Studying Geography
Today we will investigate:

• What are the geographical concepts?
• What are the skills needed to analyse geographic data?
• How do case studies enhance your geographic writing?
• How can you answer extended response questions in Geography?
Geographical concepts - SPICESS

- **S** - Scale
- **P** – Place
- **I** – Interconnection
- **C** – Change
- **E** – Environment
- **S** – Sustainability
- **S** – Space
Scale

Looking at different perspectives, for example:

• Local –
• State -
• National –
• Region -
• Continent -
Place

Where something is located.

It can be described by:

• Absolute location ie latitude and longitude
• Grid reference
• Street directory reference
Interconnection

The ways in which people and things are connected to other people and things.

For example:
How do CCGS students who live in Claremont interconnect with the Indian Ocean?
Change

How places and environments alter over time

For example:

• How would a cyclone change Port Hedland?
• Would this be slow or fast?
Environment

The total surroundings which includes living (biotic) and non-living (abiotic) features of the earth’s surface.

For example:
Sustainability

Maintaining the capacity of the environment to support living creatures both now and in future generations.

For example:
Space

An area on the surface of the Earth.

For example:
What are the skills needed to analyse geographic data?

You will be exposed to a variety of geographic data:

• in classwork and inquiry tasks
• in assessments
• in examinations (on a broadsheet)
Types of geographic data

- Maps
- Graphs
- Tables
- and others...
How to get the most out of geographic data

• Read what the question is asking for
• Give **specific examples** from the geographic data (eg country names, statistics from graphs/tables)
• **Quantify** (ie. use statistics/numbers) from the data
**Analysing maps**

**Question:** Describe the **distribution** of high income nations using Figure 1.6.

**Is it:**
- Uneven or even?
- Clustered/linear
- Which regions? Continent/country
- Give specific examples Eg country/city
- Use the legend
Question
Refer to Figure 5.13. Which biological hazards had the highest mortality rates in 2014?

*How would you answer this?
**Answer:**

- Refer to the **key terms** from the question
- Include more than one biological hazard
- Use the **specific names of the hazards** and refer to the data **using statistics** ie number of deaths per day

Answer: The biological hazards that had the highest mortality rates in 2014 were Ebola (18 deaths per day) and respiratory infections (12 deaths per day).
Analysing graphs

- Use specific **data** from the graph
- Check both axis and be accurate with your numbers
- Make sure the data matches what the question is asking

**Question:**

a. Which hazards had the largest damage to property from 1992 - 2011?

b. Which hazards had the smallest impact on people from 1992 – 2011?
Answer

a) .................. had the largest damage to property from .............. to .............. with $ ....................

b) .................. had the ..................
Know your instructional terms

You need to know the instruction terms used in questions:
What do you think these terms mean?
• Describe –
• Explain –
• Account -
• Evaluate -
• Compare -
• Quantify -
How do case studies enhance your geographic writing?

Case studies and using specific examples are very important in geographic writing.

‘A Grade’ description – use of supporting evidence Year 11 ATAR
‘Selects and correctly applies a wide range of appropriate supporting evidence (including quotations, sources, statistics, data, maps and/or sketches) to explain develop and strengthen discussions’
Case studies

- Make your writing in geography more specific
- Increase the level of detail in your work
- Show your geographical knowledge of a topic
- Increase your marks
Case studies

**Question:**
Describe how a geomorphic hazard has impacted the human environment. (4 marks)

**Answer:**
The geomorphic hazard of earthquakes impacts the human environment in a number of ways. Infrastructure can be badly impacted, for example in the 1995 Kobe earthquake in Japan. The two level Hanshin expressway was destroyed and the upper level collapsed, gas pipes were destroyed causing more than 300 fires, water supplies to the city were also cut and hundreds of thousands of wooden buildings collapsed. Approximately 6400 people died, most people were crushed by collapsing buildings.
How do you answer extended response questions in Geography?

50% of your Unit 1 and Unit 1&2 examination is based on extended response questions.

How to answer extended responses:

• Highlight the key instructional term/s (eg discuss, explain, describe…)
• Identify which sources you need to use; read the sources
• Use data (quantify it) from the sources, or examples from case studies in your answer. Be specific.
• Answer each part of the question, be direct and specific
Sample questions

CCGS 2AB examination 2014:

Question 1

Identify a geomorphic hazard you have studied. Describe and account for the magnitude of the hazard
(4 marks)

How would you answer this question?

Hint: Highlight key terms, reflect the question, examples
Sample questions

Question 2
Identify and explain the association between the locations of this hazard and the world’s tectonic plates. (4 marks)

How would you answer this question?
Hint: Use key terms, respond to the wording of the question, use examples
Conclusion

When answering questions/studying in Geography:

• Know how to use the geographic concepts
• Know (and use) your instructional terms
• Respond directly to what the question is asking you
• Be able to describe a variety of geographic data
• Use examples from geographic data, quantify
• Know your case studies for each unit