

# Questions & Answers

## Changes to assessment in National 5 Geography

### Question Paper

**Can they be asked about a combined indicator, eg HDI?**

It is unlikely that combined indicators would appear in a National 5 paper.

**You mention testing PRESENTING information in the Global Issues section. What form would this take? I don't believe I've seen this in a question paper at National 5 before.**

It might include a candidate drawing a diagram within their answer, eg Natural Hazards.

**When required to draw diagrams, can candidates use pencil or do they need to draw in pen?**

Preferably pen as the scripts are scanned for marking.

**Please can you give us an idea of the type of thing you would be expecting from pupils to gain marks in the 'patterns' map work questions?**

The Specimen Question Paper has examples.

**Can you tell us whether there will be questions which have a higher mark allocation than we have already seen, or is it a case that the question mark allocation is the same but just a wider coverage?**

There will be wider sampling of the course content. Questions will be worth a maximum of 6 marks.

**Can you confirm that pupils have to know about a specific case study and their movement through the demographic transition model (DTM) at National 5? It appears in the Specimen Question Paper.**

The DTM question may be set in context – as in the Specimen Question Paper. It may be helpful to candidates to have the DTM set in context by teaching a case study.

**Could you please outline some examples of recent developments in developed world cities?**

Changes in transport and developments in the rural urban fringe.

**Just to clarify, do we teach just one conflict and management case study? Or do we teach a case study for both landscapes studied, eg Dorset conflicts and solutions along with Cairngorms conflicts and solutions?**

One case study.

**Would they ever be required to draw a graph from given information?**

No.

**What needs to be taught in the Natural Regions Section?**

The Course Specification has the mandatory content.

**The Specimen Question Paper looks like it had more 6 mark questions than previous papers? Is this a likely trend?**

It could vary from year to year – there are more marks available.

## **Assignment**

**Can assignments be typed up (including by candidates without additional assessment arrangements) if under the same 1hr etc conditions?**

Yes, but you must make sure they cannot access any other information on pen drives, internet etc.

**Can I give them the aim for their assignment if we gather data as a group?**

They should have collected enough data so that they have a choice of aim.

**Please can you clarify what you mean when you say ‘no feedback on drafts’? The guidance clearly says ‘no detailed feedback’.**

Feedback should not be given on practice write-ups.

**Although you are not allowed to mark or give detailed feedback, are you allowed to give verbal advice to students on how to improve their work?**

Yes, on a whole class basis – generically.

**Can you clarify that we are not allowed to direct pupils to resources in any way? Some pupils need advice on appropriate resources for National 5 and where to access these.**

You cannot direct them to specific resources.

**You cannot ensure a whole class will not all choose the same aim; you cannot stop them talking about it outside of class. Would it be acceptable to give them a choice of aims or do they have to come up with their own? If so, it is entirely possible they will all decide on the same one.**

It is reasonable to give them a range of topics to choose from but they should come up with their own aim.