

The following structure for the write up of the NEA report is a suggestion based on the mark schemes of the four awarding bodies for the qualification. Students should use their discretion and remember this is simply a guide - certain types of study may require a different approach or order to the sections.

Students may notice that the total of the suggested word count is more than that stated in the guidelines from the awarding bodies. This is because not all students will necessarily complete each section (for example, students are unlikely to do a separate statistical test or have secondary data for every research question or hypothesis).

Titles and subtitles you should use (and what to include under each)		Suggested word count
✓	Title Page	-
	0. Abstract <i>This is only required for students studying the WJEC / Eduqas specification.</i> A summary of what the investigation aimed to find out, where it took place and what the main conclusions were.	150
	1.1 Aims of the Study A brief description of what the study hopes to show in relation to the main title.	75
	1.2 Literature Review A discussion of the theory / theories that underpin the geography that their title explores. This should make reference to any geographical models that are found in this topic as well as important features and/or processes that need to be understood in order to carry out this investigation. Students should aim to reference a minimum of six sources such as geographical websites, peer-reviewed articles, and books on their particular subject, though excluding their course textbook. It is strongly recommended that students use Harvard style referencing and cross reference this to a separate Bibliography (see section 6) If any diagrams/figures are used, these should also be referenced with a source.	450
	1.3 Research Questions or 1.3 Research Hypotheses Each question/hypothesis is stated on a separate line. Following each question/hypothesis is a brief explanation of how answering it will help incrementally to answer the overall title of the study.	150
	1.4 Justification for the study A discussion of why the title question of the study is a valid one as well as why it is important to understanding geography.	125
	1.5 Location Analysis A series of maps showing the location of the study area, from UK to local scale. These should have north points, scale bars and keys if necessary. They should be detailed enough that a stranger would be able to say where the study took place. Following this is a brief description of the area (which might include further opportunities for historical and geographical contexts from literature to be referenced) and an explanation of why this study area was chosen and what makes it a good or interesting place to study.	200

	2. Data Collection	2.1 Research Question / Hypothesis 1	2.1.1 Data Collection Methods A description of the techniques used to answer this research question / hypothesis, including the equipment used. It should be clear what type of data will be generated by these techniques and how that data will help the student to answer their research question or hypothesis. Template data recording sheets should be included in the appendices (see Section 7) but referenced here.	250
			2.1.2 Data Collection Sites A map and a description of the precise locations where the data collection techniques were carried out. This should be followed by a justification for those sites, with an explanation of why those particular points were chosen.	100
			2.1.3 Secondary Data A discussion of any secondary data that will be researched and recorded in relation to this research question / hypothesis. Again, a justification of its inclusion and how it will help answer this question / hypothesis is needed.	150
			2.1.4 Sampling A discussion of the sampling strategy employed in the data collection. This should include references to the sample size, the sampling technique used to gather individual pieces of data from a whole, and the spatial sampling technique employed (if not already mentioned in 2.1.2). Following this should be a justification for why these techniques have been used, referencing the need to collect certain types and amounts of data to satisfy the research question / hypothesis.	175
		2.2 RQ / Hyp 2	2.2.1 Data Collection Methods	250
			2.2.2 Data Collection Sites	100
			2.2.3 Secondary Data	150
			2.2.4 Sampling	175
		2.3 RQ / Hyp 3	2.3.1 Data Collection Methods	250
			2.3.2 Data Collection Sites	100
			2.3.3 Secondary Data	150
			2.3.4 Sampling	175
		2.4 Ethical and Moral Considerations A description of the measures taken to ensure that the act of collecting data in the field has no adverse ethical or moral implications. These should be specific to the tasks being undertaken and the geographical location being used rather than generic ideas.	150	
		2.5 Risk Assessment <i>(This is only required for students studying the WJEC / Eduqas specification.)</i> A discussion (in table format) of the potential hazards to the student and/or to members of the public and the measures taken to reduce and remove these risks.	200	

	3. Data Presentation and Analysis	3.1 Research Question / Hypothesis 1	3.1.1 Primary Data An accurate graphical or cartographic representation of the data, with the correct use of labels, titles, scales, keys etc.	0	
			3.1.2 Secondary Data An accurate graphical or cartographic representation of the data, with the correct use of labels, titles, scales, keys etc. Students should clearly include a reference for the source of the data.	10	
			3.1.3 Statistical Testing A statement of the results gained from any statistical test carried out on the primary and/or secondary data.	15	
			3.1.4 Discussion of Results A brief description of the results as they appear in the presentation. This should include the range of the data, mean values, any important or significant outliers, and importantly, any pattern or correlation that is evident. This is then followed by an explanation of the results, which should link back to geographical theory already mentioned in the literature review, or to place specific geographical contexts which offer reasons for the results found. The final paragraph should address the research question / hypothesis and offer a clear answer for it.	400	
		3.2 RQ / Hyp 2	3.2.1 Primary Data	0	
			3.2.2 Secondary Data	10	
			3.2.3 Statistical Testing	15	
			3.2.4 Discussion of Results	400	
		3.3 RQ / Hyp 3	3.3.1 Primary Data	0	
			3.3.2 Secondary Data	10	
			3.3.3 Statistical Testing	15	
			3.3.4 Discussion of Results	400	
		4. Conclusion	A brief summary of the main conclusions to be drawn from the data and analysis section, commenting on any links between the data found in each research question / hypothesis. This should be followed by a statement that answers the main title question of the investigation and the extent to which this statement can be fully justified given the data that has been found.		100

	5. Evaluation	<p>5.1 Title, Research questions / Hypotheses and the Investigation focus</p> <p>A discussion of the strengths and limitations of these sections and how one might improve them. The discussion should include points relating to the impact any such changes might have on the quality of the investigation and the results that might have been gained.</p>	150
		<p>5.2 Data Collection Methods</p> <p>A discussion of the strengths and limitations of the data collection process, including locations chosen, the sampling strategies and the sample size. Students should comment on any evidence of research bias or errors made that may have impacted the results. Suggestions should be given as to how one might improve the data collection.</p>	150
		<p>5.3 Data Presentation Techniques</p> <p>A discussion of the strengths and limitations of the chosen techniques and whether alternative techniques may have allowed for greater levels of interpretation.</p>	125
		<p>5.4 Data Analysis Techniques</p> <p>A discussion of the strengths and limitations of any statistical tests used or any particular techniques that were used to analyse the data. Students should comment on whether the use of an alternative method of analysis would have affected how one might have viewed the results.</p>	125
		<p>5.5 Possible extensions to the study</p> <p>A discussion of how the study could be extended to incorporate further, but related, geographical ideas and concepts and why this might make for an interesting piece of research.</p>	100
	6. Bibliography	A list in alphabetical order of the sources of information used to inform the study (i.e. sources from the literature review and sources of secondary data). This should use the Harvard style of referencing.	-
	7. Appendices	A depository section which simply acts as a place to put raw data sheets, template data recording sheets, statistical test calculations and anything else which the marker of the study might want to glance over.	-