

Australia in Asia and the Pacific (AAP315116)

External Assessment Specifications

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 current Course Document, available on the [TASC Courses](#) webpage.

The external assessment for this course consists of a written exam.

WRITTEN EXAM STRUCTURE

The written exam is THREE hours.

Students will have an additional 15-minute preparation time during which students can take notes on the note paper provided and highlight any key words in the exam booklet during the allocated time. Students will not be permitted to start their exam until advised by the Exam Supervisor.

The written exam includes FOUR sections.

The criteria to be externally assessed are:

- Criterion 2 communicate ideas and information related to Australia, Asia and the Pacific
- Criterion 3 analyse physical and human geography of the Australia, Asia and Pacific region
- Criterion 4 analyse Australia's changing relations with nations in the Asia-Pacific region in the areas of partnerships or migration
- Criterion 5 analyse tourism and its impact in the Australia, Asia and Pacific region
- Criterion 6 analyse cause and effect of national crises in the Asia and Pacific region, and assess effectiveness of responses

SPECIFIC MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT APPROVED FOR USE BY STUDENTS

There is no external Information Sheet for this course.

ASSESSMENT

All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, t+, t, t- or z. Note that a C- is a low C, in that it just meets the standards for a C but is not a t.

The algorithm to achieve final ratings from Sections A – D will take account of the fact that each Section carries equal weight.

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 exam; and will be available from TASC in the following year.

The external assessment must include questions 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.

SECTION A

Structure

- This section will take students approximately 45 minutes to respond to.
- Students will respond to TWO compulsory questions.
- This section will address course content from Section A Diversity of the Physical and Human Geography in the Australia, Asia and Pacific Region.

Assessed Criteria

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|-------------|---|
| Criterion 2 | communicate ideas and information related to Australia, Asia and the Pacific (Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5). |
| Criterion 3 | analyse physical and human geography of the Australia, Asia and Pacific region (Elements 1, 2, 3 and 4). |

Nature of Questions

- Question One will address the course content covered in Section A.1 Physical Geography Characteristics. It requires a discussion based on physical geography characteristics of either an Asian or a Pacific nation.
- Question Two will address the course content covered in Section A.2 Human Characteristics. It requires a discussion based on human characteristics of an Asian (if a Pacific nation was required in the other question) or a Pacific nation (if an Asian nation was required in the other question).

Nature of Responses

- Responses will be assessed using extended alpha ratings.
- Responses to this section will be in the form of an extended written response. Students must use structured paragraphs and sentences and be responses must be written in a

logical, coherent manner, using specialised terminology and appropriate English grammar. Students must provide clear and reasoned arguments supported by examples.

SECTION B

Structure

- This section will take students approximately 45 minutes to respond to.
- Students will respond to only ONE of TWO questions.
- This section will address course content from Section B Australia's changing roles in the Region: partnerships or immigration.

Assessed Criteria

- Criterion 2 communicate ideas and information related to Australia, Asia and the Pacific (Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5).
- Criterion 4 analyse Australia's changing relations with nations in the Asia-Pacific region in the areas of partnerships or migration (Elements 1, 2 and 3).

Nature of Questions

- Question Three will examine Section B.1 Partnerships (trade, security and aid). It will require reference to Australia's relationship with one country, either one Asian or one Pacific nation. This question will include a 'what if' component to solicit evidence for the third standard element, predictions.
- Question Four will examine Section B.2 Immigration (including refugees and humanitarian arrivals). It requires a discussion based on one national or ethnic group from either one Asian or one Pacific nation.

Nature of Responses

- Responses will be assessed using extended alpha ratings.
- Responses to this section will be in the form of an extended essay.

SECTION C

Structure

- This section will take students approximately 45 minutes to respond to.
- Students will respond to ONE compulsory question.
- This section will address course content from Section C Tourism in the Australia, Asia and Pacific Region.

Assessed Criteria

- Criterion 2 communicate ideas and information related to Australia, Asia and the Pacific (Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5).
- Criterion 5 analyse tourism and its impact in the Australia, Asia and Pacific region (Elements 1, 2, 3 and 4).

Nature of Questions

The question will require reference to at least two 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 different groups. The Groupings will be printed in this section of the exam paper for student reference.

- Question Five will allow students to select and refer to the impact of tourism on the destination of at least one of:
 - the environment,
 - the society and culture, or
 - the economy.

Nature of Responses

- Responses will be assessed using extended alpha ratings.
- Responses to this section will be in the form of an extended essay.
- The question also requires Students to refer to at least two countries in the AAP region from Groups A, B or C (listing countries) as defined in Section C.3 of the course document.

SECTION D

Structure

- This section will take Students approximately 45 minutes to respond to.
- Students will respond to only ONE of TWO questions.
- This section will address course content from Section D National Responses to Crises.

Assessed Criteria

Criterion 2 communicate ideas and information related to Australia, Asia and the Pacific (Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5).

Criterion 6 analyse cause and effect of national crises in the Asia and Pacific region, and assess effectiveness of responses (Elements 1, 2 and 3).

Nature of Questions

A hypothetical country in the AAP Region will be defined. Using the data provided on the hypothetical country in the AAP Region.

- Question Six will address a man-made national crisis.
- Question Seven will address a natural national crisis.

Nature of Responses

- Requires discussion based on a hypothetical country in the AAP region.
- Responses to this section will be in the form of a report.
- Responses will be assessed using extended alpha ratings.