

school information

2019 Australian Geography Competition

Wednesday 27 March to Wednesday 10 April

ONLY \$4 PER STUDENT



for students from Year 7 to Year 12

Certificates and results for all participating students. Entry deadline Friday 1 March 2019

www.geographycompetition.org.au



The Royal Geographical
Society of Queensland Inc



Australian Geography
Teachers' Association Ltd

enter your school in the 2019 Australian Geography Competition

Why enter?

For your school:

- to promote interest in geography in your school
- to reward student excellence
- to receive recognition, with the top 10 schools in Australia announced, and the top school in each State and combined Territories receiving a prize

For your students:

- to practice geographical skills
- to receive certificates and result sheets for their portfolios
- to compete for the prizes given to the highest-performing geography students in each State and combined Territories in each Year level (see back page)

Competition format

The Competition consists of multiple-choice questions testing geographical knowledge and skills. We supply the questions and answer sheets. You run the 35-minute Competition and return the answer sheets. We mark them and send back results and certificates for students.

International team

Australian team members to the 2020 International Geography Olympiad (iGeo) in Istanbul, Turkey will be chosen from Year 11 students, 15 to 18 years old, who excel in the 2019 Competition.

Who can enter?

The Competition is school-based and designed for students from Year 7 to Year 12. Schools may, however, enter younger students if they wish. Only students enrolled in geography, or an integrated humanities or social sciences subject which includes geography, are eligible for major prizes.

How to enter

- 1 Promote the Competition in the school with the assistance of the A4 and A3 posters provided. One side of the A4 poster is aimed at students and the other side at teachers. Both sides of the A3 poster are aimed at students.
- 2 Collect **\$4.00 entry fee** from each participating student (if students are paying individually).
- 3 Enter by **Friday 1 March** – online at www.geographycompetition.org.au, or by posting or emailing the completed attached entry form to the Competition Office.
- 4 Pay by the deadline of **Friday 1 March**.

Changes to your entry

If a school wishes to increase or decrease the number of students entered, or to withdraw its entry, you must notify the Competition Office via email by **10.00 am Monday 4 March 2019**. If required, a refund will be made, less a \$30.00 handling fee. **No refund will be given if notification is received after this time.**

Important dates in 2019

Entry and payment deadline	Fri 1 March
Deadline for changes to entry	Mon 4 Mar
Receipt of question packs by	Fri 22 Mar
Competition in schools	Wed 27 Mar – Wed 10 Apr
Completed answer sheets posted by	Thur 11 Apr
Completed answer sheets must be received at the Competition Office by	Wed 24 Apr
Prize-winners notified	Late May
Results returned	Late June
International Geog Olympiad	Tue 30 July – Mon 5 Aug
Geography's Big Week Out	Sun 15 Dec – Fri 20 Dec

Front cover photo: Aerial view of fish farm, Kalymnos, Aegean Sea, Greece, ©gece33. Showcasing the geographical concept of change.

Change: a key geographical concept

The image selected for this year's Competition materials showcases the concept of change, a key idea in the Australian Curriculum: Geography.

Change affects natural and human environments (recovery of a forest following a bushfire; rapid urbanization of a country). Change can be natural or human-induced (erosion of a coastline; damming a river). Change occurs at varying rates (formation of a canyon; differences in technology adoption across a region).

As with other concepts, an understanding of the concept of change is critical in students' ability to think geographically – specifically, in their ability to explain how and why geographical phenomena have developed and changed over time and space, and to use their understanding of past and present change to predict possible future change and ways it could be managed.

Thanks to our supporters



The Australian Geography Competition is an initiative of the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland and the Australian Geography Teachers' Association. We look forward to your school taking part in 2019.

Running the Competition

1. Question booklets and answer sheets for each participating student should be received in schools by **Friday 22 March**.

If you have not received the question pack by Friday 22 March, double-check with the school office to ensure the package has not arrived. If not, contact us by **1.00 pm Friday 22 March** and we will send a replacement pack. Schools that do not contact us about non-arrival of material by 22 March 2019 will not be eligible for any refund.

2. Please check that you have received the correct number of question booklets when they arrive.

Extra answer sheets will be sent with the Competition question pack for students who registered after the due date. Please pay online for the additional students.

3. **The Competition** is run in schools under test conditions over a 35-minute period from **Wednesday 27 March to Wednesday 10 April**. The multiple-choice questions test knowledge and skills, within the time constraints of responding to stimulus material.

We recommend that all students from one school complete the Competition on the same day. It is up to the school which of the days between **Wednesday 27 March to Wednesday 10 April** is chosen. We realise that not all schools can arrange to have all their students compete on the same day so, if necessary, schools may spread the Competition over two or more days.

4. The completed answer sheets should be sent to the Competition Office by **Thursday 11 April**. Answer sheets received by the Competition Office after **Wednesday 24 April** may not be eligible for prizes.

5. The answer sheets are computer marked. It is important that students fill in all required sections of the answer sheet correctly. Failing to correctly fill in written text and ovals may result in certificates and results sheets with no, or incorrect student name, Year level, and grading. **Students who do not fill in the answer sheet correctly will be ineligible for prizes.**

6. Students' individual results and certificates are returned to the school by the end of June for distribution to students. All students correctly filling in their name and school code receive a certificate.

Security

Competition question sets must be under the teacher's control until Wednesday 10 April. Although the possibility exists of a student hearing some questions from another, on balance, we believe that the disadvantages of insisting that the Competition be held everywhere at the same time outweigh the problem of possible cheating.

Distance education, home school and vision-impaired students

Teachers of vision-impaired students, or Schools of Distance Education should contact the Competition Office to discuss any special requirements.

For distance education and home school students to be eligible for prizes they must complete the Competition under test conditions.

Preparing your students

Students can prepare for the Competition by downloading past Competition booklets from www.geographycompetition.org.au.

- 23 The cartoon in Figure 6 is based on which of these reasons for interstate migration?

- A employment
- B family
- C lifestyle
- D retirement
- E study



Figure 6. Migration cartoon

© Simon Kneebone



Students from Irrawang High School (NSW) with their 2018 Australian Geography Competition Certificates, accompanied by Principal, Paul Baxter and teacher, Kate Connor; courtesy of Lue Fagen

“Australian Geography Competition’s Big Week Out provided me with a unique learning opportunity. Through this experience, I was able to undertake geography fieldwork and investigation in a new, engaging and resource rich landscape with students from all across Australia who are just as passionate about Geography as myself.”

Chelsea Pyman, 2018 Big Week Out

Students arrive from all over Australia for the fieldwork exercise. Group photo with team leaders – representatives of Geography Teachers’ Association of South Australia, Australian Geography Competition Committee and the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland, Geography’s Big Week Out, October 2018.



“The iGeo was an unforgettable experience, full of learning and the formation of so many friendships and memories in such a beautiful and historically rich part of the world.”

Hannah Wright, bronze medal, Australian Team member, 2018 iGeo.

Australian team at the 2018 iGeo, Quebec, Canada

The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Inc

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2019 Australian Geography Competition

ENTRY FORM / TAX INVOICE

(when completed)

Payment is due by Friday 1 March 2019

Tax Invoice date: 1 February 2019

School Name:

Contact Teacher:

Title: Dr [] Ms [] Mrs [] Mr [] (First Name)

(Last Name)

Postal Address:

Town/Suburb:

State/Territory:

Postcode:

Telephone: ()

Email:

The number of students participating from our school will be:

Note: students of all ages use subsets of the same question booklets.

Number can be modified up to 10:00 a.m. Monday 4 March 2019.

Total Entry Fee @ \$4.00 per student: \$

Note: GST exempt as non-commercial activity of a charity.

Please give a copy of this Entry Form/Tax Invoice to your School's Accounts staff.

Note: schools sending a Purchase Order need to pay using this Tax Invoice. Schools entering online are emailed a computer-generated Tax Invoice.

A cheque, payable to Royal Geographical Society of Queensland, is enclosed

or

An EFT payment has been/will be made. For EFT please use:
Payment reference: "AGC Your School's Postcode and Name"

or

BSB Number: 034 072, Account Number: 211 734.

A school Purchase Order is enclosed

or

Please debit: Visa Mastercard

Card number:

Cardholder name:

Expiry date: / Cardholder signature:

RETURN THIS FORM OR ENTER ONLINE AND PAY BY Friday 1 March, 2019

www.geographycompetition.org.au



Year levels

Students are graded at each high school Year level. Students younger than Year 7 are graded with the Year 7s. The students' scores, percentiles, certificate categories (top 1% in Australia, high distinction, distinction, credit, and participation) and prizes are calculated within their Year cohorts.

- **Years 7 and 8.** These students' scores and certificates are graded using Questions 1-30.
- **Years 9 and 10.** These students' scores and certificates are graded using Questions 1-40.
- **Years 11 and 12.** These students' scores and certificates are graded using Questions 16-50. Prizes at this level use scores with a weighting on the final 10 questions.

Student prizes

The highest-scoring geography student in each Year in Australia, in each State and in the combined Territories (ACT, NT and the External Territories) will each receive a prize of a book voucher and special certificate. First in Australia will also receive a medal.

The highest-scoring Year 11 female and male students who are between the ages of 15 and 18 on 30 June 2019 in each State and the combined Territories each win a place at Geography's Big Week Out. Two other high-scoring students are also awarded this prize. Tied students may be separated using school assessment.

Only students enrolled in geography, or an integrated humanities/ social sciences subject which includes geography are eligible for major prizes.

School prizes

A book voucher and framed certificate will be awarded to the top school in Australia, each State and the combined Territories (ACT, NT and the External Territories), based on the scores of the school's best 5 students from each of Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

Geography's Big Week Out

The 2019 Geography's Big Week Out will be held on Kangaroo Island, South Australia in mid-December and hosted by the Geography Teachers' Association of South Australia. The event is a mix of stimulating and hands-on geography activities designed to challenge and extend high-performing Year 11 students.

Costs (airfares, accommodation, meals and activities) of participation in the Big Week Out are met by the organisers.

The four members of Australia's team to the 2020 International Geography Olympiad in Istanbul, Turkey, will be selected based on students' performances during the 2019 Big Week Out. Australia's team to the 2019 Olympiad in Hong Kong, China, has been selected from the participants in the 2018 Big Week Out.

Geography's Big Week Out and Australia's participation in the International Geography Olympiads are supported by the Australian Government Department of Education and Training; Flinders University; Macquarie University; Monash University; University of Queensland; and University of Western Australia.



@AustralianGeographyCompetition
#entertheAGC

Any queries?

If you have any questions after reading this brochure contact us.

Contact us

Australian Geography Competition
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Level 1, 28 Fortescue Street, Spring Hill Qld 4000
Phone: 07 3368 2066
Email: competition@rgsq.org.au
Website: www.geographycompetition.org.au



Year 8 and Year 9 students from Hills Grammar achieved a 'top 1% in Australia' result in the 2018 Australian Geography Competition; courtesy of Hills Grammar (NSW).