

6. Celestial Observation

Edexcel GCSE Astronomy Course
(Taught Concepts Only Sept 2020)

Specification Points

6.10 Understand how the observer's latitude can be used to link the equatorial and horizon coordinates of an object for the observer's meridian

6.11 Understand how the observer's meridian defines local sidereal time and an object's hour angle

6.12 Be able to use information on equatorial and horizon coordinates to determine:

a the best time to observe a particular celestial object

b the best object(s) to observe at a particular time

6.15 Be able to use a star's declination to determine whether the star will be circumpolar from an observer's latitude

6.17 Be able to use information about rising and setting times of stars to predict their approximate position in the sky

Resources

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Astronomy/2017/Teaching-and-learning-materials/GCSE_Astronomy_Topic_Guide_Celestial_Sphere.pdf

Use the Examwizard example questions with MS and Examiner's report to look at the maths of these types of questions

Model in Stellarium by selecting both equatorial and azimuthal grid, then select individual star details - Stellarium gives RA and hour angle of targets