



Year 7 Fieldwork: River Study

We measured the discharge of the river at several points to investigate whether it increased as the river flowed from its source to its mouth.

Important facts:

- **The write-up accounts for 20% of their final examination.**
- **It is recommended that it is word processed.**
- **Every write-up must contain at least **one map**.**
- **Every write-up must contain at least **annotated photograph**.**
- **All diagrams, maps and graphs must be referred to in the text. (E.g. See figure 1)**
- **All fieldwork must be handed in completed on the first day of the Autumn Term 2005.**

In order to help the boys with their write up this document contains useful guidelines on how the fieldwork should be set out and what information should be included in each section.

River Study Guidelines

The fieldwork write-up should be less than 800 words. The write-up should be set out as a scientific experiment with 5 sections, each of which should have it's own heading. The headings are ...

1. Hypothesis
2. Introduction
3. Method
4. Results
5. Conclusion and evaluation
6. Appendix

These sections are explained in more detail below as well as other information, such as the river data that was collected.

1. Hypothesis

This section should contain one or two sentences only. These should be clear statements that you will be able to prove or disprove by carrying out the fieldwork.

Example: You could investigate how the river's Cross -Sectional Area, Discharge, Load, water quality Changes down stream.

If you chose discharge, then your hypothesis might read ..



"The rivers discharge will increase along the rivers long profile"

This can be proved to be correct or wrong using the data we collected.

2. Introduction

This section should be no more than 300 words.

1. Introduce the topic that you are studying.
2. Explain any technical language / terms that are in your hypothesis:-

Example: *What is discharge?*
What is the rivers long profile?

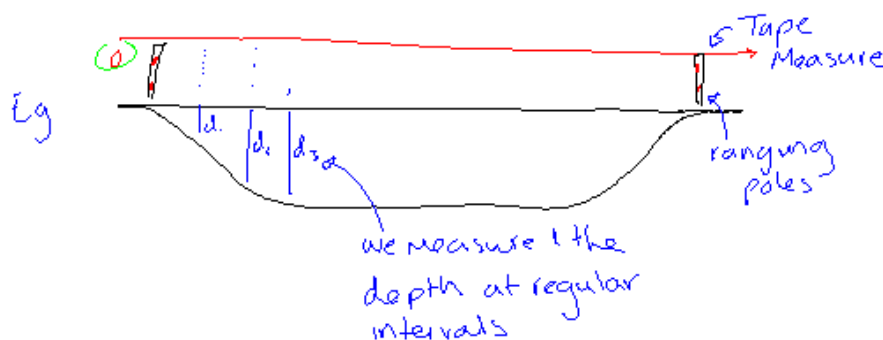
3. Do you think that you will prove your hypothesis statement to be true or false? Why do you think that this is what will happen?
- 4) Where are you doing your study?
 - > Background information on the place where the river is
 - > You **MUST** have a location map (or maps) to show where the river is. The map can be taken from the Geography Department website or any other on the web, but it must be clearly labelled and be referred to in your writing.

3. Method

This section should be no more than 100 words.

1. What equipment did you use?
2. Describe how you collected the data. How did you measure the river's width, depth and velocity? Why not try and use diagrams to help you ...

Example: Measuring the depth ...



...only neater !!!!!



4. Results

1. This section should contain graphs that show information that is relevant to your hypothesis.

Example: If you are looking at how discharge changes from the source to the mouth ...

- A set of graphs showing the cross-sections of each site (remember to keep the scales the same!)
- A graph showing the discharge at each site.
- Maybe a set of annotated photographs to show what the river looked like at each site: what its bed load and valley look like. (You will need one for Site 1 where there was no water!)

5. Conclusion and Evaluation

1. Describe what each of your graphs show referring to the hypothesis statement: Do they help to show that the statement is true or false?
2. If there are any unusual or any unexpected results on your graphs, highlight them and try to provide an explanation for these anomalies (unusual results).
3. Have you proved your hypothesis to be true or false?
4. How could you have made the results fairer? You should write about ...
 - The amount of data that you collected (remember the more that you collect, the fairer the results).
 - The accuracy of the data. How could you have made the data collection more accurate and fairer?
 - Where you collected the data from. Would you have chosen the sites that were measured differently? Why?
 - This section should be no more than 400 words.

6. Appendix

1. This section should contain any information that you want to include in the write up but it is not appropriate to put it into the main project. This section should include ..
 - A neat copy of your raw data (see river data)
 - A bibliography. A list of books and websites that you have used and referred to in your writing.
 - Any other relevant pieces of information.