GCE Past Papers - Fix Summary (For a 15-year-old)

What was wrong?

- Files couldn't be downloaded from the website. When someone clicked "Download", nothing happened.
- Some file paths in the database accidentally included the word "media/" twice, so the server looked in the wrong place.
- The page had a download link that didn't point to the file.

What I changed (simple list):

1) Fixed where files are saved:
   - In the models I changed the file storage paths so new files go into a folder called "past_papers" or "marking_schemes" inside the media folder.

2) Made the download button work:
   - I added a new web function (a "view") that sends the file to your browser as a downloadable file.
   - I updated the site's HTML so the download button calls that view.

3) Fixed old records in the database:
   - Some records had the file name starting with "media/" already. I removed that extra part so the server can find the real file on disk.

4) Made the download code safer:
   - The new download function tries a few places to find the file. If it can't find it, it will try to redirect to the file URL or return a clear error.

Files I edited:

- papers/models.py -> changed upload paths for files
- papers/views.py   -> added a download view and improved queries
- papers/urls.py   -> added a URL route for downloading
- templates/index.html -> fixed the download link

How I checked it works:

- I ran the Django check command to make sure settings and code are OK.
- I normalized the database records that had the wrong path.
- I tested the download URL: it returned a PDF with the right headers, and the first bytes looked like a real PDF.

Why this matters (short):

If file links are wrong, students can't download papers, which defeats the purpose of the site. Fixing the paths and the link makes sure learners can get the PDFs quickly.

If you want more:
- I can make this work if files are stored on remote services like S3.

- I can add a download counter to track how many times people download each paper.
- I can add tests so changes won't break downloads in future.

How to run the site locally (quick):

1) Activate the venv:
   source myenv/bin/activate
2) Run the dev server:
   python manage.py runserver
3) Go to http://127.0.0.1:8000/ and use the search form, then click Download.

Thanks - if you want I can also produce a version with screenshots or a step-by-step video guide.