

Supporting Your Learner

National 5

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Course Outline

In National 5 Geography pupils study three main areas;

- *Physical Environments* – Weather, Upland Limestone, Rivers and Valleys, Landuse and land use conflicts in upland limestone areas
- *Human Environments* – Urban, Rural and Population
- *Global Issues* – Development and Health, Impact of human activity on the natural environment (Equatorial rainforest and the tundra)

Pupils will also complete a research assignment from their fieldwork in Haddington which will account for 25% of their overall grade. Candidates will also undertake a final SQA exam which will be comprised of knowledge and understanding and skills based questions on these three areas of study.

National 5 candidates should aim to carry out regular independent research throughout the year. They should also read articles, information and PowerPoints that are put onto google classroom to support them.

Pupils will also have to complete a range of unit assessments throughout the year to gain the outcomes that they need to have achieved before they can sit the examination.

Exam Preparation

Throughout the year, pupils should be looking over their notes from class and creating mind maps and summary notes to help them. They should also focus on practising past paper questions and comparing their answer to the SQA marking scheme which can be found on the SQA past paper website. It is also important that pupils practise describe and explain questions to identify different command words and what they mean. The exam is out of 60 marks and pupils have 1 hour and 45 minutes to complete it. They should therefore be aware that for each question they have just less than 2 minutes per mark. It is therefore crucial that when pupils are practising past paper questions that they do so under timed conditions. Pupils can hand in questions to be marked at any point throughout the year.



Useful Websites

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47446.html> - SQA curriculum outline and assessment information

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/znbw2hv> - N5 Bitesize revision page

Useful Textbooks

Hodder and Gibson - Geography: Physical Environments

Hodder and Gibson - Geography: Human Environments

Revision Guides

Hodder and Gibson - National 5 Geography Model Papers with answers

National 5 Geography How to Pass (SQA Endorsed)

Leckie and Leckie also do a range of support revision guides but are not SQA endorsed

Revision Classes

Tuesday – Miss Stobie 1:30-2:00

Thursday – Miss Jeffrey 1:30-2:00

SQA Past Papers

Below is a link to the past papers and marking schemes for National 5 geography.

<http://www.sqa.org.uk/pastpapers/findpastpaper.htm?subject=Geography&level=N5>



Understanding Standards

The link below to the SQA website will allow you to see where markers have awarded marks to exemplar papers and read the markers' comments on the candidate's response. It is especially helpful in identifying where marks are awarded for analysis and for knowledge.

<http://www.understandingstandards.org.uk/Subjects/Geography>

