Assessment Schedule – 2023

Social Studies: Describe how cultures change (91039)

Assessment Criteria

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Describe typically involves giving an account of: • the change involved • the individuals / groups / societies involved • points of view about the change • the use of relevant social studies concepts.	*Describe in depth* typically involves giving an account of: • the processes that led to the change • contrasting points of view about the change.	*Comprehensively describe* typically involves giving an account of: • why the processes that led to the change were important for the individuals / groups / societies involved.

Evidence

A3	A4	M5	M6	E7	E8
Gives a limited or partial description of how cultures change as a result of technology (may include one or more relevant points of view about the change).	Describes, in detail, how cultures change as a result of technology, and relevant points of view about the change.	Gives a limited or partial description of the contrasting points of view about the change and / or the processes that led to the change as a result of technology.	Describes, in detail, the contrasting points of view about the change and the processes that led to the change as a result of technology.	Gives a limited or partial description of why the processes that led to the change as a result of technology were important for the individuals / groups / societies involved.	Describes comprehensively why the processes that led to the change as a result of technology were important for the individuals / groups / societies involved.
Includes some specific evidence and uses relevant social studies concepts.	Includes specific evidence and uses relevant social studies concepts.	Includes some specific and relevant evidence and uses relevant social studies concepts.	Includes specific and relevant evidence and uses relevant social studies concepts.	Includes some specific and relevant evidence consistently and uses relevant social studies concepts.	Includes specific and relevant evidence consistently and uses relevant social studies concepts.

*See **Appendix** for sample evidence.*

N2 = Attempts to describe several aspects of how cultures change.

N1 = Attempts a relevant response for an aspect(s) of the task (may be a sentence or two).

N0 = No response; no relevant evidence.

Cut Scores

Not Achieved	Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
0 – 2	3 – 4	5 – 6	7 – 8

Appendix – Sample Evidence

Task	Expected Coverage (not limited to these examples)
(a)	**Describes a cultural change that has occurred as a result of technology, and the individuals / groups / societies involved, e.g.:** In recent years, there has been a change in the way society works. As a result of technological developments and improved infrastructure, people can work from any location. This has allowed much more flexibility for both employees and businesses. Before COVID, many workers were based in offices – commuting, working fixed hours – then the pandemic hit, and the world changed. Forced by lockdowns to work from home, we discovered technology offered an alternative to traditional nine-to-five employment. It gave us a glimpse of the future, and we found out that, while office-based work had its benefits, so did working from home. It was possible for work to be both flexible and productive. According to research carried out by Microsoft, 71% of New Zealand's workforce want flexible, remote work options. But, interestingly, 65% also desire face-to-face time with their teams. A compromise could be the hybrid workspace. New figures show Auckland CBD's office vacancy rate increased from 4.7% in December 2019 to 11.9% in December 2022. The research found that, while secondary vacant space is languishing, high quality, flexible, and environmentally friendly office premises are outperforming. In short, new, well-designed office spaces are the ones in demand. The new offices of law firm MC (previously Meredith Connell), in Auckland's CBD, are an example of sought-after new spaces worthy of the commute, which allow for a new way of working – offering flexibility, better conditions, and a focus on well-being.
(b)	**Describes TWO contrasting points of view about the cultural change, e.g.:** University of Otago Human Resources expert Paula O'Kane believes the time is right for change. After several lockdowns and with more time spent working from home than in the office, the hybrid model has gained traction. "We missed that opportunity to go hybrid after the first lockdown. Since then, everything that's happened in Auckland in the lockdowns has given us more of a push." O'Kane says that since the first lockdown in 2020, people have reprioritised the role of work in their lives. Jobseekers are now looking for roles with flexibility. "You find where organisations aren't offering employees what they want, they're going to move on and look for an organisation that will," she says. "People discovered work could fit in with family and they don't want to give it up. I think some people re-found their families in those lockdowns. I know I did, and it was lovely." Workers who are less stressed and able to balance family life – from being able to attend a school prize giving to avoiding a time-consuming commute – work better, are more motivated, and are more productive, according to O'Kane. In contrast, Kaimai Law believes that there are many disadvantages to a hybrid work model. Reports or surveys conducted found that many of their employees felt isolated when working at home and preferred to be in the office environment. This percentage increases in smaller businesses with fewer than 50 staff members. Remote working can have an impact on team culture, feelings of connectivity, and collaboration between colleagues in a workplace. Many employees enjoy their workplace not only because of the work they do, but also the people they work with. Although colleagues can communicate with each other via Microsoft Teams or Zoom, these platforms do not have the same benefits as interacting with a colleague in person.

(c)	**Describes the processes that led to the change, and why they were important for the different individuals / groups / societies involved, e.g.:** The key process that has led to the cultural change in Aotearoa New Zealand is adaptation to the way in which businesses operate and households' function. As a result of the pandemic, one common theme to emerge in employment trends was a shift in the value people place on their work and their lives outside of work. Workers began putting their non-work preferences ahead of workplace productivity according to some, as well as prioritising personal well-being. This forced businesses to adapt how they operated to ensure that staff felt valued, and their well-being was prioritised. This is important for employees and businesses because, according to research, individuals with the greatest flexibility are the happiest. About 94% of those with the greatest flexibility said they were happy, or very happy with this arrangement. This compares with 88.5% of those working remotely full-time, and 70.6% of those going into the office full-time. When people were asked to choose their ideal working arrangements, the most popular choices were having control over the location where they work and when (23%), followed closely by working remotely full-time (22.8%). Evidence suggests that hybrid working also leads to better health and well-being. One-third (30.2%) of workers said they now have a better work-life balance than they did two years ago, compared with less than one in ten (8.7%), who think it has worsened. More than one-quarter said the key benefit from having a better work-life balance was having more time to invest in their health and wellness. Research proves that when workers are at their happiest, productivity improves.