



CHELTENHAM
LADIES'
COLLEGE

SIXTH FORM ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER 2025

GEOGRAPHY

The examination aims to assess the general Geographical ability of candidates through two differing examination techniques: a resource-based section and an essay. As candidates may have studied a variety of courses at (I)GCSE (or the equivalent), the exam aims to give all candidates an equal chance of success, either through asking more general geographical questions or through the element of choice. Candidates are expected to incorporate their own global knowledge and understanding into their answers.

Overview of two exam tasks:

Section A (resource-based questions) – Worth over half the total marks available, this task is based around a topical Geographical issue about which all candidates should have some knowledge. For example, previously this section has been based on issues such as water management and sustainable tourism. It is expected that Geographical ideas and terminology will be used appropriately throughout the answers and source information will be provided. More advanced answers will include detail from the candidates' own knowledge and learning. Impressive answers will also tend to develop arguments to incorporate all sides of any debate and not just to consider the more obvious elements of the topic.

Section B (essay question) – This task will have several essay questions, with each one taken from a different Geographical topic. It is anticipated that candidates will have covered some or all of these topics during their (I)GCSE (or equivalent) courses and therefore will be able to answer a selection of the questions. The sort of topic areas that are likely to be included are Economic World, Climate, Hazards, Rivers, Coasts, Urban Issues and/or Ecosystems. One question may be based around the fieldwork that the candidate has done as part of previous course. Candidates must select **one** essay question to complete. In the past, strong responses to this section have included named case study examples and specific details about them. This requirement is clearly stated in the questions and is the determining factor between an average mark and a strong one. The higher ability candidates will also add a critical edge to their answers through their exploration of the less obvious and perhaps more contentious aspects of their chosen essay title.

We will be looking for candidates who:

- Have a reasonable range of Geographical knowledge, taking into account the fact that they may have studied different topics at (I)GCSE or the equivalent.

- Can analyse information given to them and make logical geographical conclusions based on the evidence before them.
- Show an appreciation and knowledge of the world around them.
- Can write coherent, well-planned answers.
- Can be critical in their analysis of resources and in their examination of an essay title.

Ultimately, we are looking for Geographers who show the ability to utilise unfamiliar material and demonstrate their global awareness and geographical knowledge in the analysis of these materials. The test is therefore primarily a test of potential ability.