

GCSE Geography Fieldwork

Strand 3

Selecting appropriate ways of processing and presenting fieldwork data

There are **three** sections within this strand.

1. Appreciate that a range of visual, graphical and cartographic methods is available.
2. Selection and accurate use of appropriate presentation methods.
3. Description, explanation and adaptation of presentation methods.

1. Appreciate that a range of visual, graphical and cartographic methods is available

Candidates will have collected raw data as part of their fieldwork activities and this data can be collated and shared to increase the sample size and range of results.

Results may then be presented using any appropriate visual, graphical or cartographic method, but it would be a good idea to look at the 'Skills' requirements of all specifications as a starting point.

- Visual – diagrams, sketches, photographs.
- Graphical – line graphs, bar graphs, pie charts, pictograms, histograms (with equal class intervals), divided bar graphs, scattergraphs, population pyramids, dispersion graphs.
- Cartographic – sketch maps, choropleth maps, isoline maps, dot maps, desire lines on maps, proportional symbols located onto base maps and flow lines on maps.

All of the presentation methods identified above are listed within each of the specifications and, therefore, can be assessed at some point within the life of those specifications.

2. The selection of appropriate presentation methods can be determined by the teacher

Candidates must understand **why** the method(s) selected are appropriate for the data concerned. A range of potential presentation methods may be discussed, the strengths and weaknesses of each identified, and a final selection made.

3. Description, explanation and adaptation of presentation methods.

Candidates can be asked to describe, interpret and critique a presentation method that is provided for them on the examination paper as this addresses Assessment Objective 3 (AO3), applied knowledge and understanding.

They cannot be asked to describe a data presentation method they used in their own enquiries as this would address Assessment Object 1 (AO1), knowledge, and there are no marks allowed for this. Candidates can be asked to explain **why** their chosen presentation method was appropriate as this involves assessment of the relative merits of their chosen skill which is AO3.

Recommendation

Try to find one 'over-arching' presentation skill for each enquiry rather than expect candidates to produce, and remember, a number of different skills.

- Start with a base map, even a simple outline would work, and locate results onto the base map.
- Candidates can now see the spatial dimension that would be missing if results were simply graphed.
- This enables patterns and anomalies to be more readily identified and explained.
- Photographs, notes and annotations can be added to the base map to aid understanding and explanation

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