

Scholarship

2013 Assessment Report

Geography

COMMENTARY

Candidates who scored well in this examination showed they had a clear overview and understanding of the issues of the context through the resource materials provided. These candidates selected relevant information to write a focused answer to each question in a concise and fluent manner. They were able to incorporate geographic concepts, terminology, and to generalise within answers (without making inaccurate statements). They also referred to relevant material from outside the resource booklet to enhance their answer. The requirement for this was clearly signaled in the questions.

As required by the Geography Scholarship standard, these candidates used sophisticated language, were able to critically analyse the material in the resource booklet, interpret the geographic nature of the context and explain geographic perspectives on who should benefit from mining.

They integrated relevant (adapted or original) visuals, within their writing, and these were clearly referred to within the body of the essay. Some candidates presented excellent visuals that showed flair and originality. They also referred to relevant material from beyond the resource booklet to enhance their responses. The requirement for this was clearly signaled in the questions.

SCHOLARSHIP WITH OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- clearly understood the command words such as critically evaluate, analyse, discuss and justify
- extracted and processed relevant information from the resources provided
- planned their answers carefully to ensure that the response was concise with a balanced and thoughtful argument
- wrote answers that involved critical evaluation or analysis
- were able to support their answers with relevant short extracts of information from the resource booklet and integrate it with relevant knowledge and ideas from their learning
- incorporated visuals in their answer to enhance their arguments
- were able to give insightful responses relating to the topic.

SCHOLARSHIP

Candidates who were awarded Scholarship but not Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- followed the instructions carefully and wrote sound, solid answers
- used the planning pages to plan and add structure to their answers
- included visuals in the answers as directed and referred to the visuals
- backed up their arguments with some reference to the resource material or other proof.

OTHER CANDIDATES

Candidates who were not awarded Scholarship or Scholarship with Outstanding Performance typically:

- did not complete all three questions showing a lack of time management skills

- made sweeping generalisations showing a lack of understanding of concepts in geography
- understood the command words in some instances but were unable to present an argument relating the question
- did not bother to prove their arguments
- did not understand the complexity of the topic and therefore reached spurious conclusions.