

## Geography Guide for EE structure

Criterion A: focus and method	Criterion B: knowledge and understanding	Criterion C: critical thinking	Criterion D: presentation	Criterion E: engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Topic</li><li>• Research question</li><li>• Methodology</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Context</li><li>• Subject-specific terminology and concepts</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Research</li><li>• Analysis</li><li>• Discussion and evaluation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Structure</li><li>• Layout</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Process</li><li>• Research focus</li></ul>
Marks	Marks	Marks	Marks	Marks
6	6	12	4	6

Total marks available: 34

Six **required elements** of the extended essay:

1. Title page
2. Contents page
3. Introduction
4. Body of the essay
5. Conclusion
6. References and bibliography

### **What to include in each section**

#### **Title page**

The title page should include **only** the following information:

- the title of the essay
- the research question
- the subject the essay is registered in
- Word count. The upper limit is 4,000 words for all extended essays.

#### **Contents page**

A contents page must be provided at the beginning of the extended essay and all pages should be numbered. Use the contents page tool to help with accuracy and achieve a professional look. If you have used an appendix, this should also appear in the contents page after the bibliography.

#### **Introduction**

Make sure you state the RQ clearly (copy and paste from title page), why this subject matter is worthy of study and your hypothesis. You should outline your methodology and the relevance to your RQ. You can demonstrate you are up to date with the latest research in this area and

what particular examples/articles/case studies you will be using as secondary evidence later. A Geography essay should also outline the geographical locational context.

### **Background:**

Typically, a Geography EE will have a chapter of background, giving some geographical context/theory. For example, an essay on tourism would establish textbook theory on the element of tourism that the essay focuses on, supported with reading from journals, newspaper publications, etc.

It is important to carry out your literature review/ secondary reading early in the process. The theory MUST be discussed throughout to underpin your investigation; you do not just refer to it at the beginning and then ignore it.

### **Main body:**

An EE in Geography will then typically be broken down into the following sections

- Hypothesis 1: e.g. The increase in tourist numbers is having a negative impact on the environment in city X  
Within this there should be graphs to show the data, followed by analysis of data (description of trends, including evidence and anomalies) and explanation of how the data answers the RQ. There should be evidence of a developing argument as you go along.
- Hypothesis 2: as above
- Hypothesis 3: as above

Subheadings within the main body are favourable to signpost the sub-topics

The data within the essay could be collected either from primary research or secondary sources or a combination.

Present your processed data, tables and graphs in a professional and accurate format within the essay, where it is relevant to and discussed in the argument. Any large bodies of raw data can go in an appendix, after the bibliography. Data needs to be labelled appropriately and referred to in the essay, e.g. 'Figure 1 demonstrates ...' rather than 'In the above diagram...'. All graphs need to be labelled accurately, paying attention to axes titles.

For critical thinking and developing the argument, use phrases like 'On the otherhand...', 'In comparison to ...', 'It could be argued that', 'An opposing view would be ...' and 'The most significant factor is ... because ...'.

To demonstrate critical thinking you could also look for limitation within the data/research collected or examples of contradictory findings. Use articles from reputable sources such as *Geography Review* magazine or academic journals as these will have gone through peer review

before publishing. While you might look at sources from the internet, you need to track the source of any “evidence” carefully e.g. website author, author of news article. Be careful for bias and government influence.

Unlike the IA, you are *not* encouraged to have an evaluation chapter with the conclusion. Instead, it is good practice to evaluate throughout i.e. whilst discussing methods, data, sources, etc.

### **Conclusion**

Bring together all the mini conclusions you have made so far to answer your RQ in ONE summative paragraph. It may be helpful to state your RQ here again.

If you have some data that doesn't support findings or significant flaws/limitations in your own research and secondary evidence then mention that here. You could suggest what further research may be required. Are there things you have not been able to answer within the scope of this EE?

**Link this all back to your original RQ to place this in context!**

### **References**

You should use referencing as soon as you start writing. That way you are less likely to forget to include a citation. It is also easier than trying to add references at a later stage. Hopefully you have been saving all the resources you have been using so far....

You have had training on how to use the inbuilt referencing tools in Word to make your life easier, and you have received lots of advice on avoiding plagiarism/academic honesty. If in doubt ASK!