

**CCEA Entry Level in Geography
(March Series) 2022**

Principal Moderator's Report

geography

Foreword

This booklet outlines the performance of candidates in all aspects of this specification for the March 2022 series.

CCEA hopes that the Chief Examiner's and/or Principal Moderator's report(s) will be viewed as a helpful and constructive medium to further support teachers and the learning process.

This booklet forms part of the suite of support materials for the specification. Further materials are available from the specification's microsite on our website at www.ccea.org.uk.

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ENTRY LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

Principal Moderator's Report

The impact of COVID seemed to hit entries for the Entry Level Qualification more than some of the alternative qualifications. There were fewer candidates in total, but the number of centres who sent through sample work for scrutiny has risen to six centres. The COVID mitigations meant that centres did not have to submit the full range of Components compared to previous years.

The senior moderating team noted that the vast majority of the candidates' work submitted for moderation was generally well organised and included some excellent, high-quality resources which had been carefully designed to meet the assessment criteria. Many of the centres had moved to use the CCEA-prepared fact file booklets that are found on the CCEA website here <https://ccea.org.uk/key-stage-4/entry-level/subjects/entry-level-geography-2015/support>.

Many supplemented these activities with their own activities and opportunities in order to help 'mix up' the diversity of the exercises and lesson plans. This year, the range of evidence presented by teachers was good and was well organised.

Whilst most candidates were attempting to achieve the Level 3 mark with their sample of work, there were still a surprising number of candidates who were only achieving the Level 1 or Level 2 standard. Centres are encouraged to try and ensure that they set high expectations for their learners and allow them to try and achieve the higher of the levels, when possible. Often, the difference between a Level 2 and Level 3 is merely the wording of a task and an expectation for some explanation or evaluation.

Administrative requirements were generally completed satisfactorily. This was the first year that the new eCandidate Record sheets were used for this qualification. This meant that TAC1 and TAC2 forms were replaced and marks were submitted via the eCRS application. This seemed to go smoothly, however centres are reminded that paper evidence is still required with each individual unit submitted for a candidate. Candidate Unit Record Sheets and Portfolio Progress Tracking Records forms were mostly completed well. However, the administration presented by some centres lacked focus and greater use of the tracking records, in particular, is encouraged. The moderation team always like to see evidence of clear annotation of marks where candidates have achieved a particular element. Sometimes, it was not immediately clear which Level a student was aiming for – centres need to make sure that this is clearly marked. Sometimes, supporting documentation was absent and teachers are reminded to check and submit the Portfolio Progress Tracking sheets AND the Entry Level Candidate Unit Record sheets for each unit as noted on the CCEA web site here <https://ccea.org.uk/key-stage-4/entry-level/subjects/entry-level-geography-2015/support>.

This year, the work submitted for moderation relating to Units 1 and 8 did not require any adjustment. However, teachers are reminded for the future, that candidates must complete every single assessment criteria within each learning outcome in each unit for this unit to be awarded. This must be maintained across each of the 4 mandatory and the 2 optional units. It is always good to see a large number of candidates from centres who have completed all of the necessary assessed work which allows them to have achieved the criteria leading to a final grading of Entry Level 1, 2 or 3.

Centres are reminded that if hard copy evidence for each criteria is not available, it is possible to submit other appropriate evidence which may be audio/visual recordings. If referencing a class discussion/conversation with a teacher – some recorded or written evidence is required. For example, teachers might want to consider inserting a witness statement/recording for each candidate.

Candidates must present portfolio evidence for an award of Entry Level 1, 2 or 3 for each unit across a range of 8 different units across both Physical and Human Geography. Usually, this means that candidates must complete 6 units to achieve the overall qualification.

Candidates presented portfolio evidence across a range of units this year including:

Physical Geography Mandatory Units (complete both)

Unit 1: Changeable Weather

Unit 2: Earthquakes and Volcanoes

Physical Geography Optional Units (choose one)

Unit 3: Rivers and Flooding

Unit 4: Coasts

Human Geography Mandatory Units (complete both)

Unit 5: Development Issues

Unit 6: Managing Resources

Human Geography Optional Units (choose one)

Unit 7: Population

Unit 8: Settlement

Contact details

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