



By entering your school and number of students in the Australian Geography Competition you agree to the following terms and conditions of the Australian Geography Competition.

#### **WHO CAN ENTER?**

1. The Australian Geography Competition is open to all Australian high school students. Primary school students may enter at the teacher's discretion. Students from other countries may enter with the approval of the Australian Geography Competition Coordinator. An extra postal charge may be payable for overseas students.

#### **YEAR LEVELS**

2. Students are graded at each Australian high school Year level as follows:
  - a. Schools may enter students in Years younger than Year 7 and they will be graded with the Year 7 cohort.
  - b. Year 7 and 8 students' scores and certificates are graded by Year level using Questions 1 – 30.
  - c. Year 9 and 10 students' scores and certificates are graded by Year level using Questions 1 – 40
  - d. Year 11 and 12 students' scores and certificates are graded by Year level using Questions 16 – 50.

#### **GRADING**

3. Students' scores, certificate categories (top 1% in Australia, high distinction, distinction, credit, and participation) are calculated within the Year level using answer sheets returned by Wednesday 22 April 2020.

#### **PRIZES**

4. In the context of these Terms and Conditions, "Geography Student" is defined as an Australian student enrolled in geography or an integrated humanities/social sciences subject which includes geography.
5. **Only Australian geography students are eligible for prizes.**
6. Combined Territories include the Australian Capital Territory, Northern Territory, Jervis Bay Territory and Australian External Territories.
7. The highest-scoring geography student in each Year level in Australia, in each State and the Combined Territories will each receive a prize of a book voucher and special certificate. First in Australia will also receive a medal. The prize for first in Australia replaces the relevant prize for first in the State/Combined Territories for those students who come first in Australia.
8. The highest-scoring Year 11 female and male geography students who are between the ages of 15 and 18 on 30 June 2020 in each State and the Combined Territories will be invited to participate in Geography's Big Week Out. Two other high-scoring students will also be invited to participate in Geography's Big Week Out. If required, tied students may be separated using school assessment. If the highest-scoring student in a State/Combined Territories is not able to attend, the invitation will be offered to the next eligible student.
9. Prizes for Years 11 and 12 are determined using scores with a weighting on the final 10 questions.
10. A special certificate for top 1% in Australia by Year level is provided, but no prizes are awarded for this grade.
11. School prizes consist of a book voucher and special certificate and will be awarded to the top school in Australia, each State and the Combined Territories. The prize for first in Australia replaces the relevant prize for first in the State/Combined Territories for the school that comes first in Australia.
12. School ranking is calculated using the scores of the school's best five (5) students from each of Years 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

#### **PAYMENTS AND CHANGES TO NUMBER OF STUDENTS**

13. Each school that enters will nominate the "number of students" for their school when entering. The cost of each student is \$4 with no other fees. There is no GST on entry costs as the Competition is run under the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Ltd charity status.
14. The school must pay for the "number of students" nominated on the entry form unless the school wishes to withdraw or to increase or decrease the number of students and notifies the Competition Office by email ([competition@rgsq.org.au](mailto:competition@rgsq.org.au)) by 10:00 am on Monday 2 March 2020.



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15. If notification is received after 10:00 am on Monday 2 March 2020, or no notification is received, the school is liable to pay for the number of students entered whether or not the school returns any answer sheets.
  16. If a school has already paid and wishes to reduce the number of students or withdraw from the 2020 Competition, it must notify the Competition Office by email ([competition@rgsq.org.au](mailto:competition@rgsq.org.au)) no later than 10:00 am on Monday 2 March 2020. A refund will be made, less a \$30.00 handling fee.

#### **RUNNING THE COMPETITION**

17. 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 the competition office by **1.00 pm Friday 13 March** and we will send a replacement pack express. Schools that do not contact us about non-arrival of material by 13 March 2020 will not be eligible for any refund.
18. Please check that you have received the correct number of question booklets when they arrive. Any extra answer sheets sent with the Competition question pack may be used for students who registered after the due date. Please pay online for the additional students.
19. **The Competition** is run in schools over a 35-minute period between **Wednesday 18 March and 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 and 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.
20. If the school needs to run the Competition at a time not between **Wednesday 18 March and Wednesday 1 April**, the school must obtain approval from the Competition Coordinator by emailing ([competition@rgsq.org.au](mailto:competition@rgsq.org.au)).
21. The Competition is run under test conditions: students must always be supervised by a teacher or other adult assigned by the school; students must have no access to resources other than those within the Competition question booklet.
22. All completed answer sheets should be sent to the Australian Geography Competition office no later than Thursday 2 April so that they are received by Wednesday 22 April.
23. All completed answer sheets should be posted to the: Australian Geography Competition, c/- The Royal Geographical Society of Queensland Ltd, PO Box 625, Spring Hill, Qld 4004, or couriered to Level 1, 28 Fortescue Street, Spring Hill Qld 4000.
24. Answer sheets received after Wednesday 22 April may be marked, graded and student certificates and results returned to the school at the discretion of the Competition Coordinator. Students whose answer sheets are received after Wednesday 22 April will not be eligible for prizes.

#### **SECURITY**

25. Competition question booklets 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**

26. Teachers of vision-impaired students, or Schools of Distance Education should contact the Competition Office to discuss any special requirements.
27. For distance education and home school students to be eligible for prizes they must complete the Competition under test conditions.