

Geography KS3 Assessment Descriptors



Year 7

Level	Descriptors
Advanced	• Confidently and accurately recalls facts about places and geographical features (e.g. the 4 countries of the UK) and can make links between these. • Can define and accurately use geographical key words (e.g. relief). These words are always used, not substituted for generic language. • Can identify what a map or graph is showing, recognise and explain the pattern shown. • Can identify key facts from a figure and explain how these link to the wider geographical concept. • Identifies the key word and command word in an extended writing question and can confidently describe how the question should be answered. • Uses developed 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements, starting to link ideas together. • Has a command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure and 6 figure grid references and complete graphs.
Secure	• Recalls facts about places and geographical features (e.g. the 4 countries of the UK) and can make links between these. • Can define and accurately use geographical key words (e.g. relief). • Can identify what a map or graph is showing and recognise patterns. • Can identify key facts from a figure and start to explain how these link to wider learning. • Can identify the key word and command word in an extended writing question and start to describe how the question should be answered. • Uses 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements. • Has a command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure grid references and complete graphs.
Developing	• Can recall basic facts about places and geographical features (e.g. the 4 countries of the UK). • Can define geographical key words (e.g. relief). • Can identify what a map or graph is showing and starts to recognise patterns. • Can identify key facts from a figure. • With support, can identify both the command word and key word in extended writing questions. • Uses basic 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements.

	Has a developing command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure grid references and complete graphs.
Foundation	- Begins to recall basic facts about places and geographical features (e.g. the 4 countries of the UK). - Begins to define geographical key words (e.g. relief). - Can identify what a map or graph is showing. - Can identify 1-2 key facts from a figure. - With support, can identify the key term in an extended writing question. - Uses limited or basic 'so what' sentences to start to explain processes, features or judgements. - Has a limited command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure grid references and complete graphs.

Year 8

Level	Descriptors
Advanced	- Confidently and accurately recalls facts about places and geographical features (e.g. types of plate margin) and can make links between these. - Can define and accurately use geographical key words (e.g. erosion and deposition). These words are always used, not substituted for generic language. - Can identify what a map or graph is showing, recognise and explain the pattern shown. - Can identify key facts from a figure and explain how these link to the wider geographical concept, adding in own knowledge and understanding where appropriate. - Identifies the key word and command word in an extended writing question, can describe how to answer it, and makes links between parts of the question. - Uses developed 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements, supported with evidence that link back to the question with a basic conclusion. - Has a command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure and 6 figure grid references and complete graphs independently.
Secure	- Confidently and accurately recalls facts about places and geographical features (e.g. types of plate margin) and can make links between these. - Can define and accurately use geographical key words (e.g. erosion and deposition). These words are always used, not substituted for generic language.

	• Can identify what a map or graph is showing, recognise and explain the pattern shown. • Can identify key facts from a figure and explain how these link to the wider geographical concept. • Identifies the key word and command word in an extended writing question and can confidently describe how the question should be answered. • Uses developed 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements, starting to link ideas together. • Has a command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure and 6 figure grid references and complete graphs.
Developing	• Recalls facts about places and geographical features (e.g. types of plate margin) and can make links between these. • Can define and accurately use geographical key words (e.g. erosion and deposition). • Can identify what a map or graph is showing and recognise patterns. • Can identify key facts from a figure and start to explain how these link to wider learning. • Can identify the key word and command word in an extended writing question and start to describe how the question should be answered. • Uses 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements. • Has a command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure grid references and complete graphs.
Foundation	• Can recall basic facts about places and geographical features (e.g. types of plate margin). • Can define geographical key words (e.g. erosion and deposition). • Can identify what a map or graph is showing and starts to recognise patterns. • Can identify key facts from a figure. • With support, can identify both the command word and key word in extended writing questions. • Uses basic 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements. • Has a developing command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure grid references and complete graphs.

Year 9

Level	Descriptors
Advanced	• Confidently and accurately recalls facts about places and geographical features (e.g. ecosystem features) and can make links between these. • Can define and accurately use geographical key words (e.g. biome). These words are always used, not substituted for generic language. • Can identify what a map or graph is showing, recognise and explain the pattern shown, supplementing with additional knowledge. • Can identify key facts from a figure and explain how these link to the wider geographical concept, adding in own knowledge and understanding where appropriate. Students at the top end will be able to make links between human and physical geography or synoptic links to prior learning. • Understands what an extended writing question is asking, both in terms of command word and key geographical knowledge. Can identify links between the question and own understanding. • Uses developed 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements, supported with evidence that link back to the question with a detailed, evaluative conclusion. • Has a strong command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure and 6 figure grid references and complete graphs independently. Students will recognise the importance of up to date and accurate data in evaluating geographical processes.
Secure	• Confidently and accurately recalls facts about places and geographical features (e.g. ecosystem features) and can make links between these. • Can define and accurately use geographical key words (e.g. biome). These words are always used, not substituted for generic language. • Can identify what a map or graph is showing, recognise and explain the pattern shown. • Can identify key facts from a figure and explain how these link to the wider geographical concept, adding in own knowledge and understanding where appropriate. • Identifies the key word and command word in an extended writing question, can describe how to answer it, and making simple links between parts of the question. • Uses developed 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements, supported with evidence that link back to the question with a summarising conclusion. • Has a command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure and 6 figure grid references and complete graphs independently.

Developing	• Confidently and accurately recalls facts about places and geographical features (e.g. ecosystem features) and can make links between these. • Can define and accurately use geographical key words (e.g. biome). • Can identify what a map or graph is showing, recognise and explain the pattern shown. • Can identify key facts from a figure and explain how these link to the wider geographical concept. • Identifies the key word and command word in an extended writing question and can describe how the question should be answered. • Uses developed 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements, supported with evidence that link back to the question with a basic conclusion. • Has a command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure and 6 figure grid references and complete graphs.
Foundation	• Can recall basic facts about places and geographical features (e.g. ecosystem features). • Can define geographical key words (e.g. biome). • Can identify what a map or graph is showing and starts to recognise patterns. • Can identify key facts from a figure. • Can identify the key word and command word in an extended writing question and start to describe how the question should be answered. • Uses basic 'so what' sentences to explain processes, features or judgements. • Has a command of geographical skills, such as the ability to use 4 figure grid references and complete graphs.