Key Questions

1. What is a must in all geography exam questions?
2. What is the ability of a NSS S6 student?
3. What is the implication of 2012 to all geography teachers?

A Quick Review

NSS Geography Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Curriculum Framework</th>
<th>Lesson Time (Total lesson time: 270 hours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Compulsory Part</td>
<td>60% (around 170 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 geographical issues and problems</td>
<td>60% (around 170 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective Part</td>
<td>20% (around 50 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 out of 4 electives</td>
<td>20% (around 50 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fieldwork + Spatial Data Enquiry (Should be infused in the learning and teaching of the Compulsory and Elective Parts)</td>
<td>20% (around 50 hours)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NSS Geography

- Compulsory (7 topics)
  - Natural hazards
  - River & coast
  - Industry
  - City development
  - Food & hunger
  - Tropical rainforest
  - Global warming
• Elective (2 out of 4 topics)
  – Geology & geomorphology of HK
  – Weather & climate
  – Transport development, planning & management
  – Pearl River Delta

• School-based Assessment (SBA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Implications of Paper 1 &amp; 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Exam strategies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Squeeze max. time for Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Organization skill</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is a must in all geography exam questions?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>– Photos, Diagrams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Application</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>– Photos &amp; fieldwork</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience &amp; Application</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Kitchen &amp; Washroom</th>
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</table>
Field trips & Activities

- Tung Chung Bay visit
- Caritas Field Study Center
- Hong Kong Observatory visit
- Wan Chai haunted tour
- Campus slope field trip
- Hong Kong Geography Day
- Rich and poor experience lunch
- Guangzhou field trip (2-day)
- Squatter experience field camp (2-day)
- West Kowloon pre-war building visit
- Island North landuse & urban development
- Self-guided field trip
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Sample Paper, HKEAA

Section C: Answer any ONE question from this section. Each question carries 12 marks. (36%)

5. Explain why some new iron and steel plants in China are located near large urban centres. Discuss the socio-economic and environmental impacts of these plants on those large urban centres. (12 marks)

6. With reference to a farming region you have studied, explain how physical factors have influenced the agricultural characteristics of the region. To what extent do you think technology is becoming more important in affecting the agricultural activities in the region? (12 marks)

7. In global warming a consequence brought about by human activities which have not been carried out in accordance with the principle of sustainable development? Would international cooperation help solve the related problems? Give reasons and cite examples to justify your viewpoint. (12 marks)
• demonstrates **extensive knowledge** of the interplay between the physical inputs and the agricultural characteristics of the region.

• also able to cite some **examples** in evaluating how technology affects the agricultural activities.

• **Logical reasoning** is evident in the discussion of the impact of technology, which is well-focused on the candidate’s clear standpoint.

• able to make use of extensive geographical **terminology** in presenting his/her arguments throughout the answer.

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**Implication**

• Essay writing skill is across all subjects
  – Liberal Studies
  – Chinese History etc

• Develop skill asap in collaboration with other subjects

• Essay is high risk
  – Repeated practice

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**Implementation Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year of examination</th>
<th>Implementation of SBA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Schools are not required to submit SBA marks. Public examination results constitute 100% of the final subject result.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Schools are not required to submit SBA marks. Public examination results constitute 100% of the final subject result. Starting from 2014, all schools have to submit SBA marks contributing 15% to the final subject result.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Table 5.2 Implementation schedule of SBA**
### School-based Assessment (SBA)

- 15% public exam grade
- Administered in school
- Marked by the students’ own teachers
- Reduce the dependence on one-off exam
- Backwash effect: Motivate learning
- Enhance assessment validity
  - Ask geographical questions in the field
  - Identify spatial patterns through field observation
  - Locate & collect first-hand data
  - Hypothesis testing & enquiry
  - Value judgment

### Format

- Geographical enquiry
  - ≠ fieldwork report / ~ UK coursework
  - Formulate plan for enquiry
  - Gather, process & analyze field data
  - Present & interpret the findings
  - Evaluation & suggestion

### PCAIE

- Planning (10%)
- Collection (20%)
- Analysis (30%)
- Interpretation (30%)
- Evaluation (10%)

### Remarks to teachers

- Marks should reflect the rank order of the students & the relative difference between students’ achievements
- Zero for work fails to meet the min. requirement
- Mark moderation by HKEAA on a school basis
  - Difference among teachers of the same study level
- Plagiarism/ Malpractice

### 1200 - 2000 words (except appendix)
- Fieldwork enquiry
- Individual work (except planning & data-collection stages)
- Within curriculum, geographical
- Individual title preferred
- Clear objectives

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Fieldwork Planning

- Participation
  - Data discovery
  - Geographical skill

- Multi-theme
  - Curriculum linkage
  - Part of study, not a single activity
  - Integrate with project-based learning

- Sharing, debriefing & organization

Tung Chung Bay

- Field trip theme: River channel (AM)

- Project theme (PM)
  - Natural conservation
  - Urban development
  - Ecotourism

What is a must in all geography exam questions?
- Application in lessons/Powerpoints
- Get used to fieldwork
- EDB e-services

What is the ability of a NSS S6 student?
- Review curriculum thoroughly & fine tune materials
- Collect CE & AL pastpaper

What is the implication of 2012 to all geography teachers?
- Project-based learning in junior forms
- Support from field study centers & NGOs
- Fieldwork is fun
References

- Document for New Geog. Curriculum, EDB

- SBA Teachers' Handbook, HKEAA

- Geography Teaching Support Site, EDB

PowerPoint available at

Hong Kong Geographical Association
  - [www.hkga.org](http://www.hkga.org)

Po Leung Kuk Laws Foundation College, Hong Kong
  - [www.plklfc.edu.hk](http://www.plklfc.edu.hk)

Contact

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