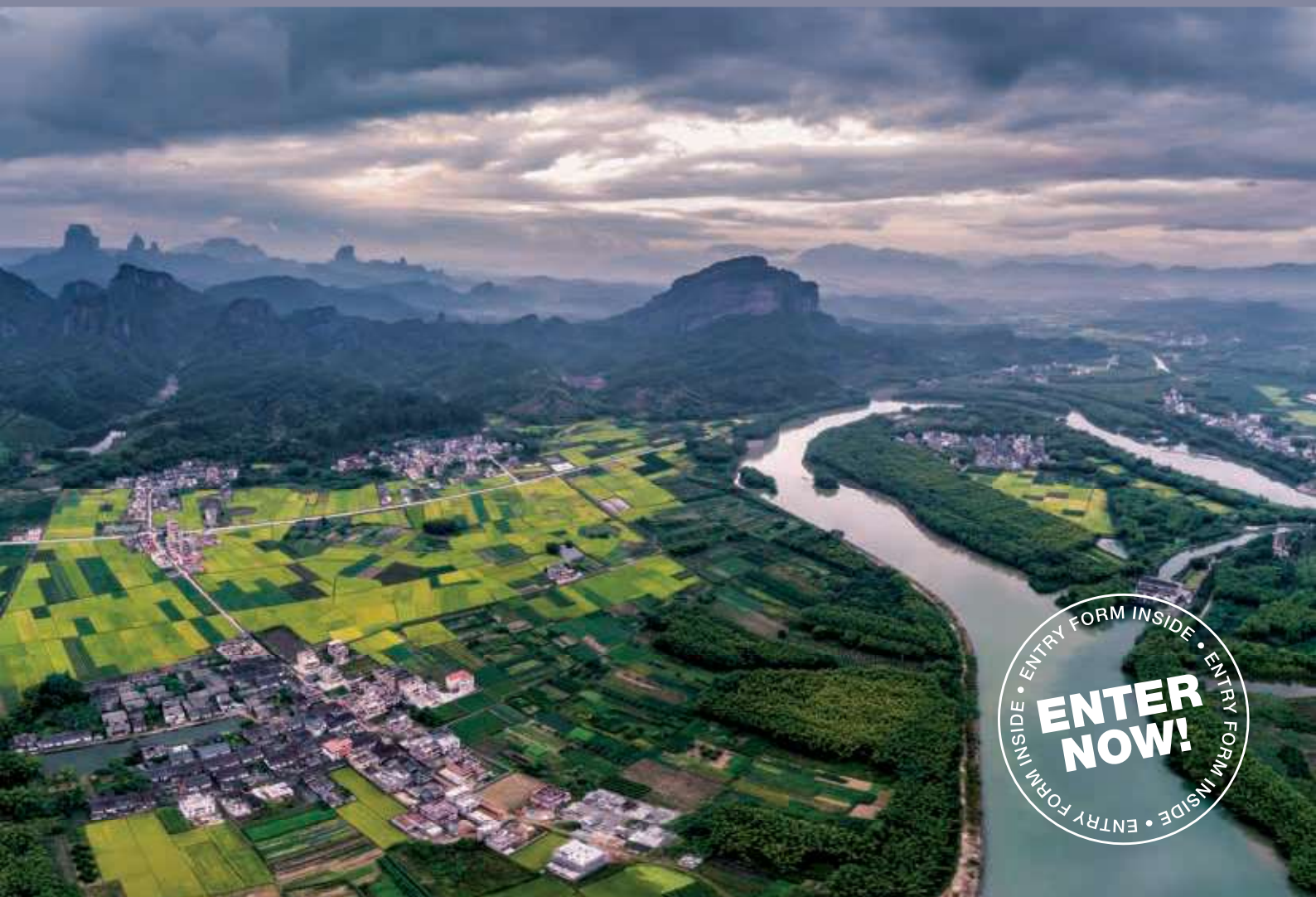


school information

2020 Australian Geography Competition

Wednesday 18 March to Wednesday 1 April

ONLY \$4 PER ENTRY



for students from Year 7 to Year 12

Certificates and results for all participating students. Entry deadline 24 February 2020

www.geographycompetition.org.au



The Royal Geographical
Society of Queensland Ltd



Australian Geography
Teachers' Association Ltd

enter your school in the 2020 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 2021 International Geography Olympiad (iGeo) in Indonesia, will be chosen from Year 11 students, 15 to 18 years old, who excel in the 2020 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 prizes.*

How to enter

- 1 Promote the Competition in the school with the assistance of the A4 and A3 posters provided.
- 2 Collect **\$4.00 entry fee** from each participating student (if students are paying individually).
- 3 Enter by **Monday 24 February** – online at www.geographycompetition.org.au, or by posting or emailing the completed attached entry form to the Competition Office. Late entries may be accepted, please contact the Competition Office for advice.
- 4 Pay by the deadline of **Monday 24 February**.

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 2 March 2020**. 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.**

Front cover photo: *The environment of Danxia Mountain, Guangdong Province, China, ©iStock.com/Yiming Li. Showcasing the geographical concept of environment.*

Important dates in 2020

Entry and payment deadline	Mon 24 Feb
Deadline for changes to entry	Mon 2 Mar
Receipt of question packs by	Friday 13 Mar
Competition in schools	Wed 18 Mar – Wed 1 Apr
Completed answer sheets posted by	Thur 2 Apr
Completed answer sheets must be received at the Competition Office by	Wed 22 Apr
<i>Answer sheets received after this date will be graded and student certificates returned, but may not be eligible for prizes.</i>	
Prize-winners notified	Late May
Results returned	Mid June
International Geog Olympiad	Tue 11 Aug – Mon 17 Aug
Geography's Big Week Out	Sun 27 Sept – Fri 2 Oct

Environment: a key geographical concept

The image selected for this year's Competition materials showcases the concept of environment, a key idea in the Australian Curriculum: Geography. The concept is underpinned by the idea that humans are dependent on the biophysical environment for their survival and are also an integral part of it.

Students develop an understanding of this concept through study of the Earth's climate, landforms, vegetation cover, water resources and other environmental features, and the processes that produce them. This gives a base to investigate the effects of humans on the environment (e.g. through vegetation clearance, urban development) and the influence of the environment on humans (e.g. climate on agriculture, water resources on regional development). The concept also encompasses people's perception and knowledge of environments and their management (e.g. Aboriginal fire management practices, European ideas of drought).

Application of this concept is critical to the management of issues such as natural hazards, land degradation and biodiversity conservation.

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 2020.

Running the Competition

1. Question booklets and answer sheets for each participating student should be received in schools by **Friday 13 March**.

If you have not received the question pack by Friday 13 March, double-check with the school office to ensure the package has not arrived. If not, contact us by **1.00 pm Friday 13 March** and we will send a replacement pack. Schools that do not contact us about non-arrival of material by 13 March 2020 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 18 March to Wednesday 1 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 18 March to Wednesday 1 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. Schools should have the completed answer sheets in the return post or courier by **Thursday 2 April**. Answer sheets received by the Competition Office after **Wednesday 22 April** will not be eligible for prizes, however, will be marked, graded and certificates returned.

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 mid-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 1 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.

30 What does the ad in Figure 10 suggest about the impacts of the plastic found in the ocean?

- A The commercial fishing industry is catching less fish due to higher volumes of plastics.
- B Human demand for seafood is putting pressure on natural environments.
- C Human health will be impacted by consuming marine life that has eaten plastics.
- D An increasing number of marine species will be killed as a result of plastic in the oceans.
- E The quality of some fish species will decline as a result of plastic waste in oceans.



Figure 10. Plastic sushi ad Source: © Surfrider Foundation

“GBWO was an incredible experience to share with a group of unique and amazing people. It was also a brilliant opportunity to apply geographical skills and more broadly academic knowledge to a real-life scenario, something we might otherwise have been unable to accomplish until well into university.”

Joshua Crow, 2019 Big Week Out.



“The iGeo was a fantastic opportunity not only to learn about geography, hearing from bright minds in the field and undergoing insightful fieldwork, but also to make friends from all around the globe. Being around such a wide variety of international cultures, personalities and languages is a rare event, and because of it, the experience was invaluable.”

Harry Hall, 2018 Olympiad

The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Ltd
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PO Box 625, Spring Hill Qld 4004
Ph: 07 3330 6907 Email: competition@rgsq.org.au

2020 Australian Geography Competition ENTRY FORM / TAX INVOICE

(when completed)

Payment is due by Monday 24 February 2020

Tax Invoice date: 10 February 2020

By entering the Australian Geography Competition I accept that I have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions available on the Competition website.

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:	
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*Note: students of all ages use subsets of the same question booklets.
Number can be modified up to 10:00 a.m. Monday 2 March 2020.*

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

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Cardholder name:

Expiry date: / Cardholder signature:

RETURN THIS FORM OR ENTER ONLINE AND PAY BY Monday 24 February 2020

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, 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 2020 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 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 2020 Geography's Big Week Out will be held in Perth, Western Australia from Sunday 27 September to Friday 2 October 2020 and hosted by the Geographical Association of Western 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 2021 International Geography Olympiad in Bandung, Indonesia, will be selected based on students' performances during the 2020 Big Week Out. Australia's team to the 2020 Olympiad in Istanbul, Turkey, has been selected from the participants in the 2019 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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