



# ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL

## ASSESSMENT TASK NOTIFICATION

<b>Subject</b>	Geography – Year 12
<b>Topic</b>	Ecosystems at Risk
<b>Class Teacher</b>	Bonin
<b>Head Teacher</b>	Paine
<b>Stage</b>	6
<b>Task Weighting</b>	25%
<b>Date Given</b>	Week 7
<b>Date Due</b>	Week 9 – Thursday 24/03 – 9am @ in HUB
<b>Feedback Given</b>	Written on Assessment – Verbal on request

### Outcomes assessed:

**H2** explains the factors which place ecosystems at risk and the reasons for their protection

**H5** evaluates environmental management strategies in terms of ecological sustainability

**H6** evaluates the impacts of, and responses of people to, environmental change

**H8** plans geographical inquiries to analyse and synthesise information from a variety of sources

**H9** evaluates geographical information and sources for usefulness, validity and reliability

**H12** explains geographical patterns, processes and future trends through appropriate case studies and illustrative examples

**H13** communicates complex geographical information, ideas and issues effectively, using appropriate written and/or oral, cartographic and graphic forms

**Context:** The focus of this unit is a geographical study of the functioning of ecosystems at risk, their management and protection. You have been learning about the functioning of ecosystems including their vulnerability and resilience, the importance of, and the need for, management strategies. This assessment will focus on a case study of coral reefs, including their unique characteristics, the human impacts which influence them and traditional and contemporary management strategies. booklet will be followed regarding the non-completion of assessment tasks.

- **Absences:** If you know you are going to be away on the day that the task is due, you must make alternative arrangements with your teacher beforehand. If you are suddenly away on the day that the task is due, you must contact your teacher or Head Teacher on your return to school. Documentation will be required in both cases
- **Plagiarism:** Plagiarism, the using of the work of others without acknowledgement will incur serious penalties and may result in zero award. Any cheating will also incur penalties. Failure to follow the above procedures may result in a zero award.

The policies and procedures that are outlined in the Assessment booklet will be followed regarding the non-completion of assessment tasks.

## Research and Presentation Task



Australian Government  
Department of the Environment and Energy

7<sup>th</sup> March, 2022

*Dear Geography Student,*

*New funding has been allocated by the Federal Government to aid in the protection of the Great Barrier Reef from certain human-induced and natural threats.*

*As a Geography academic, you have been appointed by The Hon Susan Ley MP, The Australian Government Minister for the Environment, to investigate a particular threat facing the Great Barrier Reef. You are to evaluate the effectiveness of current traditional and contemporary management strategies in relation to this threat and will be given an opportunity to plan your own contemporary management strategy to ensure the sustainability of the reef regarding the threat it faces.*

*You will present your findings in a 1500 word research paper and will be summoned to a parliamentary hearing with Government Ministers, including The Hon Anastacia Palaszczuk, Premier of Queensland and The Hon Meaghan Scanlon, Queensland Minister for the Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, who will decide how the funding is disbursed. In this hearing you will be asked FIVE unknown questions (short answer style).*

*We hope you enjoy your research and we look forward to hearing your presentation and research findings.*

*Warmest regards,*

*The Great Barrier Reef Ministerial Council*

### TASK INSTRUCTIONS:

#### **Part 1: Research Paper**

Choose ONE threat facing the Great Barrier Reef:

- *Climate change, including coral bleaching, ocean warming and acidification*
- *Recreational and commercial overfishing*
- *Tourism and recreation*
- *Water quality and coastal development*
- *Tropical storms and cyclones*
- *Shipping, capital dredging and oil spills*

Undertake individual research addressing the following key inquiry questions:

- *Where is the Great Barrier Reef located and why is it located there?*
- *What are the Biophysical Interactions affecting the functioning of the Great Barrier Reef?*
- *Why should the Great Barrier Reef be protected?*
- *How is the threat affecting the functioning of the reef ecosystem?*
- *How vulnerable and resilient is the reef in relation to the threat?*
- *How is the Great Barrier Reef being managed in order to protect it from the threat?*
- *How effective are traditional and/or contemporary management strategies in protecting the reef from the threat and ensuring its conservation?*
- *What else can be done to protect the reef from this threat (your own management strategy)?*

You are to present your information in a research paper. A scaffold of a research paper has been provided on the next page to assist you.

**You should use the following geographical tools and research throughout your paper:**

- Secondary research including current geographical reports, texts, newspaper editorials, documentaries and statistics
- GIS to examine spatial and ecological issues relevant to the protection and management of the Great Barrier Reef
- Meteorological data, satellite imagery and photography
- Construction of maps, graphs and charts based on geographical data
- Interpretation of frequency distributions and diagrams
- Primary research such as an interview with a marine biologist currently working in coral reef research and management, or observations through fieldwork or virtual fieldwork (<https://attenboroughsreef.com/>).

**You will be assessed on your ability to:**

- *Demonstrate knowledge of a threat faced by the Great Barrier Reef*
- *Identify the biophysical factors affecting the functioning of the reef, the spatial distribution of the reef and reasons why the reef should be protected*
- *Evaluate current management strategies protecting the Great Barrier Reef and provide reasons for your evaluation*
- *Communicate your findings in a research paper and oral presentation, using geographical terms and concepts to support your responses*

## **RESEARCH PAPER**

### **Title**

The title of your research, your name, the organisation you represent, the date of publication.

### **Abstract**

A brief summary of your paper. Approximately 200 words.

### **Introduction**

Background information on the topic. In this case, your background information would be the first THREE key inquiry questions. Approximately 1 page.

### **Manuscript**

The main body of your research. This can be broken down into headings and subheadings. It should be written formally using geographical language and terminology. You may wish to follow this structure:

Threat facing the Great Barrier Reef

Methods of research

Findings

Conclusion

### **References**

A detailed bibliography using APA style. In text references used throughout.

### **Tables/Figures/Appendix**

A reference of all images, graphs, statistics, maps etc. you have used.

## HSC Geography

### Ecosystems at Risk – Assessment Task 2

#### Marking Criteria

Criteria	Mark
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates clear and detailed knowledge of a threat faced by the Great Barrier Reef</li> <li>• Clearly and concisely identifies the biophysical factors affecting the functioning of the reef, the spatial distribution of the reef and reasons why the reef should be protected</li> <li>• Makes an explicit judgement about current management strategies of the Great Barrier Reef in relation to the chosen threat, providing valid reasons for the judgement</li> <li>• Utilises geographical research and tools to communicate highly relevant information</li> <li>• Communicates in written and oral form characterised by the application of highly relevant geographical terms and concepts and various graphic forms</li> </ul>	21- 25
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates clear knowledge of a threat faced by the Great Barrier Reef</li> <li>• Clearly identifies the biophysical factors affecting the functioning of the reef, the spatial distribution of the reef and reasons why the reef should be protected</li> <li>• Makes a clear judgement about current management strategies of the Great Barrier reef in relation to the chosen threat, providing reasons for the judgement</li> <li>• Utilises geographical research to communicate highly relevant information</li> <li>• Communicates in written and oral form characterised by the application of relevant geographic terms and concepts and graphic forms</li> </ul>	16 – 20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of a threat faced by the Great Barrier Reef</li> <li>• Identifies the biophysical factors affecting the functioning of the reef, the spatial distribution of the reef and reasons why the reef should be protected</li> <li>• Makes a judgement about current management strategies of the Great Barrier reef in relation to the chosen threat, providing some reasons for the judgement</li> <li>• Utilises some geographical tools to communicate some relevant information</li> <li>• Communicates in written and oral form characterised by relevant geographic terms and phrases</li> </ul>	11 – 15
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attempts to demonstrate knowledge of a threat faced by the Great Barrier Reef</li> <li>• Attempts to identify the biophysical factors affecting the functioning of the reef, the spatial distribution of the reef and reasons why the reef should be protected</li> <li>• May attempt to make a judgement about current management strategies of the Great Barrier reef in relation to the chosen threat, may provide some reasons for the judgement</li> <li>• Utilises some geographical tools to communicate information</li> <li>• Communicates in written and oral form characterised by general geographic terms and phrases</li> </ul>	6 – 10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May demonstrate some knowledge of a threat faced by the Great Barrier Reef</li> <li>• Attempts to make comments about the biophysical factors in the functioning of the reef, the spatial distribution of the reef and reasons why the reef should be protected</li> <li>• May make a statement about current management strategies of the Great Barrier reef in relation to the chosen threat</li> <li>• May utilise geographical tools to communicate basic information</li> <li>• Communicates in written and /or oral form characterised by general terms and phrases</li> </ul>	1 – 5

## Part 2: Parliamentary Hearing

This section will mimic a parliamentary hearing. Students will be asked FIVE unseen short answer questions. These short answer questions will be similar in style to Section II in the Geography HSC paper.

Students will be allowed to bring in their research paper to help add relevant detail to their answers. Students may refer to graphs, maps, pictures, and statistics from their research paper in their short answer response.

The FIVE questions will total **25 Marks**. Students will be given **40 minutes** to answer the questions.

Here are some examples of questions:

- Describe the spatial distribution of the Great Barrier Reef.
- Identify and describe TWO traditional management strategies used in the Great Barrier Reef.
- Outline why the Great Barrier Reef should be protected.
- Discuss contemporary management practices used in the Great Barrier Reef.
- Analyse the biophysical processes that take place in the Great Barrier Reef.
- Explain TWO human impacts on the Great Barrier Reef.
- Outline the changing rate and nature of the Great Barrier Reef.

Students are encouraged to practice these questions and email Mr Bonin ([Kieran.bonin2@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:Kieran.bonin2@det.nsw.edu.au)) for feedback.