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|  | Australian Curriculum Year 8 Geography sample assessment ׀ Assessment resource  Investigating landscapes and their landforms |

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## Glossary of geographical terms

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| Term | Definition |
| landscape | A landscape is the visible appearance of an area, created by a combination of geological, geomorphological, biological, and cultural layers that have evolved over time, and as perceived, portrayed and valued by people. A *geomorphic landscape* is the landscape without the biological and cultural layers |
| landform | The individual surface features of the Earth identified by their shape, e.g. dunes, plateaux, canyons, beaches, plains, rivers and valleys |
| geographical processes | The physical and human forces that work in combination to form and transform the world, e.g. erosion, the water cycle, migration or urbanisation. Geographical processes can operate within and between places |
| spatial distribution | The arrangement of particular phenomena or activities across the surface of the Earth |
| weathering | The physical or chemical breakdown of materials into smaller materials |
| erosion | The process by which the surface of the earth is worn and transported away by the action of water, glaciers, winds, waves. |
| geomorphological hazards | Hazards that originate from the lithosphere including volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, earthquakes, landslides and avalanches |
| land degradation | Degradation occurs through human actions and includes salinity,accelerated soil erosion, the spread of weeds, loss of biodiversity and habitats and water pollution |
| World Heritage site | A place listed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) as of special cultural or natural significance for preservation for the global community |
| pattern | A regularity in data; reoccurrence |
| relationship | Cause and effect, how one affects and changes the other |
| line drawing | In geography, line drawings are illustrations made using a photograph to record features about a landform or landscape. A line drawing is divided into foreground, middle ground and background so that the features of a photograph or image can be accurately labelled and explained |
| Annotated map | In Geography, annotations are added to maps to add details and explanations about geographical phenomena |
| stack | A geological landform consisting of a steep and often vertical column or column of rock in the sea near a coast, formed by erosion |