



Year 9 Geography

Study Guide for Mid-Year Exam 2011

Exam format

90 minutes examination including:

- Multiple-Choice questions
- Short-answer questions
- Two Extended-response questions

Content to be assessed

Refer to your class notes, handout sheets and to relevant textbook sections as outlined below.

Topic 1 – Australia - Unique & Diverse (Ch. 1)

Australia's position in the world (pp.4-5)
Australia's size, shape, latitude & longitude (pp.8-9)
Australia's Place Geography – physical features, political divisions, major cities
Australia's major landform divisions (pp.16-17)
Australia's climate & vegetation (pp.20-22)
Australia's Unique Flora & Fauna (pp.24-25)
Australia's Origins - Aboriginal perspective (pp.12-13)
Australia's Origins - Geographical perspective (pp.14-15)

Topic 2 – Murray Darling River Basin (MDB)

River basins and water management – including Warragamba Dam
Location, size and importance of the MDB
Major human land uses within the MDB
Identify important ecological issues in the MDB – introduced species (carp, willow), algal blooms, modified water flow pattern, irrigation
Causes and impacts of these issues
Explain how these issues might be improved/managed and why the solutions are difficult to implement
Cubbie Station cotton farm

Topic 3 – Australia's Natural Hazards (Ch. 2)

Types of Natural hazards affecting Australia & their impacts (pp.40-41)
Bushfires including a case study that you have studied in class – causes, impacts, community responses, management (pp. 52-67)

Geographical Skills

Australian place geography – major rivers, seas, oceans, landforms etc
Using latitude and longitude
Using synoptic charts
Topographic mapping skills

Tips and hints

- 1 Know and be able to use **geographical terms** when writing your answers
- 2 Know your **skills** - geographical mapping and interpretative skills (area and grid references, calculating distances using scale, compass directions/bearings, contour lines, cross-sections, synoptic charts and climate statistics), Australian place geography
- 3 Learn your **assignment** work and background notes in preparation for the extended response questions on Natural hazards with extra detail on bushfires; and on the Murray Darling Basin and the associated issues including salinity, algal blooms, disrupted river flows, over-allocation of water, European carp and willows.

Speak to others in your class or to your teacher early about any content/skills you do not understand.

Good luck
Your Geography teachers MT, MI