Stage 1 Geography

Assessment Type 1: Geographical Skills and Applications Task 4

Contemporary Issues: Local Issues Inquiry

Purpose

Investigate a current local geographical issue facing the population and/or environment.

Assessment Description

* Select a current local geographical issue and, in consultation with your teacher, devise an appropriate inquiry question or hypothesis.
* Explore the geographical context of your chosen issue, including:
  + the location
  + the nature of the issue – what it actually is.
* Analyse the issue, including:
  + the causes of the issue
  + the impacts of the issue
  + different perspectives on the issue.
* Identify preferred sustainable outcomes, referring to social, economic and environmental perspectives.

Assessment Conditions

* Produce a webpage or newspaper article of no more than 800 words.

The web page or newspaper article should include:

* + a location map
  + a description of the issue and the people and/or environment that it affects
  + an analysis of the causes and impacts of the issue, using data gathered from a wide variety of sources
  + an analysis of a range of different perspectives on the issue
  + suggested preferred outcomes, with reference to social, economic and environmental perspectives
  + the integration of information in maps, graphs, tables, and images throughout the webpage or article
  + an acknowledgment of sources.
* The specific features being assessed are:

**AE1 Analysis of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at a local level.**

**AE2 Analysis and evaluation of information to determine possible outcomes.**

**Ap1 Application of geographical skills, including the use of spatial technologies, to identify and examine geographical issues.**

**Ap2 Communication of geographical information, using subject-specific terminology and visual representations.**

**Performance Standards for Stage 1 Geography**

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|  | **Knowledge and understanding** | **Analysis and Evaluation** | **Application** |
| **A** | Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts.  Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the natural, built, economic, and/or social characteristics of places. | Insightful analysis of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Comprehensive analysis and evaluation of information to determine possible outcomes, make justifiable recommendations, and form conclusions. | Purposeful and well-considered application of a variety of geographical and fieldwork skills, including the use of spatial technologies, to identify and examine geographical issues.  Clear and coherent communication of relevant geographical information, using appropriate subject-specific terminology and visual representations. |
| **B** | Well-considered knowledge and informed understanding of geographical concepts.  Well-considered knowledge and informed understanding of the natural, built, economic, and/or social characteristics of places. | Well-informed analysis of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Detailed and well-considered analysis and evaluation of information to determine possible outcomes, make justifiable recommendations, and form conclusions. | Well-considered application of different geographical and fieldwork skills, including the use of spatial technologies, to identify and examine geographical issues.  Clear communication of relevant geographical information, using appropriate subject-specific terminology and visual representations. |
| **C** | Considered knowledge understanding of geographical concepts.  Considered knowledge and informed understanding of the natural, built, economic, and/or social characteristics of places. | Informed analysis of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Considered analysis and some evaluation of information to determine possible outcomes, make recommendations, and form conclusions. | Competent application of geographical and fieldwork skills, including the use of spatial technologies, to identify and examine geographical issues.  Competent communication of generally relevant geographical information, using mostly appropriate subject-specific terminology and visual representations |
| **D** | Recognition and basic understanding of some geographical concepts.  Basic awareness and some understanding of aspects of the natural, built, economic, or social characteristics of places. | Basic consideration and description of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Superficial consideration of information to describe possible outcomes and recommendations. | Some application of different geographical and fieldwork skills, which may include the use of spatial technologies.  Basic communication of some geographical information, using occasional subject-specific terminology and visual representations. |
| **E** | Identification of one or more geographical concepts.  Emerging awareness of aspects of the natural, built, economic, or social characteristics of places. | Brief or attempted description of the interactions between, or interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Description of information linked to a possible outcome or recommendation. | Limited application of geographical and fieldwork skills.  Attempted communication of geographical information, with limited use of subject-specific terminology or visual representations. |