AnthroSchools Homework Resource

**Curriculum and Exam Board:** A-level AQA

**Subject**: Geography

**Topic**: 3.1.6. Ecosystems under stress (3.1.6.5 Marine Ecosystems)

Resource Tasks

1. Read about an ecosystem under stress
2. Through independent research, create a cultural profile of a marine ecosystem under stress.
3. Answer an essay question, considering the information gathered for your cultural profile of a marine ecosystem.

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| Learning outcomes |
| Students to understand the nature and functioning of ecosystems and their relationships to human activity  Students to understand and present information on the ramifications of human activity on marine ecosystems  Students to be able to identify and understand factors influencing the threat to eco-systems including:   * Tourism * Over-fishing * Economic development * Pollution * Onshore development * Population growth * Fuel spills |

Key Skills Developed in Resource

* Research skills
* Developing extended and analytical writing skills.
* Conducting independent research tasks.
* Core skills (application, analysis, deduction and comprehension)

Task 1: Read about a Marine Ecosystem Under Risk

**Estimated time:** 45-60 minutes

The Galapagos Marine Reserve

1. Follow the link below to **read** about the Galapagos Marine Reserve
   1. Click [here](https://media.nationalgeographic.org/assets/file/Case_Study_Galapagos_Marine_Reserve.pdf) to access the National Geographic Profile
   2. If that link does not work: copy, paste the below link into your web browser

<https://media.nationalgeographic.org/assets/file/Case_Study_Galapagos_Marine_Reserve.pdf>

1. While reading the case study, **take notes** on the following information.
   1. The functioning of the ecosystem
   2. Threats to the ecosystem
   3. The history and purpose of the marine reserve
   4. The different uses of the reserve
2. Watch this additional video for background information on the Galapagos
   1. <https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/00000144-0a42-d3cb-a96c-7b4f2c0e0000>
3. In a few paragraphs, answer the following questions (500 words total)
   1. Who are the main groups involved in the marine resource area?
   2. What are their potential impacts on the area?
   3. Which of these impacts are potential threats to the ecosystem and how?

Task 2: Create a Cultural Profile of a Marine Ecosystem

Definitions

**Indigenous**: original inhabitants/local groups

**Tourist**: visitors to the area

**Stakeholder**: a group or person with an interest in the ecosystem

**Cultural profile:** a profile that includes local human populations and their cultural or livelihood activities

**Estimated Time:** 30-45 minutes

In this task, you must **create a profile** of a marine ecosystem affected by indigenous, tourist and stakeholder activity through independent online research.

1. Choose an example from the following areas
   1. Coral Reefs in the Philippines
   2. The Benguela Marine Ecosystem
   3. Arctic Marine Ecosystems
2. Create a profile using the below template.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Site name** |  |
| **Site Location** |  |
| **Site Map** |  |
| **Site size** |  |
| **Main indigenous groups** |  |
| **Indigenous population size** |  |
| **Indigenous activities** (*local livelihoods, resource use, employment in local economy)* |  |
| **Number of tourists per annum** |  |
| **Main tourist origin countries from tourists** |  |
| **Tourist Activity** *(attractions, activities, tourist behaviour)* |  |
| **External non-tourist stakeholders in area** |  |
| **External stakeholder activity** *(economic development, fishing, infrastructure etc*). |  |

Task 3: Write an Essay

**Estimated Time:** 1-2 hours

**Choose a prompt** from below to write a short essay (800-1200 words) based on the cultural profile you have created above. Make sure that you include at least three pieces of evidence in your answer.

1. Discuss the interactions between the indigenous population, tourists and external stakeholders and evaluate each group’s impact on the ecosystem.
2. Compare and contrast external and local stakeholder impact on the ecosystem.
3. Identify the biggest threat to the marine ecosystem and propose a solution.