Stage 1 Geography

Assessment Type 2: Fieldwork Task 1

Contemporary Issues: Local Issues

Purpose

Use fieldwork techniques to collect data along a sand dune transect. Use this data to investigate the environmental characteristics of a sand dune transect and the impact of people on this natural environment.

Assessment Description

* Identify, and accurately draw your sand dune transect on an appropriate base map.
* Devise a questionnaire to elicit the views of beach visitors about the impact of human activity on the sand dune.
* Working in a small group, collect the following data along your sand dune transect:
  + use ranging poles to mark the start and end points of your transect, and measure the distance
  + draw and label a sketch of the sand dune transect
  + for each section between breaks in slope, measure and record:
* soil pH
* soil moisture content (collect soil samples to measure back at school if you don’t have access to a soil meter)
* percentage of vegetation cover and coverage of different plant species
* evidence of human activity – photographs of trampling, litter count
  + questionnaire to gather the views of visitors to the beach
  + any other relevant information
* Critically analyse your fieldwork data to determine the environmental characteristics of the sand dune transect.
* Use the data collected to analyse and evaluate the impact of people on the sand dune.
* Make recommendations on ways to reduce the negative impact of human activity on the sand dune.

Assessment Conditions

* Produce a written report or multimodal presentation of your findings and recommendations. A written report should be no more than 1000 words and an equivalent length for a response in multimodal form.
* The report or presentation should include:
  + an appropriate title
  + a map showing the location of the sand dune transect
  + an annotated diagram of the sand dune transect, drawn to scale and shape
  + description of the techniques used to collect data
  + description and analysis of the data collected to determine the environmental characteristics of the sand dune
  + analysis, and evaluation of the impact of people on the sand dune
  + recommendations or proposals to reduce the impact of human activity on the sand dune
  + visual representations to support the analysis and evaluation
* The specific features being assessed are:

**AE1 Analysis of the interactions between people and environments at a local level**

**AE2 Analysis and evaluation of information to determine possible outcomes and make recommendations**

**Ap1 Application of geographical and fieldwork skills to identify and examine geographical issues**

**Ap2 Communication of geographical information, using subject-specific terminology and visual representations**

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| - | Knowledge and Understanding | Analysis and Evaluation | Application |
| A | Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts.  Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of natural, built, economic, and/or social characteristics of places. | Insightful analysis of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Comprehensive analysis and evaluation of information to determine possible outcomes, make justifiable recommendations, and/or form conclusions. | Purposeful and well-considered application of a variety of geographical and fieldwork skills, including the use of spatial technologies, to identify and examine geographical issues.  Clear and coherent communication of relevant geographical information, using appropriate subject-specific terminology and visual representations. |
| B | Well-considered knowledge and informed understanding of geographical concepts.  Well-considered knowledge and informed understanding of natural, built, economic, and/or social characteristics of places. | Well-informed analysis of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Detailed and well-considered analysis and evaluation of information to determine possible outcomes, make justifiable recommendations, and/or form conclusions. | Well-considered application of different geographical and fieldwork skills, including the use of spatial technologies, to identify and examine geographical issues.  Clear communication of relevant geographical information, using appropriate subject-specific terminology and visual representations. |
| C | Considered knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts.  Considered knowledge and informed understanding of natural, built, economic, and/or social characteristics of places. | Informed analysis of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Considered analysis and some evaluation of information to determine possible outcomes, make recommendations, and/or form conclusions. | Competent application of geographical and fieldwork skills, including the use of spatial technologies, to identify and examine geographical issues.  Competent communication of generally relevant geographical information, using mostly appropriate subject-specific terminology and visual representations. |
| D | Recognition and basic understanding of some geographical concepts.  Basic awareness and some understanding of aspects of natural, built, economic, or social characteristics of places. | Basic consideration and description of the interactions between, and interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Superficial consideration of information to describe possible outcomes and recommendations. | Some application of different geographical and fieldwork skills, which may include the use of spatial technologies.  Basic communication of some geographical information, using occasional subject-specific terminology and visual representations. |
| E | Identification of one or more geographical concepts.  Emerging awareness of aspects of natural, built, economic, or social characteristics of places. | Brief or attempted description of the interactions between, or interdependence of, people and environments at local, national, or global levels.  Description of information linked to a possible outcome or recommendation. | Limited application of geographical and fieldwork skills.  Attempted communication of geographical information, with limited use of subject-specific terminology or visual representations. |