

Year 9 Geography Study Guide for the Semester 2 Examination 2011

Exam Format:

- 90 minute exam
- Multiple-Choice questions (including skills & place geography)
- Short-answer/Paragraph questions (Tropical Cyclones, Kakadu National Park, Australia's Population)
- ONE extended-response question (Great Barrier Reef/Sugar Farming)

Topic Areas:

- **Tropical Cyclones** (including a case study of TC Larry)
- **The Great Barrier Reef** (including the impact of sugar growing)
- **Australia's Population Characteristics** (including growth, structure, composition, distribution)
- **Kakadu National Park** (including climate, habitats, human interactions/impacts)

Tropical Cyclones

How and where do **TCs develop**?

Case study: What were the economic and social **impacts** of TC Larry?

The Great Barrier Reef (GBR):

What are the **conditions** required for **coral growth**?

Why are coral reefs so **important**?

What is a **symbiotic relationship** e.g. between **zooxanthellae (algae)** and **coral polyps**?

How important is **biodiversity** on the GBR?

What are the various **types** of coral reefs?

What are the main **natural impacts** on the GBR and what damage do they cause?

What are the main **human impacts** on the GBR and what damage do they cause?

How might **global warming** be affecting the GBR?

How is the GBR **managed** and what are the problems associated with this management?

What impacts does **sugar growing** have?

Where is most of Australia's **sugar cane** grown and why?

What are the stages in sugar cane **growing** and **processing**?

What are the two methods of **harvesting** sugar?

What are the advantages and disadvantages of **'trash blanketing'** the sugar cane fields?

How does sugar cane production **impact** on the **Great Barrier Reef**?

Australia's Population

What factors have contributed to Australia's population **growth**?

What are the trends and patterns in Australia's **ethnic composition**?

What are the various kinds of **immigration** categories?

How is Australia's population **distributed**?

What are the trends in Australia's **age and gender** distribution?

Kakadu National Park (KNP)

What is the **climate** of KNP?

What are the different **biophysical environments** of KNP?

What are the **traditional land use** practices and their impacts on KNP's biophysical environments?

What are the impacts of **mining** and/or **tourism** on KNP plant, animal and human communities?

Skills: - interpreting synoptic charts and population pyramids, graphs and charts, reading comprehension

Equipment: - pens, pencils, ruler, rubber, calculator