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PAPER 1

Practice test · Term 1–2
Version 1.6 · 21 October 2026

Social Sciences: Geography · Grade 7

Map Skills, Earthquakes and Floods

TOTAL 66 MARKS

Term 1–2 | 5 questions | CAPS-aligned

NAME AND SURNAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____

Instructions

1. This question paper consists of TWO sections. Answer all the questions.
2. Answer all the questions on the question paper itself, in the spaces provided.
3. Use the SOURCES and the MAP to answer the questions where the question asks you to.
4. Write neatly and legibly. Work that cannot be read cannot be marked.
5. You may use a pencil and a ruler.
6. This paper covers Term 1 and Term 2 work. Paper 2 covers Term 3 and Term 4 work.

Question	Content of the question	Marks	Obtained
1	Map skills	15	
2	Street maps and routes	20	
3	Floods: a South African case study	15	
4	Places in the news: an earthquake	8	
5	The structure of the Earth, volcanoes and earthquakes	8	
	Total	66	
	Percentage		%

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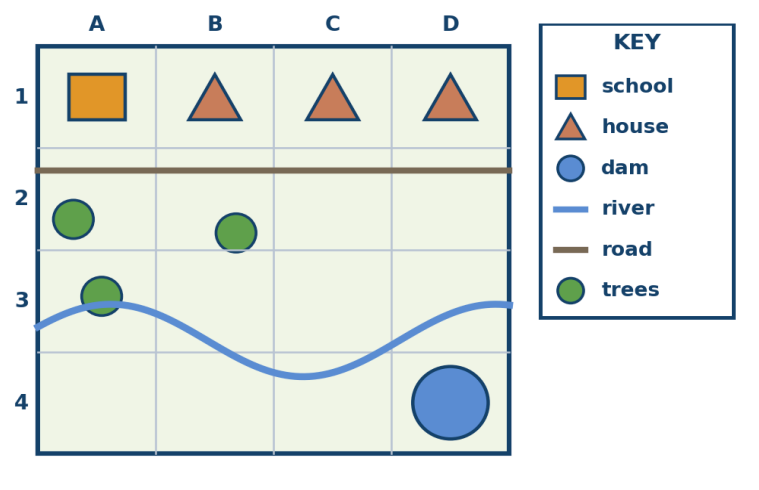
Section A

1 Map skills

15 marks

Study the map in Source A and answer the questions that follow.

SOURCE A · MAP OF THE VILLAGE OF MOOIVLEI



The letters across the top and the numbers down the side give the position of each place. North is at the top of the map.

1.1 Give the block code of each place. **(2)**

Place	Block code
The school	
The dam	

1.2 Explain what a SCALE on a map is and why it is needed. **(3)**

1.3 A road on a map winds and bends. Explain how you would use a piece of string and the line scale to find the real length of the road. **(2)**

1.4 Write down the compass direction. **(4)**



a. The direction between north and east: _____

b. The direction between south and west: _____

c. From the school to the dam: _____

d. From the dam to the school: _____

1.5 Name FOUR features every good map must have, and say briefly what each is for. **(4)**

_____

_____

_____

_____

Section B

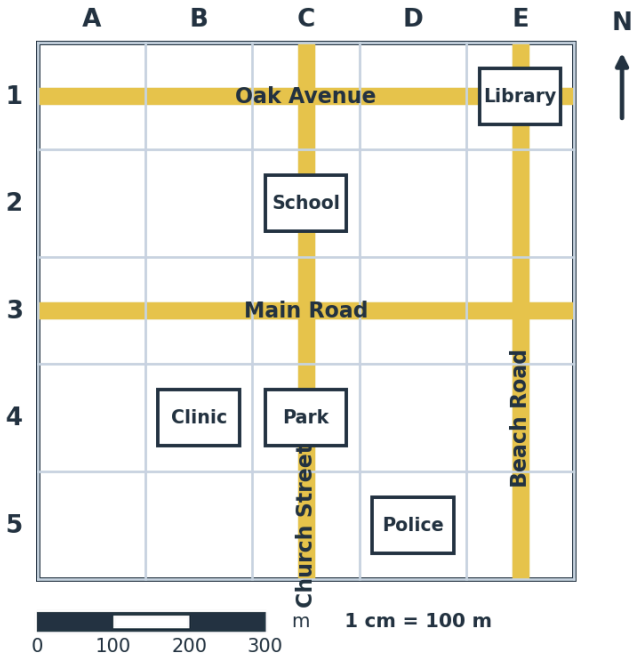
Street maps, floods and earthquakes

2 Street maps and routes

20 marks

Study Source B and answer the questions that follow.

SOURCE B · STREET MAP



2.1 Give the grid reference of the library, the clinic and the police station. **(3)**

2.2 Which place is in block C4? **(1)**

2.3 Describe the route from the school to the clinic. Use street names and compass directions. **(4)**

2.4 On the map, the route from the school to the library along the streets is 4 cm long. Use the scale 1 cm = 100 m to work out the real distance. **(2)**

2.5 In a straight line, the school and the library are 3 cm apart on the map. Use the same scale (1 cm = 100 m) to calculate the direct distance, and explain why it differs from your answer in 2.4. **(3)**

2.6 Name THREE things a sketch map of a route must show. **(3)**

2.7 What is the difference between a LARGE-SCALE and a SMALL-SCALE map? Give an example of each. **(4)**

3 Floods: a South African case study

15 marks

SOURCE C · THE KWAZULU-NATAL FLOODS OF 2022

In April 2022 very heavy rain fell over eThekwini (Durban) and the surrounding district. More than 300 mm fell in two days — close to a third of what the area normally receives in a whole year.

Rivers burst their banks. Landslides swept away homes built on steep slopes and on riverbanks. More than 400 people died and thousands lost their houses. Roads, bridges, water pipes and the port were damaged.

Communities in informal settlements were worst affected, because many homes stood on low ground near rivers, and because there were few storm-water drains.

A natural disaster in South Africa.

3.1 What caused the floods? **(2)**

3.2 Name THREE effects of the floods. **(3)**

3.3 Explain why some communities were at higher risk than others. **(3)**

3.4 Name TWO ways to prepare for floods, and TWO ways to respond after a flood. **(4)**

3.5 Explain how the loss of vegetation can make floods worse. **(3)**

4 Places in the news: an earthquake

8 marks

4.1 A news report mentions an earthquake at 36° N, 140° E. In which TWO hemispheres is this place? **(2)**

4.2 Which line of latitude divides the Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, and what is its value? **(2)**

4.3 The earthquake in 4.1 struck near a large city. Name TWO effects that a strong earthquake can have on the people and buildings of a city. **(2)**

4.4 Cape Town is at about 34° S, 18° E and Durban at about 30° S, 31° E. Which city is further east, and how do you know? **(2)**

5 The structure of the Earth, volcanoes and earthquakes

8 marks

5.1 Name the THREE main layers of the Earth, from the outside to the centre. **(3)**

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

5.2 Write the correct word next to each description. **(3)**

Description	Word
Molten rock under the ground	
Molten rock on the surface	
The point directly above an earthquake's origin	

5.3 Why do volcanoes and earthquakes mostly happen in the same places? **(2)**

Total **66 marks**



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