

Curriculum Description for Singapore-Cambridge GCE 'A' Level

Geography H1 (8812)

The syllabus aims to enable candidates to:

1. Acquire knowledge of the characteristics and distribution of physical and human phenomena;
2. Develop an understanding of the processes affecting the physical and human environments;
3. Provide an understanding of the dynamic and changing outcomes resulting from physical-human interactions;
4. Develop skills in acquiring, communicating, applying and evaluating geographical knowledge;
5. Develop an informed concern about the quality of the environment and the future of the human habitat, and thereby, enhance candidates' sense of responsibility for the care of the Earth and its people;
6. Develop awareness of contrasting opportunities and constraints which people face in local, regional and global environments; and
7. Develop an appreciation of the dynamic nature of geography over time and space.

Assessment Objectives

Candidates should be able to:

AO1: Knowledge

- Demonstrate relevant factual knowledge – geographical facts, concepts, processes, interactions, principles, theories and trends

AO2: Critical Understanding and Constructing Explanation

- Select, organise and apply concepts, terms and facts learnt
- Make judgements, recommendations and decisions

AO3: Interpreting and Evaluating Geographical Data

- Comprehend and extract relevant information from geographical data (numerical, diagrammatic, pictorial and graphical forms)
- Use and apply geographical knowledge and understanding to interpret and evaluate geographical data
 - o recognise patterns in geographical data and deduce relationships
 - o analyse and evaluate evidence
 - o compare and contrast different views
 - o draw inferences from given information
 - o recognise values and detect bias
 - o draw conclusions based on a reasoned consideration of evidence and arguments

‘A’ Level Assessment Specification Grid for H2 Geography

Assessment Objective Weighting

AO1 + AO2	60%
AO1 + AO3	40%

Note: AO1 forms part of the testing of AO2 and AO3

Scheme of Papers

The examination format is as follows:

Paper 1- Physical Geography (3 hours) (50%)

Section A 1½ hours (50%)

- Four structured questions based on stimuli materials (e.g. maps, tables, graphs, photographs).
- One question will be set on each compulsory topic.
- The third question will be on either the Physical Geography topic or the Human Geography topic.
- The fourth question will be a combination of either the two Physical Geography topics or the two Human Geography topics.
- Candidates must answer four questions from this section.
- This section carries 50 marks.

Section B 45 minutes (25%)

- Two structured essay-type questions, one on each of the Physical Geography topics.
- Each question will have an ‘either’ ‘or’ option and comprises no more than 2 parts.
- Candidates must answer one question from this section.
- Each question carries 25 marks.

Section C 45 minutes (25%)

- Two structured essay-type questions, one on each of the Human Geography topics.
- Each question will have an ‘either’ ‘or’ option and comprises no more than 2 parts.
- Candidates must answer one question from this section.
- Each question carries 25 marks.

The specific topics for each papers are as follows:

Paper 1: Physical Geography

Section A

Data Response Question
Answer all 4 questions
50 marks

Question 1
Lithospheric Processes, Hazards & Management

Question 2
The Globalisation of Economic Activities

Question 3 Either
Hydrologic Processes, Hazards & Management

Question 3 Or
Urban Issues and Challenges
Combination of at least 2 topics

Combination of two topics from the following:

Question 4 Either
Lithospheric Processes, Hazards and Management & Hydrologic
Processes, Hazards and Management

Question 4 Or
The Globalisation of Economic Activity & Urban Issues and
Challenges

Section B (Physical Geography)

Essay Questions

Q5 Either/Q5 Or
Lithospheric Processes, Hazards and Management

Answer 1 out of 2 questions

Q6 Either/Q6 Or
Hydrologic Processes, Hazards and Management

Each question has an 'either' 'or'
option

Each essay question carries 25 marks

Each question should contain no more than 2 parts (and no subdivision of parts)

Section C (Human Geography)

Essay Questions

Q7 Either/Q7 Or
The Globalisation of Economic Activity

Answer 1 out of 2 questions

Q8 Either/Q8 Or
Urban Issues and Challenges

Each question has an 'either' '
or' option

Each essay question carries 25 marks

Each question should contain no more than 2 parts (and no subdivision of parts)

Please refer to the SEAB website for more information regarding this course. <http://www.seab.gov.sg>