

SEC Environmental Studies Course work


- The candidate is to choose ONE title.
- This project carries a total mark of 30/200 or 15% of the global mark of the examination.
- The project should consist of a report of approximately 1500 to 2000 words about the chosen topic.
- Candidates are expected to develop the topic in their own words and to supplement their account with appropriate statistics, graphs and photos/sketches/diagrams (with appropriate captions).
- While candidates are encouraged to use the available literature and the Internet for their research, they are reminded that plagiarised work will be heavily penalised.
- The project shall be assessed by the schools during the candidates' course of study. Projects are to be available at the candidates' schools for moderation by the Markers' Panel. The school assessments should reach the MATSEC Examinations Board as directed by the Matsec Support Unit.

Marking the project:

- a) Planning and the candidates' initiative to work on their own
- b) Development of the work indicating the candidates' ability to face situations and people so as to be able to make observations and collect and assess information
- c) Effort to ensure that the report is the result of personal work, observations and ideas

d) Ability to make use of information, surveys and statistics

e) Conclusion indicating ideas, observations and suggestions which the candidates make as a result of all that they observe and judge

L-UNIVERSITA TA' MALTA Msida MSD 2080 - Malta Il-Bord tal-Matrikola u taċ-Certifikat tal-Edukazzjoni Sekondarja		UNIVERSITY OF MALTA Msida MSD 2080 - Malta Matriculation and Secondary Education Certificate Examinations Board
SEC ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES School Based Assessment		
MARKING SCHEME		
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES		
INTRODUCTION		
Brief information on the topic of the project		1
Plan of work		1
BODY		
Evidence of planning (including documentation) and appropriate analysis of the topic under review, including evidence that the coursework, and observations and ideas therein, is authentic also taking into consideration the pitfall of plagiarism		3
Observation and data collection		2
Analysis of data		2
CONCLUSION		
Conclusions arrived at, interpretation of primary data and a brief synopsis of what was learnt (knowledge and skills) during the process of research, compilation and writing of the project		2
Suggestions and recommendations		1
OVERALL		
Relevance of fieldwork methods, display of data, representation of information		1
Layout, systematic approach and the appropriate inclusion of the title, acknowledgements, table of contents, subdivisions in chapters, consistency, bibliography/references, an appropriate use of a variety of sources		2
TOTAL MARKS		15

SEC Environmental Studies coursework titles

Geography titles:

Title 1: An investigation into water conservation at home.

The candidate is to inform him/herself on the problems associated with water availability and production in Malta and discuss one or more possible house-hold water conservation measures that s/he and the family can implement to help reduce the problem. The project should contain both primary and secondary research. The methodology should include a survey.

Introduction - Explain briefly the topic chosen and how you plan to investigate the issue.

1. The problems associated with water availability and production in Malta

Briefly explain the sources of water in Malta namely springs, wells, perched aquifer, the sea level aquifer and the reverse osmosis plants.

https://www.um.edu.mt/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/245885/Spiteri_and_Scerri_and_Valdramidis.pdf

<http://www.revolve-water.com/malta-water-challenge/>

2. Problems related to water availability and production in Malta:

Explain the main natural and human reasons related to problems of water availability and production in Malta.

<https://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20150506/opinion/Imminent-water-crisis.566982>

<http://maltawaterassociation.org/index.php/portfolio-item/state-of-water-resources-in-malta/>

3. Discuss one or more possible house-hold water conservation measures that the family can implement to help reduce the problem

List the various house-hold water conservations measures that families in Malta can adopt.

Explain in more detail two measures of how water can be conserved at home by the family members.

<https://www.care2.com/greenliving/20-ways-to- conserve-water-at-home.html>

4. Primary research

Carry out an investigation of conservation measures at your home or in any other household or households.

5. Secondary research

Carry out research work on water efficient homes in Malta and beyond. An example could be the home of hydrologist Marco Cremona.

6. Carry out a survey with a random group of ten to twenty persons to find out

- Reasons for people to adopt water conservation measures at home.
- Which measures they consider successful?
- Which measures they see as too expensive?
- Who are the family members that take a keen interest in adopting water conservation methods?

7. Conclusion - Make a summary of each chapter by giving the most important points raised. Give your suggestions on how the younger generation can be the dynamic force behind water conservation measures at domestic (home) level.

Title 2: The importance of Maltese nature reserves in preserving geology and/or biodiversity.

The candidate is to choose ONE nature reserve and discuss its importance for the locality and, more broadly, for Malta. The project should contain both primary and secondary research. The methodology should include a survey and a form of fieldwork (site-visits, observation & basic data collection & very basic analysis).

Introduction - Explain briefly the topic chosen and how you plan to investigate the issue.

1. Choose ONE nature reserve and discuss its importance for the locality.

Briefly give general info about the nature reserves found in Malta.

Choose one and give more detailed information.

Discuss the importance of this nature reserve for the locality.

<https://www.airmalta.com/destinations/malta/blog/detail/nature-wildlife-reserves-malta>

<https://birdlifemalta.org/nature-reserves/>

<https://www.naturetrustmalta.org/what-we-do/natural-parks/>

2. Discuss the importance of this nature reserve for Malta

Explain the reasons why Maltese nature reserves are important for preserving geology and/or biodiversity.

<https://era.org.mt/en/Pages/Important-Natural-Areas.aspx>

<https://birdlifemalta.org/conservation/>

<https://www.naturetrustmalta.org/media/>

3. Primary research – carry out a survey

Carry out an investigation with ten to twenty persons to find out whether they can name any of our nature reserves and how many of them have actually visited one of these reserves. Would be valid to see what impressed them when they visited a nature reserve.

4. Secondary research

Obtain data from the NGOs or official entities at ERA running the nature reserves. One can research about the related legislation or about the number of visitors.

<https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/bitstream/handle/123456789/8044/The%20Future%20of%20Nature%20Parks.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y>

6. Fieldwork (site-visits, observation & basic data collection & very basic analysis)

Visit the nature reserve chosen and give your personal observations made during your visit.

Collect data regarding visitors present; their age – group, reasons for visiting and comments regarding the reserve.

Analyse the data collected. Use the data to draw related graphs.

Conclusion

Make a summary of each chapter by giving the most important points raised. Give your suggestions on how the younger generation can be the dynamic force which

advocate for more nature reserves in Malta and are the ones to actually visit these sites and spend quality time in line with nature.