

National Certificate of Educational Achievement

2014 Assessment Report

Geography Level 1

- 91007 Demonstrate geographic understanding of environments that have been shaped by extreme natural event(s)**
- 91008 Demonstrate geographic understanding of population concepts**
- 91010 Apply concepts and basic geographic skills to demonstrate understanding of a given environment**

STANDARD REPORTS

91007 Demonstrate geographic understanding of environments that have been shaped by extreme natural event(s)

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They commonly:

- responded with limited supporting evidence
- listed ideas or wrote about ideas without linking them to the questions or concepts
- interpreted the questions superficially
- included diagrams with some labels.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They commonly:

- wrote generic answers with no evidence
- failed to name their case study
- did not attempt all questions
- omitted relevant diagrams.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit commonly:

- provided explanations with detailed supporting case study material
- understood the questions being asked and selected appropriate case study
- structured their written answers well with supporting annotated diagrams.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence commonly:

- wrote sufficiently well to show their understanding of concepts
- integrated or linked evidence throughout their written answers
- concluded with a supporting paragraph that mentioned relevant geographic concepts
- gave very good coverage of the topic showing insight
- drew and incorporated detailed annotated diagrams.

OTHER COMMENTS

It is very important that candidates include case study information and statistics in their responses to questions. This is an essential requirement for this achievement standard.

91008 Demonstrate geographic understanding of population concepts

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They commonly:

- showed some understanding of the diagrams and models used in population concepts
- could give simple explanations about diversity and migration
- gave broad generalisations from their named case studies.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They commonly:

- were unfamiliar with the term 'natural increase' and were unable to calculate it
- could not describe diversity nor migration including their impacts
- offered little supporting evidence from their case study material.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit commonly:

- were able to give detailed description of changes in population
- were able to use evidence from the resources and their own case studies
- were able to expand on the given factors of migration and support their answers with specific reference to case studies.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence commonly:

- showed a thorough understanding of population concepts and applied their knowledge to the questions appropriately
- provided excellent and recent (2014) case study materials
- demonstrated insight and understanding in their responses
- were able to integrate statistical evidence.

OTHER COMMENTS

Candidates attained higher grades when they used current case study materials and wrote about the relevant population concepts. Candidates need to avoid stereotypical generalisations. Responses that contained relevant maps or diagrams tended to score Merit or Excellence grades.

91010 Apply concepts and basic geographic skills to demonstrate understanding of a given environment

ACHIEVEMENT

Candidates who were awarded Achievement for this standard demonstrated the required skills and knowledge. They commonly:

- attempted most questions
- demonstrated a basic understanding of geographic skills and concepts
- interpreted resources to gather information
- supplied some evidence to support their answer.

NOT ACHIEVED

Candidates who were assessed as Not Achieved for this standard lacked some or all of the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement. They commonly:

- did not attempt all questions
- were unfamiliar with basic skills or the concepts expected at level 1
- did not include supporting evidence.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH MERIT

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Merit commonly:

- completed most geographic skills with accuracy
- provided some depth in their answers
- discussed aspects of the specified geographic concepts.

ACHIEVEMENT WITH EXCELLENCE

In addition to the skills and knowledge required for the award of Achievement with Merit, candidates who were awarded Achievement with Excellence commonly:

- demonstrated a sound knowledge of basic geographic skills
- wrote clearly and precisely
- were able to use basic geographic conventions
- referred to the resources in all questions and applied concepts and resource material with insight
- had well structured written responses consistently throughout the paper.

OTHER COMMENTS

The paper followed a similar format to previous years. Candidates who were well practised in basic geographic skills and were familiar with geographic concepts had the opportunity to gain higher grades. Candidates who lacked precision, made careless errors or failed to complete questions earned lower grades.