**Geography Internal Assessment**

**Theoretical research**

Application of correct and detailed theoretical knowledge is essential for your Internal Assessment. It is specifically assessed in two parts of your IA:

* Criterion D: Written Analysis
* Criterion G: Formal Requirements

**Where you need it:**

The main section that requires a good theoretical knowledge is justifying your hypothesis. For example if one of your hypothesis is that ‘The unmanaged beach will have a steeper profile’ you will need to explain in detail why you think this is the case. What factors contribute to this hypothesis? If this proves to be correct great, if not though you will need that theoretical knowledge to attempt explaining why it did not.

You will also need good academic sources to put in your IA to meet Criterion G. This is literally a mark for referencing and bibliography.

**Areas of theory:**

These areas of knowledge cover the majority of hypothesis you will use:

* How do waves break on the coast?
* What contributes to wave energy?
* What type of waves are there?
* How do wave numbers and height classify wave type?
* What impacts sediment size?
* What impacts sediment type?
* How is sediment deposited on the beach and how does the size and roundness of the sediment change?
* How do waves impact beach width, length and shape (roundness)?
* What affects beach steepness?
* What is the purpose of managing beaches?
* How does an offshore breakwater work?
* What is refraction and how does it work?
* What are the likely impacts it will have on a beach?
* What is the main rock type in Antibes?
* Where does the main wind come from in Antibes?
* Is there any academic research specifically done on this region?
* Why are we using systematic sampling?
* What is Spearman’s Rank and how might we use it for our IA?

The best IAs will have answers to all of these questions and will be able to use referenced theoretical knowledge as evidence for their answers.

If your results do not match the theory DO NOT worry there is nothing in the mark scheme that says it needs to. Just try and explain why not.