



GACE® Geography Assessment

Test at a Glance

Updated June 2017

See the GACE® Geography Assessment Study Companion for practice questions and preparation resources.

Assessment Name	Geography
Grade Level	6–12
Test Code	Test I: 036 Test II: 037 Combined Test I and Test II: 536
Testing Time	Test I: 2 hours Test II: 2 hours Combined Test I and Test II: 4 hours
Test Duration	Test I: 2.5 hours Test II: 2.5 hours Combined Test I and Test II: 5 hours
Test Format	Computer delivered
Number of Selected-response Questions	Test I: 60 Test II: 60 Combined Test I and Test II: 120
Question Format	The test consists of a variety of short-answer questions such as selected-response questions, where you select one answer choice or multiple answer choices (depending on what the question asks for), questions where you enter your answer in a text box, and other types of questions. You can review the possible question types in the <i>Guide to Taking a GACE Computer-delivered Test.</i>
Number of Constructed-response Questions	Test I: 0 Test II: 0 Combined Test I and Test II: 0

About this Assessment

The GACE Geography assessment is designed to measure the professional knowledge of prospective teachers of Geography in the state of Georgia.

This assessment includes two tests. You may take either test individually or the full assessment in a single session. The testing time is the amount of time you will have to answer the questions on the test. Test duration includes time for tutorials and directional screens that may be included in the test.

The questions in this assessment assess both basic knowledge across content areas and the ability to apply principles.

The total number of questions that are scored is typically smaller than the total number of questions on the test. Most tests that contain selected-response questions also include embedded pretest questions, which are not used in calculating your score. By including pretest questions in the assessment, ETS is able to analyze actual test-taker performance on proposed new questions and determine whether they should be included in future versions of the test.

Content Specifications

Each test in this assessment is organized into content **subareas**. Each subarea is further defined by a set of **objectives** and their **knowledge statements**.

- The objectives broadly define what an entry-level educator in this field in Georgia public schools should know and be able to do.
- The knowledge statements describe in greater detail the knowledge and skills eligible for testing.
- Some tests also include content material at the evidence level. This content serves as descriptors of what each knowledge statement encompasses.

See a breakdown of the subareas and objectives for the tests in this assessment on the following pages.

Test I Subareas

Subarea	Approx. Percentage of Test
I. Geography Literacy and Tools	36%
II. Physical Geography	32%
III. Environment and Society	32%

Test I Objectives

Subarea I: Geography Literacy and Tools

Objective 1: Understands fundamental concepts of geographic literacy

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Understands the difference between distance, direction, and scale
- B. Understands the difference between absolute and relative location
- C. Understands the difference between spatial distribution and density
- D. Understands the difference between the types of regions
- E. Knows geographic concepts in current events

Objective 2: Understands fundamental geographic tools and their uses

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Knows different map types and their uses
- B. Understands mental maps and their uses for organizing information
- C. Understands the uses of geographical models
- D. Knows the use of geographic tools
- E. Understands the use of spatial analysis

Subarea II: Physical Geography

Objective 1: Understands fundamental concepts of weather and climate

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Knows weather factors and events
- B. Knows climate factors and climate zones
- C. Understands weather and climate terms
- D. Knows how to interpret climographs
- E. Knows the processes involved in the hydrologic cycle

Objective 2: Understands fundamental concepts of physiography and biogeography

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Knows Earth's primary spheres
- B. Knows the geomorphic processes
- C. Understands tectonic processes
- D. Knows the major types of landforms
- E. Knows Earth's biomes or ecosystems
- F. Knows the ecoregions of the United States

Subarea III: Environment and Society

Objective 1: Understands fundamental geographic human-environment issues

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Understands human modifications of the environment
- B. Understands human-environment interactions
- C. Knows the limitation of the physical landscape on human settlement
- D. Understands society's ability to overcome physical limitations
- E. Understands the environmental patterns of settlement
- F. Knows renewable and nonrenewable resources
- G. Understands the technology of and reasons for alternative energy
- H. Understands population impacts on resources

Objective 2: Understands geographic concepts of hazards and pollution

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Understands how climatic and seismic hazards affect settlements
- B. Knows seismic hazards and volcanism
- C. Understands long-term environmental impacts of pollution and resource depletion
- D. Understands the effect of chemicals on the environment
- E. Understands groundwater pollution and depletion
- F. Understands global climate change
- G. Understands climate change effects on settlement

Test II Subareas

Subarea	Approx. Percentage of Test
I. Human Geography	40%
II. Regional Geography	36%
III. Geography of Georgia	24%

Test II Objectives

Subarea I: Human Geography

Objective 1: Understands fundamental concepts of population and migration

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Understands fundamental concepts of population and migration
- B. Knows demographic indicators and the demographic transition model
- C. Knows population pyramids
- D. Understands the patterns of migration
- E. Knows the characteristics of urban and rural settlements

Objective 2: Understands fundamental concepts of agriculture

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Understands the development and diffusion of agriculture
- B. Understands technological advancements in agriculture
- C. Understands the industrialization of agriculture

Objective 3: Understands geographic concepts of culture, economy, and politics

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Understands political geography concepts
- B. Knows recent conflict and cooperation throughout the world
- C. Knows the effects of industrialization and deindustrialization
- D. Knows the levels of a country's development
- E. Understands distribution of commodities
- F. Understands globalization
- G. Knows changing global economic patterns

Subarea II: Regional Geography

Objective 1: Understands characteristics and perceptions of world and U.S. regions

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Understands regional characteristics
- B. Understands people's perceptions of regions
- C. Knows the minor regions of the world
- D. Knows the major regions of the world
- E. Knows the regions of the United States

Subarea III: Geography of Georgia

Objective 1: Knows physical, human, and environmental geography of Georgia

The beginning Geography teacher:

- A. Knows the physical geography of Georgia
- B. Knows the human geography of Georgia
- C. Knows the regions and places in Georgia
- D. Knows the environmental geography of Georgia
- E. Knows the natural resource debates in Georgia