

Skill code	Skill
K1	Demonstrating knowledge and understanding by making statements
K2	Demonstrating knowledge and understanding by describing information and providing explanations
K3	Applying knowledge to new situations, interpreting information and solving problems
S1	Planning or designing experiments/fieldwork investigations to test given hypotheses or to illustrate particular effects, applying safety measures
S2	Selecting information from a variety of sources
S3	Presenting information appropriately in a variety of forms
S4	Processing information (using calculations and units, where appropriate)
S5	Making predictions and generalisations based on evidence/information
S6	Drawing valid conclusions and giving explanations supported by evidence/justification
S7	Evaluating experiments/fieldwork investigations and suggesting improvements

2015 Higher Environmental Science Question Paper					
Question	Topic & key area	Skill assessed	Maximum mark	A-Type mark	
Section 1					
1	(a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K1	1	
	(a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K2	2	
	(b)(i)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	S6	3	1
	(b)(ii)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	2	
2	(a)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	2	
	(b)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems and biodiversity	S7	3	1
	(c)(i)	Living Environment - skill	S4	1	
	(c)(ii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	S6	2	1
	(c)(iii)	Living Environment - skill	S3	2	
3	(a)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course		
	(b)(i)	Earth's Resources - skill	S4	1	
	(b)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course		
	(c)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course		
	(d)(i)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course		
	(d)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course		
4	(a)	Sustainability - Waste management	K1	2	1
	(b)	Sustainability - skill	S4	1	1
	(c)	Sustainability - Waste management	K3	2	
	(d)(i)	Sustainability - Waste management	K3	2	
	(d)(ii)	Sustainability - Waste management	K3	2	
5	(a)(i)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	
	(a)(ii)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	
	(a)(iii)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	
	(b)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K1	1	1
	(c)(i)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	
	(c)(ii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	2	1
6	(a)(i)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	S6	1	
	(a)(ii)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	S5	2	
	(b)	Sustainability - Energy	K2	1	
	(c)(i)	Sustainability - Energy	K3	1	
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability - Energy	K3	1	
	(d)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	2	
7	(a)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	S2	2	
	(b)(i)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K2	2	1
	(b)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K2	2	1
	(c)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K2	2	
8	(a)	Sustainability - Food	no longer in course		
	(b)	Sustainability - Food	no longer in course		
	(c)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	
	(d)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	
	(e)	Sustainability - Food	K3	1	
9	(a)(i)	Sustainability - Energy	K2	2	1
	(a)(ii)	Sustainability - Energy	K2	2	
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Energy	K3	1	
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Energy	K3	2	

IPCC no long in course but Q is about uncertainty

CAP no longer in course but Q could be adapted for current use
adapt for current use

	(c)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course		
10	A	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K2	10	5
	B	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K2	10	5
11	A	Sustainability - Waste management	no longer in course		
	B	Sustainability - Energy	no longer in course		

Notes

1. This question paper was set pre-2019, and so:

i) the paper contained two parts: restricted response; essay questions

ii) the total number of marks is 100 rather than 120

iii) the targets for percentages of marks assigned to each skill area differ from those in post-2018 question papers

iv) the course content is more extensive and does not always match current structure; where appropriate, questions have been tagged to current topic areas

2. The assignment was part of the course assessment in this year, and the target of 30% A-type marks was taken over both assignment and question paper components of the course assessment, rather than the question paper alone.

2016 Higher Environmental Science Question Paper					
Question	Topic & key area	Skill assessed	Maximum mark	A-Type mark	
Section 1					
1	a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K1	1	
	a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	S6	2	
	a)(iii)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	S5	1	
	a)(iv)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	S5	1	
	(b)	Earth's Resources - skill	S4	1	
	(c)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K3	2	1
	(d)	Sustainability - Food	no longer in course		
2	a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K3	1	
	a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K3	1	1
	(b)	Sustainability - Water	K3	3	1
	(c)(i)	Sustainability - Water	S6	1	1
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability - Water	K2	2	1
3	(c)(iii)	Sustainability - Water	K3	1	
	(a)	Living Environment - Interdependence	S6	1	
	(b)	Living Environment - Interdependence	S6	2	1
	(c)	Living Environment - Interdependence	S4	1	
	(d)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	1	1
	(e)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K3	2	
4	(e)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	1	
	a)(i)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	1	
	a)(ii)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	1	
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	3	1
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	1	
(c)	Sustainability - Waste	no longer in course			
5	(a)(i)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	S4	1	
	a)(ii)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	1	
	(b)	Sustainability - Food	K1	2	
	(c)(i)	Sustainability - Food	K3	2	1
	(c)(ii)(A)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	1	
	(c)(ii)(B)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	1	
6	(a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	no longer in course		
	a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	no longer in course		
	a)(iii)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	no longer in course		
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	K1	1	
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	K2	3	2
7	(a)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	2	
	(b)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	2	1
	(c)(i)	Sustainability	K3	1	
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability	K3	1	1
	(d)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K2	3	1
	(e)(i)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	1	
	(e)(ii)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K2	1	1
8	(a)	Sustainability - Food	K1	2	
	(b)	Sustainability - skill	S3	3	
	(c)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	2	2
	(d)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	1
9	(a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	S6	2	1
	a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - skill	S4	1	
	a)(iii)	Earth's Resources - skill	S2	1	
	(b)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	S6	2	
	(c)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K3	4	2
10	A	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	no longer in course		
	B	Sustainability - Energy	K2	10	5
11	A	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems and biodiversity	K2	10	6
	B	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	K2	10	6

no longer in course but could be adapted

was originally Living Environment - Human influences

Notes

1. This question paper was set pre-2019, and so:

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iii) the targets for percentages of marks assigned to each skill area differ from those in post-2018 question papers

iv) the course content is more extensive and does not always match current structure; where appropriate, questions have been tagged to current topic areas

2. The assignment was part of the course assessment in this year, and the target of 30% A-type marks was taken over both assignment and question paper components of the course assessment, rather than the question paper alone.

2017 Higher Environmental Science Question Paper						
Question	Topic & key area	Skill assessed	Maximum mark	A-Type mark		
Section 1						
1	(a)	Living Environment - Investigating Ecosystems	K1	1		
	(b)	Living Environment - Interdependence	S6	1		
	(c)(i)	Living Environment - Investigating Ecosystems	S1	3	1	
	(c)(ii)	Living Environment - Investigating Ecosystems	S1	1		
	(d)	Living Environment - Investigating Ecosystems	S5 K2	1 1	1	
	(e)	Sustainability - Water	no longer in course			
2	(a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	S6	1		
	(a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	K2	3	2	
	(a)(iii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	K2	2	1	
	(a)(iv)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	K2	2		
	(b)(i)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course			
	(b)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course			
3	(a)	Sustainability	S2	2		
	(b)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	3	1	
	(c)	Sustainability - Waste	S6	3	1	
	(d)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	1		
4	(a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course			
	(a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course			
	(a)(iii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	no longer in course			
	(b)(i)(A)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K1	1		
	(b)(i)(B)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K2	2	1	
	(b)(ii)(A)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K1	1		
	(b)(ii)(B)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K2	2	1	
	(b)(iii)(A)	Sustainability	K2	1		
	(b)(iii)(B)	Sustainability	K2	1		
	(b)(iv)	Sustainability	K2	2	1	
	5	(a)	Living Environment - Interdependence	S5	3	1
		(b)(i)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	
(b)(ii)		Sustainability - Food	K3	1		
6	(a)	Sustainability - Food	K1	1		
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Water	K2	2	1	
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Water	K3	1		
	(c)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	1	
	(d)(i)	Sustainability - skill	S4	1		
	(d)(ii)	Sustainability - skill	S3	2		
	(d)(iii)	Sustainability - skill	S6	2	1	
7	(a)(i)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K1	1		
	(a)(ii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K1	2		
	(b)(i)	Sustainability	K3	1		
	(b)(iii)	Sustainability	K3	1	1	
	(c)(i)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	S6	2	1	
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	K2	1		
	(d)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	2		
	(e)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	2		
8	(a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K1	1		
	(a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K3	2	1	
	(b)(i)	Earth's Resources - skill	S4	1		
	(b)(ii)	Earth's Resources - skill	S4	1		
	(b)(iii)(A)	Living Environment - Investigating Ecosystems	S7	1		
	(b)(iii)(B)	Living Environment - Investigating Ecosystems	S7	1	1	
	(c)(i)	Sustainability - Energy	S6	2	1	
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability - Energy	no longer in course			
	(d)	Sustainability - Energy	no longer in course			
9	A	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K2	10	5	
	B	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K2	10	5	
10	A	Sustainability - Food	K2	10	6	
	B	Living Environment - Investigating Ecosystems	K2	10	6	

gold no longer in course but Q could be amended
Q could be amended for current use

was originally Living Environment - Human influences

Notes

1. This question paper was set pre-2019, and so:

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iv) the course content is more extensive and does not always match current structure; where appropriate, questions have been tagged to current topic areas & key areas

2. The assignment was part of the course assessment in this year, and the target of 30% A-type marks was taken over both assignment and question paper components of the course assessment, rather than the question paper alone.

2018 Higher Environmental Science Question Paper							
Question	Topic & key area	Skill assessed	Maximum mark	A-Type mark			
Section 1							
1	(a)(i)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	K2	2			
	(a)(ii)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	S7	1			
	(a)(iii)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	S1	2			
	(b)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	S6	1	1		
	(c)(i)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	K1	1			
	(c)(ii)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	S6	1			
	(c)(iii)(A)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	K3	1			
2	(a)	Sustainability	K1	1			
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Water	K3	2	1		
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Water	no longer in course				
	(b)(iii)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	1			
	(c)(i)	Sustainability	S5	1			
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability	S5	1			
	(d)	Sustainability - Energy	no longer in course				
3	(a)(i)	Earth's Resources - skill	S4	1			
	(a)(ii)	Sustainability - Food	K3	2	1		
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - skill	S4	1			
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - skill	S4	1			
	(b)(iii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K1	1			
	(b)(iv)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	no longer in course				
	(c)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2		no longer in course but could be adapted for current use	
	(d)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K3	2	1		
	(e)	Sustainability - Food	no longer in course				
4	(a)(i)	Living Environment - skill	S4	1			
	(a)(ii)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	K3	1			
	(b)(i)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K1	1			
	(b)(ii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K1	2	1		
	(b)(iii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K3	1			
5	(a)	Sustainability - Energy	K1	1			
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Energy	K2	1			
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Energy	K2	2	2		
	(b)(iii)	Sustainability - Energy	K2	2	1		
	(b)(iv)	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K1	1			
	(c)(i)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	S5	2	1		
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability - skill	S4	1			
6	(c)(iii)	Sustainability - skill	S3	1			
	(a)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	1			
	(b)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K2	1		no longer in course but Q could be adapted for current use	
	(c)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K2	2			
	(d)(i)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	K2	1			
	(d)(ii)	Living Environment - skill	S4	3			
7	(a)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	no longer in course				
	(b)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	S6	3	3	acid rain no longer in course but Q still usable	
	(c)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	S1	2			
	(d)(i)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	no longer in course				
	(d)(ii)(A)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	K3	1		SO ₂ no longer in course but Q could be adapted for current use	
	(d)(ii)(B)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	K3	1		SO ₂ no longer in course but Q could be adapted for current use	
	(d)(ii)(C)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	K3	1		SO ₂ no longer in course but Q could be adapted for current use	
8	(d)(iii)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	no longer in course				
	(a)(i)	Sustainability - Food	K1	2			
	(a)(ii)(A)	Sustainability - Food	K1	1			
	(a)(ii)(B)	Sustainability - Food	K2	1			
	(a)(ii)(C)	Sustainability - Food	K2	1			
	(a)(ii)(D)	Sustainability - Food	K2	1			
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Food	K3	1			
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Food	K3	1			
	(b)(iii)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	1			
	(c)(i)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	1			
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	1			
	(c)(iii)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	1			
9	A	Sustainability - Waste	K2	10	5		
	B	Sustainability - Water	K2	10	5	part (b) no longer in course but could be adapted for current use	
10	A	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K2	10	6		
	B	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K2	10	6		

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2019 Higher Environmental Science Question Paper					
Question	Topic & key area		Skill assessed	Maximum mark	A-Type mark
Paper 1					
1	(a)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	K1	1	
	(b)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	S5	1	
			K3	1	
	(c)(i)(A)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K3	1	
	(c)(i)(B)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	1	
(c)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	S6	1		
2	(a)(i)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems and biodiversity	S7	1	
	(a)(ii)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems and biodiversity	S2	1	
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	2
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Food	K3	2	1
	(c)(i)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems and biodiversity	S2	1	
	(c)(ii)	Living Environment - skill	S4	2	
3		Living Environment, Earth's Resources, Sustainability	S6	5	3
Paper 2					
1	(a)(i)	Sustainability	K1	1	
	(a)(ii)	Sustainability	K1	1	
	(a)(iii)	Sustainability	K1	1	
	(b)	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K2	1	1
	(c)(i)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K2	2	1
	(c)(ii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K1	2	
	(c)(iii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	2	
	(c)(iv)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	3	2
2	(a)(i)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	S6	1	
	(a)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	K2	3	2
	(b)(i)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	K1	1	
	(b)(ii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	K1	1	
	(b)(iii)	Earth's Resources - Geosphere	K2	2	1
	(b)(iv)	Earth's Resources - skill	S4	2	1
3	(a)(i)	Sustainability - Waste	K1	1	
	(a)(ii)	Sustainability - skill	S4	2	
	(a)(iii)	Sustainability - Waste	K3	1	
	(a)(iv)	Sustainability - skill	S4	1	
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Waste	K1	2	
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Waste	K2	3	1
	(c)(i)	Sustainability - Food	K1	1	
	(c)(ii)	Sustainability - Food	K2	2	
	(c)(i)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	1	
4	(a)(i)	Sustainability - Energy	K1	1	
	(a)(ii)	Sustainability - Energy	K2	1	
	(b)	Sustainability - Energy	K2	4	2
	(c)	Sustainability - skill	S4	2	1
	(d)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	2	
5	(a)(i)	Living Environment - Interdependence	S6	1	
	(a)(ii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	2	
	(b)(i)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K1	1	
	(b)(ii)	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	2	1
	(c)(i)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	1	
	(c)(ii)(A)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	1	1
	(c)(ii)(B)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	1	
6	(a)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K1	1	
	(b)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K2	2	
	(c)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K1	1	
	(d)(i)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	K1	1	
			S7	1	
	(d)(ii)	Living Environment - Investigating ecosystems	K3	1	1
	(e)	Earth's Resources - Biosphere	S3	3	
	(f)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	S6	3	1
7	(a)	Sustainability - Water	K1	1	
	(b)(i)	Sustainability - Water	K2	2	1
	(b)(ii)	Sustainability - Water	K1	1	
	(c)	Sustainability - Water	K2	1	
	(d)(i)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K1	1	
	(d)(ii)	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K3	1	
	(e)(i)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	S5	2	1
	(e)(ii)	Sustainability - Anthropogenic climate change	S5	2	1
8	A	Living Environment - Interdependence	K2	10	5
	B	Living Environment - Human influences on biodiversity	K2	10	5
9	A	Earth's Resources - Atmosphere	K2	10	6
	B	Earth's Resources - Hydrosphere	K2	10	6