Stage 1 Geography

Assessment Type 1: Geographical Skills and Applications Task 1

Sustainable Places: Megacities

Purpose

Investigate the concept of sustainable communities in megacities by researching the components that make up sustainable communities, and examining informal communities in São Paulo, Brazil.

“Sustainable communities are places where people want to live and work, now and in the future. They meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, are sensitive to their environment, and contribute to a high quality of life. They are safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run, and offer equality of opportunity and good services for all”. 1

Assessment Description

* Undertake some background research into São Paulo including detail on: its location, population data, and the informal settlements and favelas.
* Go to <http://outmywindow.nfb.ca/#/outmywindow> and view the 4 short films about São Paulo, Brazil. Identify the environmental, social and economic challenges facing people living in informal settlements, and also the benefits of life in such communities. View the following films:
  + Highrise Squat
  + Everybody’s Baby
  + Neighbours
  + Picture of my Past/Future
* Investigate and identify the components of sustainable communities using websites such as <http://www.geography.org.uk/resources/citizenship/aboutsustainablecommunities/> .
* Evaluate and choose five components that you think are the most important for the sustainability of informal settlements such as those in São Paulo.
* Use the components you have selected to analyse and evaluate the sustainability of the informal settlement shown in the films.
* Make recommendations that could be implemented to improve the sustainability of the informal settlement.

Assessment Conditions

* Produce a digital slide presentation of no more than 12 slides. The presentation should be 5 minutes.
* The presentation should include:
  + background information about Sao Paulo and its informal settlements
  + a summary of the economic, environmental and social challenges facing inhabitants of informal settlements
  + a summary of the benefits of living in informal settlements
  + the five components of sustainability that you selected as the most important
  + an analysis and evaluation of the sustainability of the informal settlement shown in the films
  + recommendations to improve the sustainability of the informal settlement
  + facts and figures, maps, images and diagrams.
* The specific features being assessed are:

**KU1 Knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts**

**KU2 Knowledge and understanding of built, economic, and social characteristics of places**

**AE2 Analysis and evaluation of information to make justifiable recommendations**

1 About sustainable communities (n.d.). Retrieved May 23, 2016, from <http://www.geography.org.uk/resources/citizenship/aboutsustainablecommunities/2014>

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|  | **Knowledge and understanding** | **Analysis and Evaluation** | **Application** |
| **A** | Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of geographical concepts.  Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the 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 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 the 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 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 understanding of geographical concepts.  Considered knowledge and informed understanding of the 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 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 the 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 the 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. |