Revision – Geography

**Teacher note**: In the following activity, students will choose 4-5 ‘big ideas’ that they would write about in response to certain HSC or trial essay questions. Questions have been provided for the three topics Ecosystems at Risk, Urban Places and People and Economic Activity.

# Aim

The aim of Geography Stage 6 is to enable students to study the spatial and ecological dimensions of biophysical and human phenomena in a changing world.

## Objectives

Through the study of Geography Stage 6, students will develop

* knowledge and understanding about:
  + the characteristics and spatial distribution of environments
  + the processes that form and transform the features and patterns of the environment
  + the global and local forces which impact on people, ecosystems, urban places and economic activity
  + the contribution of a geographical perspective;
* skills to:
  + investigate geographically
  + communicate geographically;
* and informed and responsible values and attitudes towards:
  + ecological sustainability
  + a just society
  + ethical research practices
  + active and informed citizenship
  + responsible, autonomous life-long learning.

## Outcomes

A student:

* **H1** explains the changing nature, spatial patterns and interaction of ecosystems, urban places and economic activity
* **H2** explains the factors which place ecosystems at risk and the reasons for their protection
* **H3** analyses contemporary urban dynamics and applies them in specific contexts
* **H4** analyses the changing spatial and ecological dimensions of an economic activity
* **H5** evaluates environmental management strategies in terms of ecological sustainability
* **H6** evaluates the impacts of, and responses of people to, environmental change
* **H7** justifies geographical methods applicable and useful in the workplace and relevant to a changing world
* **H8** plans geographical inquiries to analyse and synthesise information from a variety of sources
* **H9** evaluates geographical information and sources for usefulness, validity and reliability
* **H10** applies maps, graphs and statistics, photographs and fieldwork to analyse and integrate data in geographical contexts.
* **H11** applies mathematical ideas and techniques to analyse geographical data
* **H12** explains geographical patterns, processes and future trends through appropriate case studies and illustrative examples
* **H13** communicates complex geographical information, ideas and issues effectively, using appropriate written and/or oral, cartographic and graphic forms

Outcomes referred to in this document are from [Geography Stage 6](https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/hsie/geography) © NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) for and on behalf of the Crown in right of the State of New South Wales, 2009.

# Ecosystems at risk

Complete a summary of 4-5 ‘big ideas’ or paragraphs that you would write about in an essay for this question.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Question | 4-5 ‘big ideas’ to write about |
| Assess the vulnerability and resilience of ecosystems at risk. |  |
| Explain the the importance of ecosystem management and protection. Refer to two ecosystems at risk. |  |
| Evaluate either traditional and contemporary management strategies utilised for an ecosystem at risk. |  |
| Explain how biophysical interactions in an ecosystem at risk have been altered by human activity. |  |
| Explain how the nature and rate of change for an ecosystem at risk has been altered by human activity. |  |
| Assess human impacts to an ecosystem at risk. |  |
| Assess the need to allow for natural rate of change for an ecosystem at risk. |  |

* Complete an essay for the following question: ‘Assess the impact of humans on the functioning of TWO ecosystems at risk.’
* Use a [C3-B4-Me](https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/digital-learning-selector/LearningActivity/Card/549#.YO0FId6SOQ8.link) feedback strategy to gain advice on how to improve the essay from 3 of your peers before emailing to your teacher. Feedback should be based on whether the essay:
  + presents a logical, cohesive and sustained argument
  + integrates relevant case studies
  + demonstrates extensive knowledge of ecosystem functioning
  + makes clear judgement(s).

# Urban places

Complete a summary of 4-5 ‘big ideas’ or paragraphs that you would write about in an essay for this question.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Question | 4-5 ‘big ideas’ to write about |
| Assess the challenges of living in mega cities. |  |
| Examine the nature, spatial patterns and future directions of ONE mega city. |  |
| Examine the nature, spatial patterns and future directions of ONE world city. |  |
| Examine the nature, spatial patterns and future directions of ONE suburb or town. |  |
| Evaluate the effectiveness an urban dynamic operating in a suburb or town promoting ecological sustainability. |  |
| Why are world cities important? Refer to economic and cultural authority in your response. |  |

* Complete an essay for the following question: ‘Analyse ONE of the urban dynamics of change operating in a small town or a suburb. .’
* Use a [C3-B4-Me](https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/digital-learning-selector/LearningActivity/Card/549#.YO0FId6SOQ8.link) feedback strategy to gain advice on how to improve the essay from 3 of your peers before emailing to your teacher. Feedback should be based on whether the essay:
  + presents a logical, cohesive and sustained argument
  + integrates relevant examples
  + demonstrates extensive knowledge of the urban dynamic
  + makes clear judgement(s) about the implication of change.

# People and economic activity

Complete a summary of 4-5 ‘big ideas’ or paragraphs that you would write about in an essay for this question.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Question | 4-5 ‘big ideas’ to write about |
| Describe the nature, spatial patterns and future directions of ONE economic activity in a global context. |  |
| Explain the factors that have influenced the nature and spatial pattern of ONE economic activity. |  |
| To what extent have recent global changes affected an economic enterprise you have studied? |  |
| Explain possible future directions of an economic enterprise. |  |
| Evaluate the importance of environmental sustainability to an economic activity you have studied. |  |
| Demonstrate why an economic activity you have studied has sociocultural importance. |  |
| Assess the impact an economic activity to environmental protection. |  |

* Complete an essay for the following question: ‘Explain how global changes have influenced an economic enterprise operating at a local scale.’
* Use a [C3-B4-Me](https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/digital-learning-selector/LearningActivity/Card/549#.YO0FId6SOQ8.link) feedback strategy to gain advice on how to improve the essay from 3 of your peers before emailing to your teacher. Feedback should be based on whether the essay:
  + presents a logical, cohesive and sustained argument
  + integrates relevant case studies
  + demonstrates extensive knowledge of economic enterprise
  + make the relationships between changes and economic enterprise clear.