

Topographical Assessment Guidelines

The Topographical assessment guidelines provide details about the assessment. The assessment will be computer based. You need a basic understanding of how to use a mouse.

Assessment Structure

The assessment has several sections designed to test your understanding of maps and route planning. These are:

- Route Planning essentials (true or false questions based on a route planning scenario)
- Planning a route between two locations
- Understanding map symbols
- Finding places of interest
- Finding specific streets
- Identifying road numbers
- Demonstrating knowledge of compass points and directions

Planning a route

This assesses your ability to use a digital map to plan a direct route between two locations. The start location is indicated by a green marker and the end location by a red marker. There will be three route planning questions. One will be a short route. One will be a short route with a road closure. One will be a long route. It is important that you read the question carefully to ensure you understand what you are being asked to do.

Example Question:

What is the most direct route between London Zoo (the green marker) and Piccadilly Circus (the red marker), NOTE: Regent Street is CLOSED.

A short video to provide basic guidance for your Topographical assessment can be viewed at: www.tfl.gov.uk/topographical.

Route marking criteria:

Questions asking you to plan the most direct route from a start point to an end point carry the most marks in your assessment. The points available per question are published within the assessment. In the route planning questions you will lose marks for:

- Not starting or ending in the correct place
- Planning the route in reverse
- Not following the most direct route
- Following a route or making a turn prohibited by the symbols shown on the map

Routes are marked in a two-step process. A skilled Topographical Assessor marks the routes. These are then passed to a different assessor for a quality assurance check.

Please Note:

We are unable to provide detailed individual feedback or to provide copies of the assessment.

Using a map

The remaining questions are multiple choice. Some have one answer, some have two answers. This will be made clear in the question.

In the following sections:

- Understanding map symbols
- Finding places of interest
- Finding specific streets
- Identifying road numbers
- Demonstrate knowledge of compass points and directions

You will need to look at an onscreen image of a map. You may also be asked to refer to a copy of the map reference page which will be provided for you. This page explains what various map symbols mean.

There will be a question about the map, and you must select the appropriate answer or answers.

The assessment is scored out of 100 marks. 66 marks for the three route planning questions and the remaining 34 marks split between the multiple-choice questions.

The pass mark is 60% or above.