

Geographical Explorer's Field Report: Human and Physical Features

Learning objective: To identify and describe the key differences between human and physical features within a specific locality, using accurate geographical vocabulary.

Join Finn the dolphin on a land-based expedition! Choose a local area you know well—such as your town centre, a nearby park, or the seaside. Observe the environment carefully and fill in this field report to categorise what you see. Use the word bank to ensure your descriptions are precise and detailed.

Word bank: topography · infrastructure · settlement · vegetation · urbanisation · sustainability · climate · amenities

1. Physical Features: Describe two natural elements of your chosen area (e.g., rivers, hills, or woodland). Explain how these physical features might have influenced the way the land is used. (3 marks)

2. Human Features: Identify two man-made structures or systems in your area. Why were these features built, and how do they support the daily lives of the people who live there? (3 marks)

3. Comparative Analysis: Compare and contrast how the physical environment has changed over time due to human activity. Justify your answer with specific evidence. (4 marks)

4. Critical Thinking: Explain why it is important for town planners to consider the physical geography of an area before building new human infrastructure. (4 marks)

5. Speculative Scenario: What might happen to this area in twenty years if the local population grows significantly? Consider the impact on both human and physical features. (4 marks)

6. Sustainability Challenge: Suggest one way the current human features in your area could be adapted to be more environmentally friendly. Explain the potential benefits. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a town planner. Create a annotated sketch of your area showing one 'green' improvement. Use a scale and a key to show where new vegetation or renewable energy sources could be integrated into the existing human-built environment.