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Investigation of a Settlement

Grade 8 Project Term 3



PROJECTS FOR SENIOR PHASE

What is a Project?

A project is a planned task given to learners to apply knowledge gained in class. Projects are practical, comprehensive and open-ended and are done over a period of time. They allow learners to apply skills, knowledge and strategies, thus developing competencies essential for future learning. Projects make the content more concrete for learners in that way the curriculum is enhanced and strengthened. Projects may involve investigation and / or design, this allows learners to build models, compile reports, write essays, design posters and also give presentations.

In Social Sciences learners had to complete ONE project in either History or Geography in a grade in a given year. Grade 8 learners do a geography project in the third term. Projects should be started towards the beginning of the term and learners are to understand the topic question of the project before attempting it. The educator can break up the project into little parts for easy monitoring, guiding and correcting learners' efforts (progress).

The project guideline (exemplar) below sets the minimum standard required for doing a grade 8 project. Teachers are allowed to pitch the standard of their projects higher, taking into account learners' cognitive development and teacher's guidance and support.

SOURCES

Bottaro J, et al, Oxford Successful Social Sciences, Grade 8, Oxford University Press, 2013
 Carr D, et al, Our World, Our Society, Grade 8, Vivlia
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 Ebrahim, F, et al, Viva Social Sciences, Grade 8, Vivilia, 2013
 Friedman M, et al, Solutions for all Social Sciences, Grade 8, Macmillan, 2013
 Hambly, Anthony and Allwood Jill, Spot On Social Sciences, Grade 8, Heinemann, 2012
 Ntwape, L, et al, Via Afrika Social Sciences, Grade 8, Via Afrika, 2013
 Ranby, P and Johannesson, B, Platinum Social Sciences, Grade 8, Maskew Miller Longman, 2012

Investigation of a settlement

The project requires learners to investigate a settlement well known to them. The project must include written material, sketch map, interview and visual material.

Learners to present their Project on A4 sheets stapled together.

Example:

Cover Page (page 1)

- Title of the project
- Photograph or drawing of a settlement
- Writer of the project: Name of a learner, School and Grade

Table of Contents (Page 2)

- Neatly written table of content with pages for each topic

Introduction (Page 3)

A brief description of the settlement include the following: its name, type of a settlement (rural or urban), its location (where is it in South Africa), the size of a settlement (is it a large or a small settlement), when was it founded and what is the population of the settlement. (Paragraph of six to eight lines)

Body (page 3 – 6)

Reasons for location – Why was it built where it is? Find out what reasons influenced the location. Consider past and present reasons. What are people you have interviewed saying? (Paragraph of six to eight lines)

Description of different land use found in the settlement. Mention at least three types. Examples of land use found in **rural areas** i.e. grazing land, crop farming, forestry, orchards, open space, etc. Examples of land use found in **urban areas** i.e. commercial or business area (shopping area), industrial, residential, recreation, transport, services (education, health, etc.). Describe these and their importance for the settlement. (Paragraph of six to eight lines)

A sketch map showing the different land use you mention above. Identify specific landmarks or features (natural and human-made) in your settlement. Name these and mark them on your sketch map using symbols and map key. Include the map title, scale and direction.

The increase and decline of population (Explain). You may observe a large number of new buildings or new people coming in the settlement that may suggest that the population is increasing. There may be an unused land, people leaving the area or empty buildings that may suggest that the population is declining. Suggest a reason for increase or decline of population in your settlement. (Paragraph of six to eight lines)

Social or environmental problem faced by the settlement. Identify and discuss one social **OR** one environmental problem. Examples of social problems; crime, diseases, xenophobia, service delivery. (housing, water, electricity, refuse collection, sanitation, etc) Examples of environmental problems; pollution (water, land, air and noise), floods, veldfires, etc, State and explain the problem. (Paragraph of six to eight lines)

Include interview questions and rough notes of responses in your project

Conclusion: Describe what you have learned from doing the project

Last Page: Sources (Bibliography) – People you have interviewed, textbooks, library books, websites, newspapers, etc

Project tips: Use information from interviews to complete the project. Older community members are best source of information. Write down your interview questions and record people responses. Include people's name and date of the interview. Photographs and pictures must have caption or title and brief explanation about it.

ASSESSING THE PROJECT

Name _____ Grade 8

Criteria	Marks	Learner marks
1. Cover Page	5	
2. Table of Content	4	
3. Introduction	5	
4. Reasons for location	10	
5. Description of different land use	5	
6. Sketch Map	10	
7. Discussion of increase or decline of population	5	
8. Discussion of ONE social or environmental problem	5	
9. Conclusion	3	
10. Bibliography	5	
11. Neatness	3	
TOTAL	60	