STAGE 6 FIELDWORK ESSENTIALS

Know Basic Fieldwork Tools and Techniques

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Match the following fieldwork tools to the descriptions of their use.

Digital camera, Light meter, Soil samples, Clinometer, Thermometer, Tape measure, Anemometer, Quadrat/Vegetation Chart, Hygrometer, Topographic map

Used to measure temperature. In Geography common measurements include soil temperature at 5 centimetres depth, soil surface temperature, and air temperature 1 metre off the ground. The unit of measurement is °C (degrees Celsius).
Used to measure the angle of a slope in degrees. This is a useful tool to create an accurate cross-section of an area being studied.
Used to measure wind speed. Unit of measurement is metres per second or kilometres per hour, depending on the strength of the wind.
Throwing a 1-metre quadrat into an area and counting the number of different plants there will give you an idea of its biodiversity. From random samples generalisations may be drawn.
Used to measure horizontal distance. Measurements are usually taken in metres, depending on the length of the transect to be drawn.
Measures the intensity of light in an area. Unit of measurement is a Lux. The higher the reading the brighter the light.
Used to measure humidity. Units of measurement are in percentage— the higher the percentage, the higher the humidity.
Soil samples enable greater analysis of an area and can provide insight into the type of soil, clay content as well as pH levels.
Technology is changing fieldwork techniques. Line drawings and sketches are a useful skill in Geography although these are largely being replaced by digital images.
An essential tool for any fieldwork. This type of map shows land use, vegetation, spatial relationships and patterns as well as topography.