

Unit A671: Extreme Environments

Enquiry Question	Key Ideas	Candidates should be able to:	☺	☹	☹
What is the definition of an extreme environment, what do we know about extreme environments and how do people react to them?	Defining the term 'extreme environment'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> present their own understandings of the term 'extreme environment' and explain the different ways in which people have viewed these areas, past and present. 			
	Exploring candidates' own views and ideas about extreme environments.				
	Examination of cultural resources which show extreme environments, e.g. film, photographs, expedition reports, stories, poetry.				

Enquiry Question	Key Ideas	You should be able to:	☺	☹	☹
What environments within the UK may be considered extreme?	An understanding that Britain has a variety of landscapes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> appreciate unfamiliar environments through fieldwork and out-of-classroom learning. 			

Enquiry Question	Key Ideas	You should be able to:	☺	☹	☹
What do we know about hot deserts and how do people react to them?	Study of large scale desert areas (e.g. Sahara, Atacama, Kalahari, Thar). How people have reacted to hot desert environments in cultural resources, e.g. film, photographs, expedition and historical reports, poetry paintings, music and literature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identify which areas are described as hot deserts and what features typically characterise hot desert environments; appreciate the way hot desert environments have been depicted in a variety of media 			

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		and the feelings they invoke, including their own reactions.			
Where are hot deserts found?	<p>The climate within these regions can change significantly within a year and between years.</p> <p>Examining the link between common climatic features of desert areas and how they have influenced the physical environment (including vegetation) in desert areas.</p> <p>Physical features (including dunes, wadis, yardangs, zeugen and rock pedestals) are created as a result of particular physical processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> describe and explain the key climatic characteristics of hot deserts and their impact on the physical environment including vegetation; identify and describe characteristic landforms of hot desert environments and understand the key physical processes at work. 			
How do people use hot deserts?	<p>Hot deserts are used in a variety of ways and for a variety of reasons (e.g. by indigenous people, tourists, multi-national companies)</p> <p>The use of hot deserts occurs at a variety of scales (e.g. by indigenous families, by tribes, by industrial concerns)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exemplify the uses of hot deserts; describe, using examples, how people make use of hot desert environments; 			
What challenges do hot deserts pose?	<p>There are many challenges that hot deserts pose (e.g. famine, drought, extremes of temperature, some of which may be overcome in a variety of ways).</p> <p>Desertification threatens many deserts and surrounding regions in both physical and human terms. It has physical and human causes and effects which may be alleviated.</p> <p>Cultures may amalgamate or disappear as deserts spread.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> understand the challenges posed by hot deserts to people; understand the causes and impacts of, and solutions to, desertification and its effects; use GIS to study the spread of desertification (e.g. extent, changes in land use and settlement). 			

Polar environment OR mountain environment:

Enquiry Question	Key Ideas	You should be able to:	😊	😐	😞
<p>What do we know about polar/mountain environments and how do people react to them?</p>	<p>Study of polar environments/significant mountain environments (e.g. Alps, Himalayas, Rockies, Andes).</p> <p>How people have reacted to polar/mountain environments in cultural resources, e.g. film, photographs, expedition and historical reports, poetry, paintings, music and literature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify the extent and characteristics of polar environments/the location of and features which typically characterise mountain environments; • appreciate the way polar/mountain environments have been depicted in a variety of media and identify the feelings they invoke, including their own reactions; • utilise skills of using and interpreting different kinds of source material. 			
<p>Where are polar/mountain environments found?</p>	<p>Polar/mountain environments occur in particular locations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe the extent of polar environments/locate mountain environments and show an awareness of their global distribution, using maps and atlases at a variety of scales. 			
<p>What are polar/mountain environments like? (climate and physical features/processes)</p>	<p>Climatic factors have changed the environment(s) historically and they are currently undergoing significant and rapid change.</p> <p>Examining the link between common climatic features of polar/mountain areas and how they have influenced the physical environment (including vegetation) in these areas.</p> <p>Physical features of polar/mountain environments are created as a result of particular physical processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • describe and explain the key climatic characteristics of polar/mountain environments and their impact on the physical environment including vegetation; • identify and describe characteristic landforms of polar/mountain environments and understand the key physical processes at work. 			

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<p>How do people use polar/mountain environments?</p>	<p>Polar/mountain environments are used in a variety of ways and for a variety of reasons (e.g. by indigenous people, tourists, multi-national companies).</p> <p>The use of polar/mountain environments occurs at a variety of scales (e.g. by indigenous families, by tribes, by MNCs).</p>	<p>describe, using examples, how people make use of polar/mountain environments;</p> <p>exemplify the uses of polar/mountain environments.</p>			
<p>What challenges do polar/mountain environments pose?</p>	<p>There are many challenges that polar/mountain environments pose (e.g. availability of food/shelter, extremes of weather), some of which may be overcome in a variety of ways.</p> <p>Climate and other changes impact upon polar/mountain environments in both physical and human terms. The study of causes and effects which may be alleviated.</p> <p>Cultures may amalgamate or disappear as polar/mountain environments change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • understand the challenges posed by polar/mountain environments to people; • understand the causes and impacts of, and any solutions to the effects of changes (especially climate) on polar/mountain environments. Consider the possible impact of future change; • use GIS to study the impacts of climate and other change on polar/mountain environments (e.g. extent of polar ice, changes in land use and settlement). 			
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