Coursework Guide (Ibirapuera Park)

Cambridge IGCSE®
Geography 0460
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Contents

Ibirapuera Park
   The basics 5
   Writing your introduction (section one) 6
   Theoretical background (section two) 6
   Writing your methodology (section three) 6
   Writing up your results (section four) 6
   Writing your evaluation (section five) 7
   Appendices 7
   Bibliography 7
Ibirapuera Park
The basics

Aim

To study environmental quality within Ibirapuera Park.

Hypotheses

(1) That the park exceeds its carrying capacity during peak times.
(2) There are variations in environmental quality within the park and this can be measured.
(3) There will be evidence of trampling of grass in popular areas.
(4) Litter will be a problem in areas without litterbin provision.

Your coursework is worth 27% of your final grade and is therefore very important.

This is your coursework and your responsibility. It must be completed and handed in on time and to the best of your ability.

You will need to be prepared to work at home, as well as, in class.

The following guide is intended to help you achieve a good mark in your coursework. Please read it very carefully and refer to it while you are working.

If there is anything here that you don’t understand then you must ask your teacher to explain.
Writing your introduction (section one)

1. Say where the park is, i.e. Sao Paulo, Brazil.
2. Give some relevant information about Sao Paulo city; what it is like, population and so on.
3. Give some relevant information about the park; what it is like, its size, how it is used and so on.
4. Describe the location of the park in some detail; where it is within Sao Paulo and proximity to other places of interest or landmarks.
5. Introduce the aim of the study: “To investigate the environmental quality of the park” and state your hypothesis.
6. Produce an annotated map to show the location of the park within Sao Paulo.
7. Produce a second annotated map showing the context of the park in greater detail.

Theoretical background (section two)

1. Explain what is meant by the term “honey-pot site”.
2. Explain why Ibirapuera Park might be considered a “honey-pot site”
3. Explain the possible effects of large numbers of visitors to the park.

Writing your methodology (section three)

This is where you explain the methods of data collection that were used, as well as why they were chosen and what information you hope that they will provide you with and how they will help you to prove or disprove your hypothesis.

You will need to write about each method used. The methods that we will use are as follows:

1. Pedestrian counts
2. Bi-polar analysis / environmental scoring
3. Annotated photographs
4. Litter surveys
5. Using quadrats to estimate vegetation coverage

For each method; how does it work? What will it tell me? Why is this information needed?

Writing up your results (section four)

Your results will mostly be shown on maps, graphs and photographs (annotated) and in tables. These must be carefully and accurately produced.

You will also need to analyse your results (describe patterns; explain what they tell us and what answers the give).

This is probably the most difficult part of your coursework and needs to be done well if you are to achieve a good score.

All maps, graphs, photographs and tables need to be analysed.

Writing your conclusion

This is where you say which of your hypotheses you were able to prove and how you know this from the analysis of your results.

There may have been things that couldn’t be proved. If this is the case you will need to explain why.

This section is very important and should not be left until the last minute and then rushed.
Writing your evaluation (section five)

This is where you look critically at your own work explaining which of your methods worked well and why.

You should also explain anything that didn’t work so well and why.

Finally you may make suggestions for possible ways that could have improved your methods.

Appendices

This is where you include information that is not included in your main report, data collection tables for example.

Bibliography

This is where you list all books, magazine and websites that you have used to help you with your work.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Site Number/name</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site description</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Recording sheet for quadrats**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>15 m</th>
<th>10 m</th>
<th>5 m</th>
<th>Left-hand edge of path</th>
<th>Path</th>
<th>Right-hand edge of path</th>
<th>5 m</th>
<th>10 m</th>
<th>15 m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% Grass</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>% Bare earth</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>% Other vegetation</td>
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<td>% Other</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Comments on other aspects of environmental degradation at the site

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Litter count type A (with bin)

Name:           Date:
Litter count type B (without bin)

Name:           Date:

AREA (circle the correct letter): 1  2  3  4

Mark with an X, incidences of litter within the circle below.