

CAMBRIDGE IGCSE

Environmental Management 0680

Syllabus Overview

Examinations 2027, 2028 and 2029

Understanding the whole syllabus

Environmental management studies the links between natural processes, resource use and human decisions. An issue cannot usually be understood from one measurement or one viewpoint. The syllabus brings together evidence, investigation and the consequences of different management strategies.

For Environmental Management 0680, the content map below follows the approved subject briefing and the official syllabus. Labels group related areas for orientation; the detailed syllabus remains the authority for individual learning requirements.

Content map

Syllabus area or component	What the area covers
Seven connected environmental areas	The syllabus is organised into seven connected areas.
1-2: Natural resources, land and agriculture	You will begin with natural resources, including energy, rocks, minerals and sustainable resource management. You will then examine land use and agriculture, soil degradation, deforestation and strategies for producing food while protecting the environment.
3-4: Water and atmosphere	The study of water includes supply, pollution, sanitation and the sustainable management of freshwater. You will also investigate atmospheric pollution, ozone depletion and climate change, considering both their causes and possible responses.
5: Ecosystems and biodiversity	Ecosystems and biodiversity form another major part of the course. Here, you will explore food chains, nutrient cycles, conservation and the use of fieldwork to investigate populations and habitats.
6-7: Hazards and population	The final areas cover natural hazards - including earthquakes, volcanoes, tropical cyclones, flooding and drought - and human population, with attention to settlement, migration and the sustainable management of population change.
Investigation and environmental judgement	Throughout the course, you will learn to interpret maps, graphs, tables and unfamiliar source material; process numerical data; plan safe investigations; evaluate methods and propose evidence-based environmental solutions.

These areas should be read as a connected course. Begin with the foundational knowledge identified in the first part of the map, then build towards the applications and explanations that depend on it. Organise notes around processes, impacts and management. Revisit investigation design and data interpretation throughout the course, and compare

strategies using clear criteria rather than a list of advantages alone. Where a row describes a choice of topics or components, study the selection required by your agreed route rather than treating all alternatives as compulsory.

Qualification and component choices

All candidates follow the component structure shown in the Assessment Overview. There is no separate Core/Extended route in this syllabus.

The assessed skills

Assessment objectives describe the abilities Cambridge looks for across the qualification. The following explanations paraphrase the syllabus objectives; they are not additional topics or separate orientation tasks.

Assessment objective	Meaning for the learner
AO1 Knowledge with understanding	Select accurate subject knowledge, terminology and examples that answer the question, and explain their meaning.
AO2 Handling information and problem-solving	Interpret the information, apply an appropriate method and explain the relationships or reasoning that support the answer.
AO3 Investigation skills and making judgements	Develop a workable investigation, interpret its evidence and justify conclusions while recognising limitations.

These abilities work together in an answer. Accurate knowledge supports application, while a clear explanation shows how the evidence or method leads to a conclusion. The balance varies by component, so the next lesson connects these abilities with the actual assessment formats.

Key pointers: Follow the stated examination-year syllabus, cover the required areas for your route and develop skills alongside knowledge. **Next:** Open **Assessment Overview**.