

Exam preparation using selected HSC exam questions

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Instructions: Here is a list of potential examination questions.

Colour code the difficulty (Diff) column to show how difficult you think each question is.

Place a X in the 'Help' column if you need advice to answer this question.

Plan responses to a variety of question types and difficulty levels. Use an extended response planning template.

Write full answers to a selection of these.

TOPIC: ECOSYSTEMS AT RISK

Easy	Medium	Difficult	Very Difficult	
QUESTION			Diff	Help
Extended responses – 20 marks				
Explain the importance of ecosystem management and protection in ecosystems at risk.				
Analyse the biophysical interactions that occur in ONE ecosystem at risk.				
Explain how ONE ecosystem at risk has demonstrated both vulnerability and resilience in response to natural stress and human induced modifications				
Assess the impact of humans on the functioning of TWO ecosystems at risk.				
Discuss how management strategies could be used to address human impacts that are placing TWO ecosystems at risk.				
Evaluate traditional and contemporary management strategies of TWO ecosystems at risk in terms of ecological sustainability				
Assess the effectiveness of the strategies that have been used to manage the threats to at least ONE ecosystem at risk.				
Short answers				
Compare the effect of latitude on the nature of TWO different ecosystems at risk. (3)				
Outline how changes in weather or climate can affect an ecosystem. (2)				
Explain how biophysical factors influence where an ecosystem at risk is located (4)				
Outline why utility value is a reason to protect ecosystems. (2)				
Why is it important to manage and protect ecosystems? (6)				
How is an ecosystem you have studied both vulnerable and resilient? (4)				
How has ONE ecosystem at risk responded to natural stress? (6)				
Describe how the nature of and rate of change in ONE ecosystem at risk affect its functioning. (6)				
Outline how ONE example of human-induced stress has affected the functioning of an ecosystem. (2)				

REVISION USING SELECTED HSC EXAM QUESTIONS

Full page templates can be found in the Edition 3 Supplement.

TOPIC: URBAN PLACES

Easy	Medium	Difficult	Very Difficult		
QUESTION				Diff	Help
Extended responses – 20 marks					
Explain how the nature and distribution of world cities affect their role in the operation of global networks.					
Discuss the effects of urban dynamics on a large city in the developed world.					
Account for changes in both social structure and patterns of advantage and disadvantage in a large city from the developed world.					
Analyse responses to the challenges of living in mega cities.					
Contrast the nature and character of mega cities in the developing world with world cities.					
Account for the changing nature, character and spatial distribution of mega cities.					
Analyse the impact of urban dynamics on the ecological sustainability of a large city in the developed world.					
Short answers					
Using an example, outline what exurbanisation means. (2)					
Outline how ONE urban dynamic of change is operating in a country town or suburb that you have studied. (2)					
How does the changing role of regional centres affect small towns? (3)					
How has ONE urban dynamic, other than urban village, changed the character of a country town or suburb? (4)					
Outline the spatial distribution of megacities in the developing world. Include examples in your answer. (3)					
How have megacities in the developing world responded to TWO of the challenges of living in megacities? (3)					
Explain the role of world cities. (6)					
Explain why world cities are important centres of economic and cultural authority. (6)					
Using examples, explain the relationship between world cities and other centres in terms of dominance and dependence. (6)					
Contrast mega cities in the developing world with world cities in terms of their nature and spatial distribution. Include examples in your answer. (6)					

TOPIC: PEOPLE AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Easy	Medium	Difficult	Very Difficult		
QUESTION				Diff	Help
Extended responses – 20 marks					
Explain the factors that have influenced the nature and spatial pattern of ONE economic activity.					
Explain how biophysical and technological factors affect the nature of ONE economic activity in a global context.					
Analyse the environmental and social impacts of ONE economic activity.					
Explain how an economic activity you have studied has responded to the challenges of ecological sustainability.					
Explain how locational factors have influenced the character of an economic enterprise operating at a local scale.					
Evaluate factors that have influenced the location of an economic enterprise operating at a local scale.					
Analyse how an economic enterprise operating at a local scale can be affected by global changes.					
Short answers					
Explain the social impact and economic impact of an economic activity you studied. (6)					
Outline how ONE biophysical factor affects the spatial pattern of an economic activity you studied. (3)					
Discuss how the use of technology has affected the nature of an economic activity you studied. (4)					
Account for the future direction of ONE economic activity. (3)					
Describe the nature of ONE economic enterprise. (2)					
Outline ONE internal linkage associated with ONE economic enterprise. (2)					
Outline ONE external linkage associated with ONE economic enterprise. (2)					
Describe TWO ecological dimensions associated with ONE economic enterprise. (4)					
Explain how TWO global changes in ONE economic activity affect the future direction of AN economic enterprise. (6)					
Explain how an individual economic enterprise improves its ecological sustainability. (6)					

Questions referring to the stimulus booklet, fieldwork and vocational links

ECOSYSTEMS AT RISK

QUESTION	Diff	Help
2016 Refer to Sources D and F on page 2 of the Stimulus Booklet. (3) Explain how human activities may affect ONE ecosystem in South Western Namibia.		
2013 Using Source B on page 1 of the Stimulus Booklet, explain TWO reasons for the management and protection of ecosystems.		
2013 With specific reference to both diagrams, explain the biophysical interactions responsible for the functioning of ecosystems.		
2001 Refer to Sources I and K. a. Identify TWO human activities that may place the Avon-Heathcote Estuary at risk. b. Identify a management strategy currently used in the Avon-Heathcote Estuary and evaluate its likely success in terms of the ecological sustainability of this ecosystem.		
2004 Refer to the illustration. a. Identify ONE natural stress that could have occurred at B. b. Describe changes in the functioning of the ecosystem that are likely to occur over the 500 years following the natural stress event at B.		
2008 Refer to Source D to answer parts (a)–(b). a. How is the English estuary ecosystem both vulnerable and resilient to natural stress? b. Explain how human-induced modifications to energy flows would affect this ecosystem.		

PEOPLE AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

QUESTION	Diff	Help
2002 Using Source I on page 4 of the Stimulus Booklet. a. Describe the spatial pattern of the global production of oil in 2000.		
2005 Refer to Source L on page 2 of the Stimulus Booklet. Identify TWO economic activities evident on the map, and account for the location of ONE of these activities. 3 marks		
2007 Refer to Source E on page 3 of the Stimulus Booklet (a)–(d). 8 marks a. Identify an economic enterprise operating in Vancouver. b. State the location of this economic enterprise. c. State TWO locational factors for this economic enterprise. d. Outline possible human impacts on the biophysical environment of the economic enterprise identified in part (a).		

URBAN PLACES

QUESTION	Diff	Help
2014 Contrast the TWO examples of urban dynamics of change in Source F on page 4 of the Stimulus Booklet.		
2013 With reference to Source G on page 4 of the Stimulus Booklet, account for the rapid growth of megacities in the developing world.		
2013 Using Source H on page 4 of the Stimulus Booklet, explain ONE challenge associated with the provision of services in megacities in the developing world.		
2006 Refer to Source I on page 4 of the Stimulus Booklet. c. Give TWO reasons that explain why the number of mega cities has increased between 1950 and 2000.		
2001 Refer to Sources C, D, F, H and I. From these sources, name TWO locations within Christchurch that demonstrate different urban dynamics, and account for these differences.		

VOCATIONAL AND FIELDWORK QUESTIONS

QUESTION	Diff	Help
2003 Choose ONE vocation, requiring geographical understanding, that is applicable to a workplace likely to be found in the south-west quadrant of the map. Describe TWO DIFFERENT methods that could be employed in the collection of primary geographical data in such a workplace.		
2007 Refer to Source D on page 2 of the Stimulus Booklet. Name and locate an ecosystem that could be investigated using fieldwork. Formulate a geographical question to investigate the ecosystem identified.		
2014 Refer to Source E on page 4 of the Stimulus Booklet. National Park rangers plan to conduct a fieldwork investigation to study the impact of tourism on Little Rotamah Island (AR 1227). What are the possible impacts of tourism on this environment? b. What fieldwork activities could the rangers use to analyse the impact of tourism on this environment? Outline how ONE primary and ONE secondary source could be used by the rangers to provide data and information for their investigation. Recommend a traditional management strategy that may be used to protect this environment.		

Copies of HSC Stimulus booklets can be found in the Google Drive linked to the GTANSW & ACT Senior Geography Teachers Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/>