

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATIONS

AUSTRALIA IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (AAP315116)

External Assessment Specifications inform the development of external assessments. The primary audience for this document is the course Setting Examiner and Exam Critics. It may also be of use to teachers and students.

These specifications must be read in conjunction with the Course Document.

The external assessment consists of a **3 hour written examination**

The criteria to be externally assessed are:

Written examination:

Criterion 2: communicate ideas and information

Criterion 3: describe and assess physical and human geography of the Australia, Asia and Pacific region

Criterion 4: describe and assess Australia's changing relations with nations in the Asia-Pacific region in the areas of partnerships or migration

Criterion 5: describe and assess tourism and its impact in the Australia, Asia and Pacific region

Criterion 6: describe cause and effect of national crises in the Asia and Pacific region, and assess effectiveness of responses

WRITTEN EXAMINATION STRUCTURE

The following specifications for each section are outlined in **Table** below:

- the distribution across the sections of:
 - criteria
 - time allocations
- the number and type of items.

	A	B	C	D
Section	Diversity of the Physical and Human Geography in the Australia, Asia and Pacific Region	Australia's Changing Roles in the Region: partnerships or immigration	Tourism in the Australia, Asia and Pacific Region	National Responses to Crises
Criterion/Criteria	C2 - Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 C3 - Elements 1, 2, 3 and 4	C2 - Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 noting that responses to this section will be in the form of an essay C4 - Elements 1, 2 and 3	C2 - Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 noting that responses to this section will be in the form of an essay C5 - Elements 1, 2, 3 and 4	C2 - Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 noting that responses to this section will be in the form of a report C6 - Elements 1, 2 and 3
Course coverage	Section A.1 and A.2	Section B (EITHER B.1 OR B.2 depending on selected question/topic)	Section C	Section D
Number and nature of items	2 Candidates will respond to two (2) questions on the physical and human geography in the AAP Region. Question 1 will make reference to EITHER ' one (1) Asian nation' OR ' one (1) Pacific nation'; if ' one (1) Asian nation' is referred to in Question 1,	2 Two (2) questions/topics will be given, of which one (1) will be selected by the candidate (EITHER / OR). One (1) question/topic will examine Section B.1 (<i>Partnerships [trade, security and aid]</i>). It will require reference to Australia's relationship with one (1)	1 One (1) question that will require reference to at least two (2) countries in the AAP Region (as defined in Section C3 of the course document) from either Group A, Group B or Group C. The destinations must be from two (2) different groups.	2 A hypothetical country in the AAP Region will be defined and two (2) questions will be given, only one (1) of which will be answered by candidates. Using the data provided on the hypothetical country in the AAP Region, candidates will select one (1) of the following questions:

Section	A Diversity of the Physical and Human Geography in the Australia, Asia and Pacific Region	B Australia's Changing Roles in the Region: partnerships or immigration	C Tourism in the Australia, Asia and Pacific Region	D National Responses to Crises
	Question 2 WILL refer to 'one (1) Pacific nation' or vice versa.	<p>country, EITHER one (1) Asian OR one (1) Pacific nation.</p> <p>It will require a critical discussion/analysis of Australia's partnerships / inter-relationships with the selected nation. It will include a 'what if' component in order to solicit evidence for the third standard element (predictions).</p> <p>One (1) question/topic will examine Section B.2 (<i>Immigration</i>).</p> <p>It will require reference to Australia's immigration issues within the scope of the course (White Australia Policy to present day asylum seekers) and reference to one (1) national or ethnic group from EITHER one (1) Asian OR one (1) Pacific nation). It may focus on a specific time period or issue. It will include a 'what if' component in order to solicit evidence for the third standard element of Criterion 4 (predictions).</p>	<p>The Groupings will be printed in this section of the examination paper for candidate reference.</p> <p>The question will allow students to select and make reference to the impact of tourism on at least One of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the environment, • the society and culture OR • the economy <p>of the destination</p>	<p>EITHER:</p> <p>A question on a man-made national crisis.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A question on a natural national crisis.</p>
Compulsory or optional	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory

Section	A Diversity of the Physical and Human Geography in the Australia, Asia and Pacific Region	B Australia's Changing Roles in the Region: partnerships or immigration	C Tourism in the Australia, Asia and Pacific Region	D National Responses to Crises
Item type(s) / format	Short essay response A short essay retains the structure of an essay: 'The major parts that comprise a short essay are introduction, body, and conclusion. While introduction and conclusion are one paragraph long each, the number of paragraphs in the body is usually dictated by the topic of the short essay If the essay topic is very narrow, one or two paragraphs should usually be enough.	Extended essay response	Extended essay response	Report response
Response time	45 minutes	45 minutes	45 minutes	45 minutes
Mark / rating allocation (weighting must be specified)	All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+, A, A-, ... B+, B, B- ..., C+, C, C- ... t+, t, t- or z. Please note a C- is a low C (i.e. just meets the standards for a C but is not a t) Algorithm to achieve final rating from Sections A – D will take account of the fact that each section carries equal weight.	All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+, A, A-, ... B+, B, B- ..., C+, C, C- ... t+, t, t- or z. Please note a C- is a low C (i.e. just meets the standards for a C but is not a t) Algorithm to achieve final rating from Sections A – D will take account of the fact that each section carries equal weight.	All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+, A, A-, ... B+, B, B- ..., C+, C, C- ... t+, t, t- or z. Please note a C- is a low C (i.e. just meets the standards for a C but is not a t) Algorithm to achieve final rating from Sections A – D will take account of the fact that each section carries equal weight.	All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+, A, A-, ... B+, B, B- ..., C+, C, C- ... t+, t, t- or z. Please note a C- is a low C (i.e. just meets the standards for a C but is not a t) Algorithm to achieve final rating from Sections A – D will take account of the fact that each section carries equal weight.

ASSESSMENT

A set of solutions or a marking tool will be developed by the Setting Examiner, provided to markers at the marking meeting that follows the external written examination; and will be available from TASC in the following year.

The external assessment must include items that, separately or together, give opportunities to demonstrate the standards from rating C to rating A.

Final results will be awarded as a rating of A, B, C, t or z in the above criteria. These ratings are used in determining the final award according to the algorithm in the course document.

WRITTEN EXAMINATION CHECKLIST

SECTION A

- assesses examinable aspects of Criteria
- provides opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A
 - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have been included
 - provides a list of all elements from C to A and not been included in this assessment
- requires **two (2)** questions; **one (1)** on Section A.1 and **one** on Section A.2
- Question 1 requires discussion based on physical geography characteristics of EITHER an Asian OR a Pacific nation (if Question 1 makes reference to '**one (1)** Asian nation', Question 2 WILL make reference to '**one (1)** Pacific nation' or vice versa.)
- Question 2 requires discussion based on human characteristics of either an Asian or a Pacific nation
- both questions require short essay responses
- both questions are compulsory

SECTION B

- assesses examinable aspects of Criteria
- provides opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A
 - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have been included
 - provides a list of all elements from C to A and not been included in this assessment
- requires **two (2)** questions
- One (1)** question/topic will examine Section B.1 (*Partnerships* [trade, security and aid]). It will require reference to Australia's relationship with **one (1)** country, EITHER **one (1)** Asian OR **one (1)** Pacific nation. This question It will include a 'what if' component in order to solicit evidence for the third standard element (predictions).
- One (1)** question/topic will examine Section B.2 (*Immigration*); requires discussion based on **one** national or ethnic group from EITHER **one (1)** Asian OR **one (1)** Pacific nation).
- both questions require an extended essay response
- response to **one (1)** question is compulsory

SECTION C

- assesses examinable aspects of Criteria
- provides opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A
 - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have been included
 - provides a list of all elements from C to A and not been included in this assessment
- requires **one (1)** question
- the question will allow candidates to select and make reference to the impact of tourism on at least **one (1)** of the environment OR on the society and culture OR on economic impact on the destination
- requires reference to **at least two (2)** countries in the AAP region from Groups A, B or C. Groups A, B and C will be provided (listing countries) as defined in C.3 of the course document
- requires an extended essay response
- requires response to **one (1)** compulsory question

SECTION D

- assesses examinable aspects of Criteria
- provides opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A
 - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have been included
 - provides a list of all elements from C to A and not been included in this assessment
- requires **two (2)** questions
- requires discussion based on a hypothetical country in the AAP region
- requires **one (1)** question on a man-made national crisis and **one (1)** question on a natural national crisis
- requires a report response format
- requires response to **one (1)** question.