more varied question types.

All GCSEs will meet the requirements of the Equality Act. OCR offers a range of support materials, developed following extensive research and consultation with teachers. We've designed them to save you time when preparing for the specification and to support you while teaching them.

It is important to make the point that this Teacher Handbook plays a secondary role to the specification itself. The GCSE Geography B specification is the document on which assessment is based: it specifies what content and skills need to be covered. At all times therefore, the Teacher Handbook should be read in conjunction with the Specification. If clarification on a particular point is sought, then that clarification must be found in the Specification itself.

# RESOURCES

## HEINEMANN: OCR GCSE GEOGRAPHY B: STUDENT BOOK WITH ACTIVE BOOK CD-ROM

ISBN: 9780435353704 (available April 2009 onwards)

- Endorsed by OCR for use with the 2009 OCR GCSE Geography B specification
- A Decision Making activity to enable students to develop their decision-making skills
- Case studies and topical content
- Free Active Book CD-ROM to supplement the resources in the text book
- ActiveTeach platform hosts digital versions of the Student Book, planning tools, interactive activities and simulations to engage your students whilst saving you valuable planning time
- Innovative interactive globe contextualises case studies and helps students understand where places are and how they relate to one another.

## USEFUL WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<http://geographical.ning.com/>  
(teacher set-up network forum)

<http://ocrbgeog.ning.com/>  
(teacher set-up network forum)

<http://social.ocr.org.uk/groups/geography>  
(OCR community network)

### THEME 1 RIVERS AND COASTS

<http://www.geographyalltheway.com>

<http://www.defra.gov.uk>

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk>

<http://www.usgs.gov>

Boardworks Interactive Resources:  
<http://www.boardworks.co.uk/>

Google Earth:  
<http://www.google.co.uk/earth/>

BBC Bitesize

### THEME 2 POPULATION AND SETTLEMENT

<http://www.gatm.org.uk/geographyatthemovies/population.html>

<http://www.geographyalltheway.com>

[http://prb.org/pdf08/08WPDS\\_Eng.pdf](http://prb.org/pdf08/08WPDS_Eng.pdf)

<http://www.geographyfieldwork.com/PopulationStructure.htm>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/scotland/education/geog/population/pyramid.shtml>

<http://www.geointeractive.co.uk>

<http://www.gatm.org.uk/geographyatthemovies/settlement.html>

Boardworks Interactive Resources:  
<http://www.boardworks.co.uk/>

Pumpkin Resources:  
<http://www.channelle.co.uk/Pumpkin/geography/geography.html>

Slumdog Millionaire, Vikas Swarup, published by Black Swan  
ISBN-10 0552775355

### THEME 3 NATURAL HAZARDS

<http://www.intute.ac.uk/sciences/hazards/>

<http://www.nerc.ac.uk/research/issues/naturalhazards/>

<http://www.gatm.org.uk/>

<http://www.earth.columbia.edu/news/2005/story03-29-05.html>

<http://www.bennett.karoo.net/topics/environment.html>

<http://www.geography-site.co.uk/pages/physical.html>

<http://tsunami.geo.ed.ac.uk/local-bin/quakes/maps/script/home.pl>

<http://www.georesources.co.uk/indexgcse.htm>

<http://www.seismo.unr.edu/>

<http://quake.wr.usgs.gov/>

**THEME 3 NATURAL HAZARDS (continued...)**

<http://www.learner.org/interactives/volcanoes/entry.html>

<http://www.teachable.net/geography/ks4/landscapes-processes-and-natural-hazards>

<http://www.channel4learning.com/support/programmenotes/geog/nathazards01.htm>

<http://www.wateraid.org/uk/>

<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/tropicalcyclone/index.html>

<http://www.scidev.net/en/agriculture-and-environment/tropical-cyclones-1/>

<http://www.tulane.edu/~sanelson/geol204/exceptweath2.htm>

[http://www.gisdevelopment.net/application/natural\\_hazards/overview/ma06\\_158.htm](http://www.gisdevelopment.net/application/natural_hazards/overview/ma06_158.htm)

<http://www.earthwire.org/africa/default.aspx?t=200342&tn=Drought>

<http://www.careclimatechange.org/>

<http://www.usaid.gov/>

<http://www.scidev.net/en/agriculture-and-environment/tropical-cyclones-1/>

<http://www.ifrc.org/what/disasters/about/types/index.asp>

<http://www.unep.org/>

World Outline Maps

**THEME 4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

<http://www.geographyalltheway.com>

<http://www.gapminder.org>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/index.html>

<http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/>

<http://www.christianaid.org.uk/emergencies/current/index.aspx>

<http://www.wateraid.org.uk>

<http://www.foodaid.org.uk>

<http://geographyatthemovies.co.uk/Industry.html>

<http://geographyatthemovies.co.uk/Environment.html>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/6538219.stm>

[http://visearth.ucsd.edu/VisE\\_Int/aralsea/aral\\_map.html](http://visearth.ucsd.edu/VisE_Int/aralsea/aral_map.html)

<http://www.computeraid.org/>

[www.pumpaid.org](http://www.pumpaid.org)

[http://www.geographyalltheway.com/igcse\\_geography/economic\\_development/economic\\_development.htm](http://www.geographyalltheway.com/igcse_geography/economic_development/economic_development.htm)

<http://www.hartford-hwp.com/archives/10/150.html>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_Development\\_Index](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_Development_Index)

# OTHER FORMS OF SUPPORT

In order to help you implement the new GCSE Geography B Specification effectively, OCR offers a comprehensive package of support. This includes:

## PUBLISHED RESOURCES

OCR offers centres a wealth of quality published support with a fantastic choice of 'Official Publisher Partner' and 'Approved Publication' resources, all endorsed by OCR for use with OCR specifications.

## PUBLISHER PARTNERS

OCR works in close collaboration with three Publisher Partners; Hodder Education, Heinemann and Oxford University Press (OUP) to ensure centres have access to:

- Better published support, available when you need it, tailored to OCR specifications
- Quality resources produced in consultation with OCR subject teams, which are linked to OCR's teacher support materials
- More resources for specifications with lower candidate entries
- Materials that are subject to a thorough quality assurance process to achieve endorsement.

Heinemann is the publisher partner for OCR GCSE Geography B.



Heinemann produces the following resources for OCR GCSE Geography B:

- **OCR GCSE Geography B – Student Book**  
John Belfield, Ian Matthews, Alan Brown, Jane Ferretti, Paul Guinness, Andy Leeder, Sue Lomas, Fred Martin, Garrett Nagle, David Payne, Ruth Totterdell  
ISBN: 9780435353704  
Published: April 2009
- **OCR GCSE Geography B – Revision Toolkit**  
John Belfield, Andy Leeder, Garrett Nagle, Rob Clemens  
ISBN: 9780435341305  
Published: 2010
- **OCR GCSE Geography B – Active Teach CD-ROM**  
John Belfield, Andy Leeder, Garrett Nagle, Sue Jenkinson, Ian Matthews  
ISBN: 9780435353728  
Published: April 2009

## ENDORSEMENT

OCR endorses a range of publisher materials to provide quality support for centres delivering its qualifications. You can be confident that materials branded with OCR's "Official Publishing Partner" or "Approved publication" logos have undergone a thorough quality assurance process to achieve endorsement. All responsibility for the content of the publisher's materials rests with the publisher.

These endorsements do not mean that the materials are the only suitable resources available or necessary to achieve an OCR qualification. Any resource lists which are produced by OCR shall include a range of appropriate texts.

- **GCSE Geography OCR B Teacher Handbook**  
John Widdowson, Peter Naldrett, Gemma Thurtle, Guy Mortimer  
ISBN 9780199136155  
Published 2011
- **GCSE Geography OCR B**  
John Widdowson, Peter Naldrett, Caroline Cole, Alan Kinder, Gemma Thurtle, Guy Mortimer  
ISBN 97801991136148  
Published 2011

## OCR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The OCR Professional Development Programme offers more accessible and more cost effective training, with the same valued content that you expect from us.

At OCR, we are constantly looking for ways in which we can improve the support we offer to teachers. Most recently we have been considering the increasing challenges that schools face in releasing teachers for INSET, and how OCR can make its professional development programme more accessible and convenient for all.

From September 2012, our new improved programme will include:

- FREE online professional development units available when and where you want them
- FREE live web broadcasts of professional development events
- FREE face to face training for GCSE controlled assessment and GCE coursework
- A series of 'not to be missed' premier professional development events.

For more information, please email [training@ocr.org.uk](mailto:training@ocr.org.uk) or visit [www.ocr.org.uk/training](http://www.ocr.org.uk/training)

## OCR SOCIAL

Visit our social media site ([www.social.ocr.org.uk](http://www.social.ocr.org.uk)). By registering you will have free access to a dedicated platform where teachers can engage with each other - and OCR - to share best practice, offer guidance and access a range of support materials produced by other teachers; such as lesson plans, presentations, videos and links to other helpful sites.

## INTERCHANGE

OCR Interchange has been developed to help you to carry out day to day administration functions online, quickly and easily. The site allows you to register and enter candidates online. In addition, you can gain immediate a free access to candidate information at you convenience. Sign up at <https://interchange.ocr.org.uk>

## GUIDE TO CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT

This guide has been designed to accompany the OCR GCSE Specification in Geography B and will be available on the OCR website.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## HOW IS THIS QUALIFICATION ASSESSED?

There are 3 units to this specification, B561 Sustainable Decision Making, B562 Geographical Enquiry and B563 Key Geographical Themes. Units B561 and B563 are externally assessed. Unit B562 is Controlled Assessment and is internally assessed.

## WHEN ARE THE EXAMINED UNITS AVAILABLE?

B561 and B563 are available from June 2014 and every June thereafter .  
Certification is first available in June 2014.

## HOW MANY MARKS IS EACH OF THE UNITS' WORTH?

Unit B561 is worth 25% of the total mark.  
Unit B562 is worth 25% of the total mark.  
Unit B563 is worth 50% of the total mark.

## WHICH THEME DO I NEED TO STUDY FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DECISION MAKING EXERCISE?

Themes for the SDME are outlined in the specification (pg 6).

## DO CANDIDATES NEED TO STUDY ALL THE THEMES?

Candidates should study all four key themes during their course to give complete coverage of the specification and to ensure they are fully prepared for both of the examined units.

## ARE THERE SCHEMES OF WORK AVAILABLE?

Schemes of work for each theme are available on the website along with specimen assessment material.

## WHEN ARE THE CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT TASKS AVAILABLE?

Controlled Assessment task titles for two years will be available from Interchange on 1 June. This is to enable the effective management of fieldwork preparation and Health and Safety requirements.

It is the responsibility of the centres to ensure the correct task titles are used dependant on within which series they plan to submit the marks.

## HOW LONG SHOULD I SPEND ON THE CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT UNIT?

As guidance, we recommend eight weeks or 16 hours of class work for the Fieldwork Focus task (not including fieldwork).

## CAN I CHOOSE WHICH TASK TO ANSWER FOR CONTROLLED ASSESSMENT? CAN MY CANDIDATES CHOOSE WHICH QUESTION TO ANSWER?

It is the centres decision as to how to choose the best task for the students. Centres may take the decision that all candidates will answer the same Fieldwork Focus question (on the basis of fieldtrips).

## I DON'T LIKE THE PUBLISHED OCR TASKS, CAN I DEVISE MY OWN?

No, it is a requirement of the regulator, Ofqual, that the tasks used must be taken from the list published by OCR.

## WHAT ARE THE GUIDED LEARNING HOURS PER THEME?

Overall GCSE Geography requires 120 to 140 guided learning hours. These hours should be split equally between each of the four key themes.

## ARE THERE ANY TERMINAL RULES FOR THIS SPECIFICATION?

For GCSE Geography B, from June 2014 onwards, a 100% terminal rule applies. Candidates must enter for all their units in the series in which the qualification is certificated.

## CAN I RETAKE A QUALIFICATION?

Candidates may enter for the qualification an unlimited number of times. Further guidance can be found on page 38 of the specification.

## Contact us

Keep up to date with the latest news by registering to receive e-alerts at [www.ocr.org.uk/updates](http://www.ocr.org.uk/updates)

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