



Sample assessment task

Year level	4
Learning area	Humanities and Social Sciences
Subject	Geography
Title of task	Our Natural Resources

Task details

Description of task	Students compare three photographs of the environment to identify what natural resources are illustrated and explain how their use might be sustainable over time
Type of assessment	Summative
Purpose of assessment	To assess students' understanding of key Geographical concepts
Assessment strategy	Short-answer written responses
Evidence to be collected	Short-answer responses
Suggested time	Photo interpretation and written response – 40 minutes

Content description

Content from the Western Australian Curriculum	Knowledge and understanding The natural resources (e.g. water, timber, minerals) provided by the environment and different views on how they can be used sustainably Humanities and Social Sciences skills Draw conclusions, and give explanations, based on the information and/or data displayed in texts, tables, graphs and maps (e.g. show similarities and differences)
Key concepts	Place, Space, Change, Interconnection, Environment, Sustainability

Task preparation

Prior learning	Students have prior knowledge of the main natural resources of the environment (e.g. water, timber and minerals) and the way people might use these resources sustainably
Assessment differentiation	Teachers should differentiate their teaching and assessment to meet the specific learning needs of their students, based on their level of readiness to learn and their need to be challenged. Where appropriate, teachers may either scaffold or extend the scope of the assessment tasks.

Assessment task

Assessment conditions	This is an individual, in-class assessment.
Resources	Photographs provided

Instructions for teacher

Our Natural Resources

Prior to commencing the task, revise the key Geographical concepts place, space, change, interconnection, environment, sustainability

- Distribute and go through the assessment task with the students. Emphasise the requirements of the task.
- Make sure the students know that the task is a comparison between the photos – first box is for Source 1, the second box for Source 2 and the third box for Source 3.

Instructions to students

Our Natural Resources

This task has three photographs of different natural resources. Explain the following;

- What particular natural resource each photo is showing.
- How that resource might be sustained into the future.

Source 1



(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_South_Africa)

Wortz, C. (December, 2005). Katse dam, Lesotho, Africa [Image]. Retrieved July, 2016 from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Water_supply_and_sanitation_in_South_Africa Used under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Generic licence.

Source 2



(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_the_Central_African_Republic)

Collomb, J.G. (2001). Central African Republic, log transport [Image]. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_the_Central_African_Republic Used under Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Generic licence.

Source 3



(<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plantation>)

Voon Yee Yap, B. (2005). Kalgoorlie the big pit DSC04498 [Image]. Retrieved July, 2016 from https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gold_mining
Used under Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported (CC BY-SA 3.0) licence.

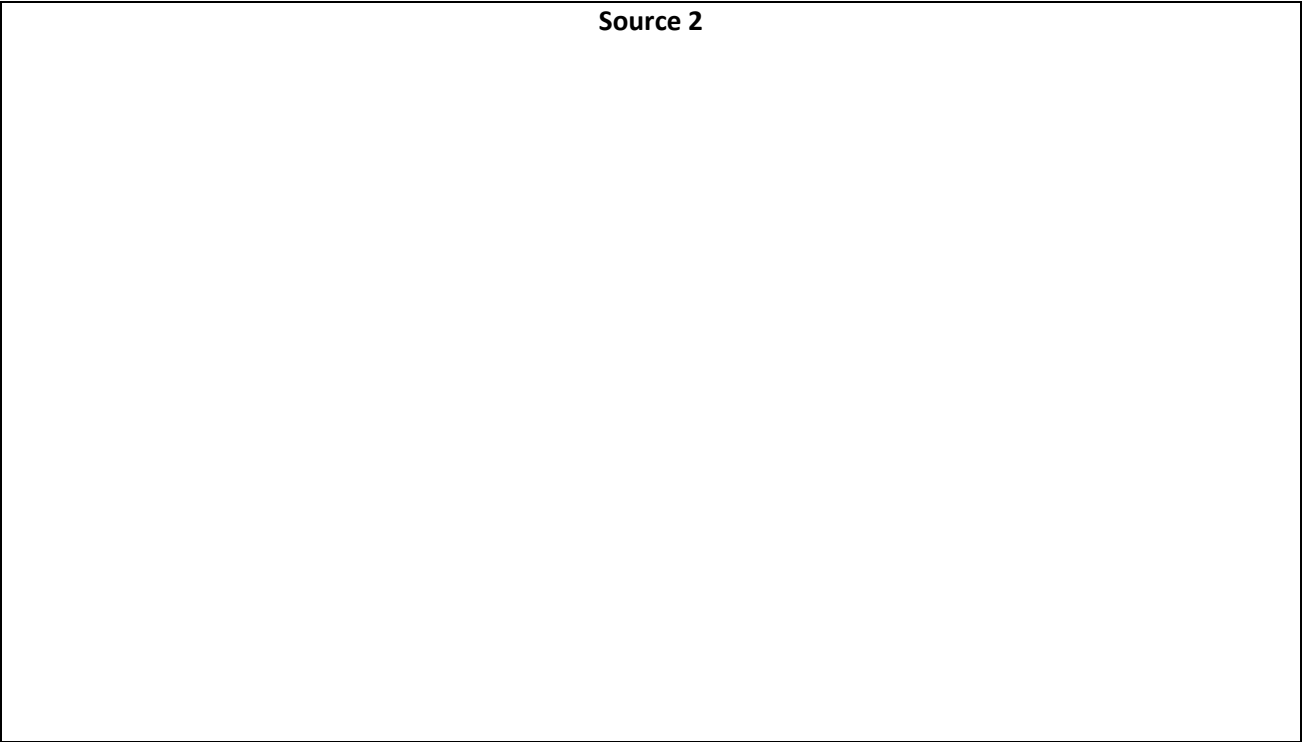
TASK

Use the boxes below to write

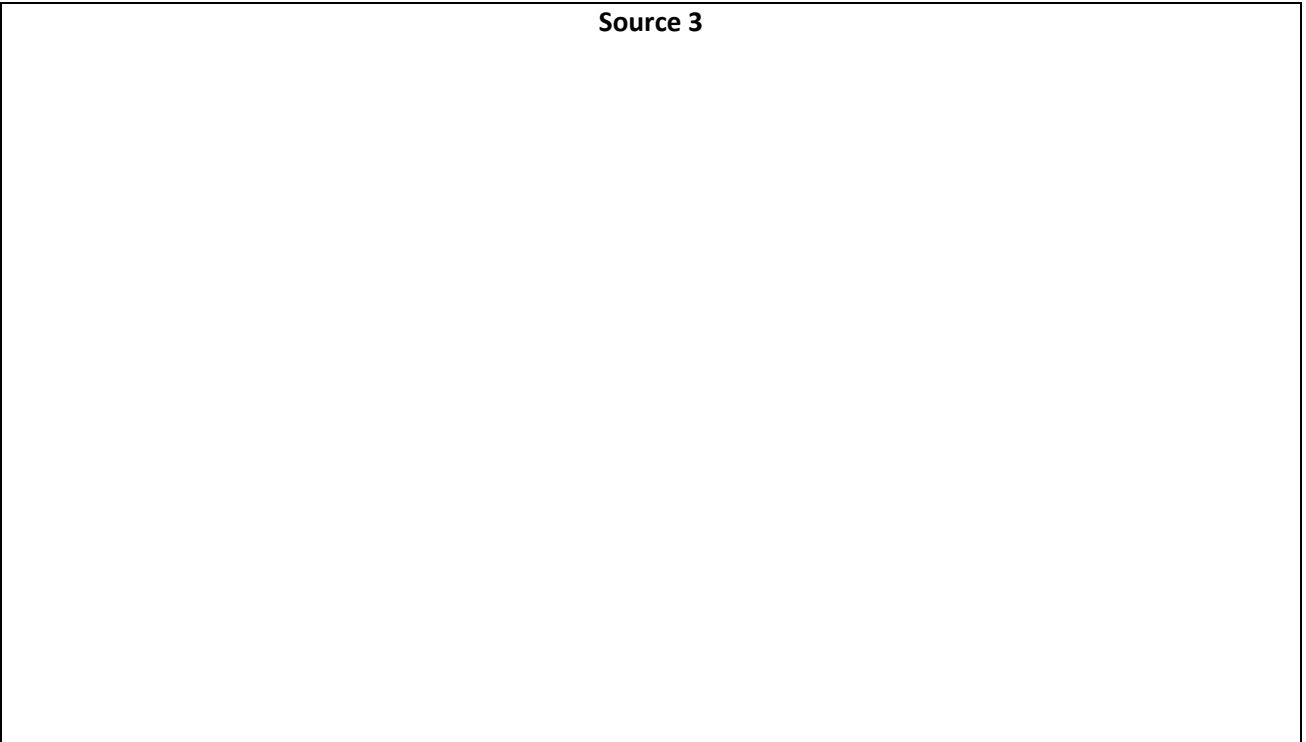
- what you think each of the sources is telling you about the main natural resources of the environment.
- how that resource might be used.
- how you think the resource can be sustainably managed into the future.

Source 1

Source 2



Source 3



Sample marking key

Description	Marks
Explanation of Source 1	
Comprehensively, and using specific detail, identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the photo is showing water as a resource being stored behind a dam • water is a significant natural resource and can be used in a variety of ways, including three or four of the following – sustaining life, domestic uses, industrial uses, power generation and recreation • how water can be obtained – from rainfall, ground water, the oceans • we need to use water sustainably (e.g. reducing wastage) to enable its use into the future Applies relevant geographical terminology and concepts	6
Satisfactorily, and using some detail, identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the photo is showing water as a resource • water is a significant natural resource and can be used in a variety of ways, including two or three of the following – sustaining life, domestic uses, industrial uses, power generation and recreation • how water can be obtained – from rainfall • we need to use water sustainably (e.g. reducing wastage) to enable its use into the future Uses relevant geographical terminology and concepts	5–4
Briefly, and using minimal detail, identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the photo is showing water as a resource • water can be used in a variety of ways, including any of the following – sustaining life, domestic uses, industrial uses, power generation and recreation • we need to use water sustainably to enable its use into the future Uses geographical terminology	3–2
Provides a simple generalising statement	1
Subtotal	6
Description	Marks
Explanation of Source 2	
Comprehensively, and using specific detail, identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the photo is showing timber as a resource • timber is a significant natural resource and can be used in a variety of ways, including three or four of the following – fuel, building materials, paper, power poles, furniture • how timber can be obtained – from natural forests or plantations • we need to use timber sustainably (e.g. reducing recycling) to enable its use into the future Applies relevant geographical terminology and concepts	6
Satisfactorily, and using some detail, identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the photo is showing timber as a resource • timber is a significant natural resource and can be used in a variety of ways, including two or three of the following – fuel, building materials, paper, power poles, furniture • how timber can be obtained – from natural forests • we need to use timber sustainably (e.g. reducing recycling) to enable its use into the future Uses relevant geographical terminology and concepts	4–5

Briefly, and using minimal detail, identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the photo is showing timber as a resource timber is a significant natural resource and can be used in a variety of ways, including any of the following – fuel, building materials, paper, power poles, furniture how timber can be obtained – from trees we need to use timber sustainably to enable its use into the future Uses geographical terminology	2–3
Provides a simple generalised statement	1
Subtotal	6
Explanation of Source 3	
Comprehensively, and using specific detail, identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the photo is showing minerals as a resource (i.e. mining) minerals are significant natural resources and can be used in a variety of ways, including three or four of the following – fuels (e.g. oil, gas, coal), making products (e.g. steel, aluminium, copper wires, electrical goods, plastics) how minerals can be obtained – from the mining process we need to use minerals sustainably (e.g. reducing recycling) to enable its use into the future Applies relevant geographical terminology and concepts to develop description	6
Satisfactorily, and using some detail, identifies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the photo is showing minerals as a resource (i.e. mining) minerals are significant natural resources and can be used in a variety of ways, including two or three of the following – fuels (e.g. oil, gas, coal), making products (e.g. steel, aluminium, copper wires, electrical goods, plastics) how minerals can be obtained – from the mining process we need to use minerals sustainably to enable its use into the future Uses some geographical terminology and concepts to develop description	4–5
Briefly, and using minimal detail, describes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the photo is showing minerals as a resource (i.e. mining) minerals are significant natural resources and can be used in a variety of ways, including any of the following – fuels (e.g. oil, gas, coal), making products (e.g. steel, aluminium, copper wires, electrical goods, plastics) we need to use minerals sustainably to enable its use into the future Uses geographical terminology	2–3
Provides a simple generalised statement	1
Subtotal	6
Total	18