

## Learning how to assess a management strategy in Geography

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NESA provides a glossary of key words that appear in the syllabus and examinations.

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-student-guide/glossary-keywords>

Examples of topics where students “assess” include:

### Stage 4

**Landscapes and Landforms – assess strategies to reduce the future impact of natural hazards.**

**Water in the World – assess strategies to overcome water scarcity**

### Stage 5

**Changing Places – assess strategies used to create economically, socially and environmentally sustainable urban places**

**Environmental Change and Management – assess the effectiveness of management strategies to achieve environmental sustainability**

### What does the word ‘assess’ mean?

The word ‘assess’ means to make a judgment about the value of; quality, results, outcome or size of a particular idea, strategy or argument.

In other words, ask yourself the question: Is this thing good? Is it working? Is it effective? How do we know?

### Assessing in Geography

Throughout our studies in Geography, we are constantly looking at how our world is changing or how there are problems within the interactions between the natural and human environments. We also explore the attempts by humans (as individuals, community groups and governments) to manage this change, resolve these problems or reduce the severity of the overall impacts.

Obviously we would like these attempts to be successful and effective. Something is ‘effective’ when it does what it says it will do. Assessing a strategy is judging whether it has been successful in achieving its stated aims or whether it was unsuccessful or had unintended negative consequences.

### Steps to assess:

1. Identify the name of the strategy – it should have some sort of title or name that it has been given.
2. Describe the main features of that strategy – who is doing it, what is it supposed to do and how will it do it?
3. Explain the impact of the strategy on problem it is trying to solve.
4. Make a judgement about whether it is working using specific evidence or data to support your argument. Use words such as effective, successful, appropriate, responsive for positive judgements and ineffective, unsuccessful, inappropriate or unresponsive for negative judgements.

## Assessing Strategies Scaffold

Identify the name of the strategy:

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Describe the main features of that strategy – who is doing it, what is it supposed to do and how will it do it?

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Explain the impact of the strategy on problem it is trying to solve with reference to specific evidence.

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Make a judgement about whether it is working using specific evidence or data to support your argument.

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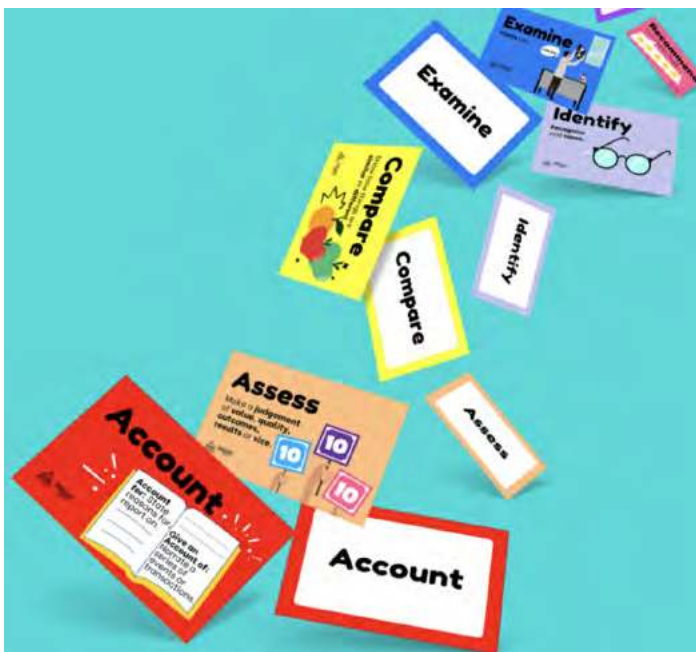


Image Source: <https://tpd.edu.au/product/key-word-flashcards/>

Assess Definition: <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-student-guide/glossary-keywords>