

GEOGRAPHY

INTRODUCTION

The public assessment of this subject is based on the Geography Curriculum and Assessment Guide (Secondary 4 – 6) jointly prepared by the Curriculum Development Council and the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority. Candidates have to refer to the Guide for the curriculum objectives they are required to demonstrate in the assessment.

ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this assessment are to evaluate candidates' abilities and competencies in the subject of Geography. When selecting appropriate tools for assessment, the assessment exercise should:

- help to identify candidates' needs and assess their progress in developing skills, understanding, attitudes and interest;
- measure attainment, and inform learning and teaching;
- make judgments on the learning processes and outcomes;
- cover appropriate learning objectives, generic skills, values and attitudes;
- be based on standards-referencing principles for grading and evaluating candidates' performance;
- employ both formative and summative methods to facilitate understanding of candidates' progress.

By the end of the course, candidates are expected to be able to:

- (a) understand how natural environments influence human activities, and how human activities alter natural environments;
- (b) describe the major characteristics of chosen places and environments and explain how these characteristics are created by the interactions within and between a range of physical and human processes;
- (c) describe how the interactions within and between physical and human processes create geographical patterns of different scales and lead to changes in places and environments over space and time;
- (d) understand and critically evaluate the concept of regional identity;
- (e) understand “sustainable development”;
- (f) recognise the role of perceptions, values and attitudes in decision-making about places and environments, and to use this understanding to explain the resulting changes;
- (g) recognise how conflicting demands on the environment may arise and evaluate the different strategies for managing the environment;
- (h) appreciate how increasing global interdependency influences their lives, their nation and the environment;
- (i) identify geographical questions and issues and develop a logical sequence of enquiry based on their knowledge and understanding of geography;
- (j) select and use appropriate geographical and generic skills for investigating geographical questions and issues, present and interpret their findings in an effective way, and draw conclusions based on evidence.

MODE OF ASSESSMENT

The following table outlines the various components of the public assessment of Geography in 2026 HKDSE:

	Paper 1	Paper 2
Weighting:	75%	25%
Duration:	2¾ hours	1¼ hour
Scope:	Compulsory Part	Elective Part
Section/ Question type:	A. Multiple-choice (20%)	E. Data/Skill-based/Structured (15%)
	B. Fieldwork-based (15%)	F. Short Essay (10%)
	C. Data/Skill-based/Structured (30%)	
	D. Short Essay (10%)	

PUBLIC EXAMINATION

1. The examination will consist of two papers.
2. Paper 1 will consist of 4 sections (A, B, C & D) and questions will be set from the Compulsory Part. Section A will include multiple-choice questions, which will cover any topic from the Compulsory Part. Candidates are expected to answer all questions and are advised to spend about 30 minutes on this section.

Section B will be a compulsory fieldwork-based question. Candidates are advised to spend about 45 minutes on this section.

For the 2026 HKDSE, candidates are expected to have fieldwork experiences in the following modules:

- Climate Change
- Changing Industrial Location
- **Managing Coastal Environment**

Section C will have 4 data/skill-based/structured questions and Section D will have 3 short essay questions. Candidates will be required to answer 2 questions from Section C and 1 question from Section D. They are advised to spend about 30 minutes on each question in these two sections.

However, candidates are free to make their own time allocation for the four sections in this paper.

3. Paper 2 will consist of 2 sections (E & F) and the questions will be set from the Elective Part. Both Sections E and F will consist of 4 questions each. Candidates are required to choose 1 question from each section, of which the 2 questions chosen can be taken from the same or different electives.
4. Both Papers 1 and 2 may include the testing of skills, attitudes and values, and map work using local topographical maps (1:20 000/1:5 000), and/or simplified map extracts.