

KS2 SATS PAPERS GEOGRAPHY TESTS PAST Printable PDF

ks2 sats papers geography tests past are an invaluable resource for both teachers and students preparing for the key stage 2 assessments. These past papers offer a window into the types of questions that have historically appeared, helping learners to familiarize themselves with the exam format, question styles, and key geographical concepts. For educators, they serve as a benchmark for assessing student progress and identifying areas that require further revision. As geography continues to be a vital part of the KS2 curriculum, understanding how to effectively utilize past papers can significantly boost pupils' confidence and performance on test day.

Understanding the Importance of KS2 SATs Geography Past Papers

Why Use Past Papers?

Using past papers in geography provides numerous benefits:

- **Familiarity with Exam Format:** Students learn the structure of the test, including question types and the typical layout.
- **Assessment of Knowledge:** Teachers can gauge the level of understanding students have achieved over the course of the curriculum.
- **Practice Under Exam Conditions:** Repeated practice helps reduce exam anxiety and improves time management skills.
- **Identifying Common Question Topics:** Past papers highlight frequently tested areas, allowing targeted revision.

Historical Perspective

Over the years, KS2 geography papers have evolved to include a broader range of topics, reflecting global changes and curriculum updates. Analyzing these papers can reveal patterns in questioning, such as recurring themes like physical geography (rivers, mountains, weather) or human geography (settlements, climate change, population).

Key Topics Covered in KS2 Geography Past Papers

Physical Geography

Physical geography questions often focus on:

- Rivers and their features (meanders, delta, estuaries)
- Mountains and volcanoes
- Climate zones and weather patterns
- Biomes and ecosystems
- Natural hazards like earthquakes and tsunamis

Human Geography

Human geography questions tend to explore:

- Population distribution and migration
- Urban and rural areas
- Economic activities and industries
- Environmental issues such as deforestation and pollution
- Global development and sustainability

Geographical Skills

Past papers also test skills such as:

- Reading and interpreting maps and atlases
- Using grid references
- Understanding scales and distances
- Data interpretation from graphs and charts

How to Make the Most of KS2 SATs Geography Past Papers

Structured Revision Approach

To maximize the benefits of past papers, consider the following approach:

- **Gather a Range of Past Papers:** Use the most recent and relevant papers available online or through educational resources.
- **Set Timed Practice Sessions:** Simulate exam conditions to build stamina and time management skills.

- **Review Mistakes Thoroughly:** Analyze errors and understand the correct answers to reinforce learning.
- **Focus on Weak Areas:** Identify topics or question types that pose difficulties and dedicate extra revision time to them.
- **Repeat Practice:** Regular practice helps solidify knowledge and increase confidence.

Supplementary Resources

Beyond past papers, students should use:

- Geography textbooks aligned with the KS2 curriculum
- Educational videos and interactive quizzes
- Workbooks with practice questions and exercises
- Online platforms offering mock tests and revision guides

Examples of Past Geography SATs Questions

Sample Question 1: Physical Geography

What is a meander, and how does it form?

Answer:

A meander is a bend in a river that forms over time as the river erodes the outer banks and deposits sediment on the inner banks, creating a winding curve.

Sample Question 2: Human Geography

Explain why many cities are located near rivers.

Answer:

Cities are often located near rivers because rivers provide water for drinking, agriculture, and industry. They also facilitate transportation and trade, making them ideal locations for settlement and economic development.

Sample Question 3: Map Skills

Using a grid reference, locate the city of Manchester on this map.

Answer:

(Students would identify the correct grid reference based on the provided map, e.g., 54 for latitude, 2 for longitude.)

Where to Find Past KS2 SATs Geography Papers

Official Government Resources

The UK Department for Education provides a repository of past SATs papers and mark schemes on their official website, making it a reliable source for practice materials.

Educational Websites and Platforms

Many educational platforms offer downloadable past papers, quizzes, and interactive exercises designed to mirror exam conditions.

School Resources and Libraries

Schools often keep archives of past exam papers or can provide access through their learning management systems.

Conclusion: Leveraging Past Papers for Success

Preparing for KS2 geography SATs is a strategic process that benefits greatly from the use of past papers. These resources not only familiarize students with the exam format but also highlight key topics and question styles that are likely to appear. By systematically practicing and reviewing past papers, students build confidence, improve their understanding of physical and human geography, and develop essential map skills. When combined with targeted revision and supplementary resources, past papers become a powerful tool in achieving excellent results. Ultimately, consistent practice and thorough preparation are the keys to excelling in KS2 geography assessments, paving the way for a solid foundation in geographical knowledge and skills for future learning.

KS2 SATs Papers Geography Tests Past: An In-Depth Review and Analysis

The Key Stage 2 (KS2) SATs, held annually across primary schools in England, represent a significant milestone in a child's educational journey. Among the core subjects tested, Geography has historically played a vital role in assessing pupils' understanding of the world around them, fostering spatial awareness, environmental knowledge, and an appreciation for diverse cultures. Central to this assessment process are the KS2 SATs papers—standardized tests designed to evaluate students' grasp of the curriculum. This article delves into the geography component of

past KS2 SATs papers, exploring their evolution, structure, content, and the implications for educators and students alike.

The Purpose and Significance of KS2 Geography SATs Papers

The primary aim of the KS2 SATs geography tests is to measure pupils' knowledge, skills, and understanding concerning geographical concepts aligned with the National Curriculum. These assessments serve multiple purposes:

- Standardization: Providing a consistent benchmark across schools to evaluate pupil progress.
- Curriculum Alignment: Ensuring that teaching aligns with national expectations.
- Identification of Gaps: Highlighting areas where students may need additional support.
- Preparation for Secondary Education: Equipping pupils with foundational geographical skills.

While some educators and parents view standardized testing as a contentious element of primary education, the geography SATs are viewed as instrumental in fostering a comprehensive understanding of spatial and environmental issues, which are increasingly relevant in today's interconnected world.

Historical Evolution of KS2 Geography Tests

Understanding the past geography tests requires examining their development over the years, reflecting shifts in curriculum focus, assessment standards, and pedagogical approaches.

Early Years and the Introduction of KS2 SATs

The first standardized KS2 SATs were introduced in the late 1990s, with geography being one of the core subjects alongside Maths and English. Early papers primarily focused on factual recall?identifying countries, capital cities, and basic map skills.

Transition to Skills-Based Assessment

In the 2000s, there was a move toward assessing not just factual knowledge but also skills such as interpreting maps, understanding environmental issues, and using geographical data. This shift mirrored broader educational focus areas, emphasizing critical thinking and application.

Recent Changes and the Removal of Formal Geography SATs (Post-2016)

From 2016 onwards, the government announced the removal of statutory KS2 SATs for most subjects, including Geography, in favor of teacher assessments. However, prior to this change, the

geography papers underwent several revisions to align with evolving curriculum standards, including:

- Increased emphasis on human and physical geography.
- Incorporation of contemporary issues like climate change and sustainability.
- Enhanced focus on map skills and data interpretation.

Despite the discontinuation of formal SATs, past papers remain valuable for historical analysis and curriculum planning.

Structure and Content of Past KS2 Geography SATs Papers

The geography component of KS2 SATs traditionally comprised two main papers: Paper 1 (Multiple Choice and Short Questions) and Paper 2 (Data, Map, and Diagram Skills). These papers aimed to assess a broad spectrum of geographical knowledge and skills.

Paper 1: Knowledge and Understanding

This paper typically included questions on:

- Locational Knowledge: Countries, cities, continents, and oceans.
- Physical Geography: Landforms, climate zones, biomes.
- Human Geography: Settlements, transportation, population patterns.
- Environmental Issues: Conservation, pollution, sustainable development.

Sample question types included multiple choice, fill-in-the-blanks, and short answer questions.

Paper 2: Skills and Application

Focuses on practical skills such as:

- Interpreting and creating maps and charts.
- Comparing geographical data.
- Understanding scale and distance.
- Analyzing photographs and diagrams.

This paper often involved more visual and data-driven questions, requiring pupils to demonstrate analytical skills.

Sample Past Paper Topics and Questions

- Identifying features on a map of the UK.
- Explaining the effects of climate change in different regions.
- Comparing urban and rural areas.
- Interpreting bar graphs showing population growth.

This variety aimed to ensure a comprehensive assessment of both factual knowledge and practical skills.

Analysis of Trends in Past Geography SATs Papers

Examining the content and structure of past papers reveals several notable trends:

Increasing Emphasis on Environmental and Contemporary Issues

Over time, questions increasingly addressed global challenges, such as climate change, sustainability, and natural resource management, reflecting a shift towards preparing pupils for a globalized and environmentally conscious world.

Enhanced Map and Data Skills

The latter years of past papers placed greater importance on pupils' abilities to interpret complex maps, graphs, and diagrams, aligning with the curriculum's focus on critical geographical skills.

Integration of Human and Physical Geography

While earlier papers often prioritized physical features, recent papers aimed for a balanced approach, ensuring students understood both physical landscapes and human interactions.

Use of Real-World Contexts

Questions increasingly used real-world scenarios, such as natural disasters or urban development projects, to assess pupils' ability to apply their knowledge practically.

Implications for Educators and Students

Understanding the structure and content of past geography tests offers valuable insights for stakeholders.

For Educators

- Curriculum Planning: Teachers can align their lessons with the topics and skills emphasized in past papers.
- Resource Development: Past papers serve as excellent practice materials, helping students familiarize themselves with question formats.
- Focus Areas: Recognizing recurring themes, such as environmental issues or map skills, allows targeted instruction.

For Students

- Practice and Preparation: Familiarity with past questions boosts confidence and exam readiness.
- Skill Development: Emphasis on data interpretation and critical thinking prepares pupils for real-world geographical challenges.
- Understanding Expectations: Knowing what examiners typically assess helps students focus their revision effectively.

The Future of Geography Assessment in KS2 and Beyond

Although formal KS2 SATs for geography have been phased out, the importance of geographical literacy persists. The Department for Education continues to emphasize teacher assessments, supplemented by optional sample tests and resources. Additionally, the increasing relevance of environmental issues and global challenges suggests that future assessments may incorporate more thematic and project-based elements.

Moreover, technological advancements and digital resources are transforming how geography is taught and assessed, potentially leading to more interactive, formative, and dynamic evaluation methods.

Conclusion

The past KS2 SATs geography papers provide a rich tapestry of educational priorities, skill requirements, and curriculum focus areas over the years. They reflect broader societal shifts towards environmental awareness, critical thinking, and practical skills, offering valuable insights for educators aiming to prepare pupils effectively. While the formal testing landscape continues to evolve, understanding the structure and content of these past papers remains essential for ensuring comprehensive geographical education at the primary level.

As geography continues to gain prominence within the curriculum?especially amid urgent global issues?the foundations laid by these assessments will undoubtedly influence how future generations engage with the world around them. Whether through revisiting past papers for practice or drawing lessons from their content, stakeholders can harness this historical data to foster informed, capable, and environmentally conscious young learners.

Question What are the benefits of practicing KS2 SATs geography past papers? Practicing KS2 SATs geography past papers helps students familiarize themselves with the exam format, improve their time management skills, and identify areas where they need further study. **Where can I find authentic KS2 SATs geography papers from previous years?** Authentic KS2 SATs geography papers can be found on the official UK Government website, educational resource platforms, or through school revision guides that compile past papers. **How should students approach studying for KS2 SATs geography tests?** Students should review key topic areas, practice with past papers under timed conditions, and seek feedback on their answers to improve understanding and exam performance. **Are there online resources offering free KS2 SATs geography practice papers?** Yes, several educational websites and platforms offer free downloadable KS2 SATs geography practice papers, including BBC Bitesize, TES, and the official GOV.UK resources. **What topics are commonly covered in KS2 SATs geography papers?** Common topics include physical geography (like rivers and mountains), human geography (cities and settlements), map skills, and environmental issues. **How can teachers use past KS2 SATs geography papers to prepare students effectively?** Teachers can incorporate past papers into lessons for practice, create mock exams, and analyze common question types to tailor their teaching strategies accordingly. **Are there any tips for students to improve their performance in KS2 SATs geography tests?** Students should revise key concepts, practice map skills, answer sample questions regularly, and develop good exam strategies like reading questions carefully and managing their time. **How do KS2 SATs geography papers differ from other subject papers?** Geography papers often include map reading, interpreting diagrams, and understanding physical and human geography concepts, which are less emphasized in subjects like maths or literacy. **What is the importance of reviewing past KS2 SATs geography papers for exam success?** Reviewing past papers helps students understand question formats, identify common themes, and build confidence, ultimately leading to better exam outcomes.

Related keywords: KS2 SATs geography, KS2 past papers, geography test papers, KS2 SATs practice, primary school geography exams, KS2 geography assessments, SATs geography revision, geography sample questions, KS2 test preparation, SATs geography resources

Introduction to geography

Introduction to Geography

Geography is a fundamental discipline that helps us understand the world around us. It explores the Earth's landscapes, environments, and the relationships between people and their environments. As a field of study, geography bridges the natural sciences and social sciences, offering insights into the physical features of our planet and the ways humans interact with their surroundings. Whether you're a student, a traveler, or simply a curious mind, an introduction to geography provides a comprehensive foundation to appreciate the complexity and beauty of our shared home—the Earth.

In this article, we will delve into the essentials of geography, exploring its definition, scope, history, branches, importance, and how it impacts our daily lives. By understanding the core concepts of geography, you can better grasp global issues such as climate change, urban development, resource management, and cultural diversity.

What is Geography?

Geography is the scientific study of the Earth's physical features and human societies. The word "geography" is derived from the Greek words "geo," meaning Earth, and "graphy," meaning writing or description. Thus, geography can be thought of as "writing about the Earth."

Definition of Geography

The most widely accepted definition of geography is provided by the American Association of Geographers:

"The study of the Earth's landscapes, environments, and the relationships between people and their environments, both natural and built."

Key Aspects of Geography

- Physical Geography: Focuses on natural features such as mountains, rivers, climate, and ecosystems.
- Human Geography: Examines human activities, cultures, economies, and urban development.
- Environmental Geography: Explores the interactions between humans and the environment, emphasizing sustainability.

The Scope of Geography

Geography encompasses a broad range of topics and areas of study, making it a versatile and interdisciplinary field. Its scope can be categorized into several key areas:

Physical Geography

Physical geography studies the natural environment and physical features of the Earth. Topics include:

- Landforms and topography
- Climate and weather patterns
- Vegetation and ecosystems
- Water bodies such as oceans, lakes, and rivers
- Natural hazards like earthquakes, volcanoes, and floods

Human Geography

Human geography investigates the human aspects of the world, including:

- Population distribution and demographics
- Urbanization and city planning
- Cultural landscapes and diversity
- Economic activities and resources
- Political boundaries and geopolitics

Environmental Geography

This branch examines how humans impact the environment and how natural systems function, emphasizing:

- Conservation and sustainability
- Climate change and global warming
- Resource management
- Environmental policies

Geographical Techniques and Tools

Modern geography relies heavily on technology and data analysis, including:

- Maps and cartography
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

- Remote sensing and satellite imagery
- Spatial analysis

History and Development of Geography

The study of geography has ancient roots, evolving over centuries from early explorations to sophisticated scientific analyses.

Ancient Geography

- Early civilizations like the Babylonians, Greeks, and Romans created rudimentary maps and documented lands.
- Notable figures: Herodotus, Ptolemy, and Strabo contributed to early geographical knowledge.

Medieval and Renaissance Periods

- Increased exploration during the Age of Discovery expanded geographic knowledge.
- Pioneers like Marco Polo and Christopher Columbus mapped new territories.
- Advances in mapmaking and navigation techniques improved accuracy.

Modern Geography

- Emerged as a scientific discipline in the 19th and 20th centuries.
- Development of technological tools like GIS revolutionized spatial analysis.
- Integration of environmental concerns and globalization shaped contemporary geography.

Branches of Geography

Geography is a diverse field with multiple specialized branches, each focusing on specific aspects of the Earth's systems and human activities.

Physical Geography

- Focuses on natural phenomena
- Includes geomorphology, climatology, biogeography, and hydrology

Human Geography

- Analyzes human societies
- Covers cultural, economic, urban, and political geography

Environmental Geography

- Combines physical and human geography
- Addresses environmental issues and sustainability

Geographical Techniques

- Map making (cartography)
- GIS and remote sensing
- Spatial data analysis

Importance of Geography

Understanding geography is vital for numerous reasons, both at individual and societal levels:

- Global Awareness: Helps us understand world issues like climate change, migration, and resource distribution.
- Informed Decision-Making: Aids policymakers in urban planning, disaster management, and environmental conservation.
- Cultural Appreciation: Promotes understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures and societies.
- Career Opportunities: Opens pathways in fields such as urban planning, environmental management, GIS technology, and international relations.
- Enhancing Navigation and Travel: Improves our ability to navigate and explore new places safely.
- Promoting Sustainability: Encourages responsible use of Earth's resources to ensure a healthy planet for future generations.

How Geography Affects Our Daily Lives

Geography influences many aspects of our everyday routines and decisions:

- Transportation and Travel: Knowledge of geography helps us choose optimal routes and modes of transportation.

- Housing and Urban Development: Understanding geographic features guides where to build homes and infrastructure.
- Resource Utilization: Awareness of natural resources influences consumption and conservation practices.
- Disaster Preparedness: Recognizing geographical risks like floods or earthquakes helps communities prepare and respond effectively.
- Cultural Identity: Geography shapes cultural practices, languages, and traditions based on regional environments.

Conclusion

An introduction to geography opens the door to understanding the complex and interconnected systems that shape our world. From the majestic mountain ranges and vast oceans to bustling cities and rural landscapes, geography provides the tools to analyze, interpret, and appreciate our environment and societies.

By studying geography, we become more conscious of our place on Earth and our responsibilities toward sustainable living. Whether through understanding climate patterns, urban development, cultural diversity, or resource management, geography equips us with valuable knowledge to navigate the challenges of the 21st century.

Embracing the principles of geography fosters global awareness, environmental stewardship, and cultural empathy—traits essential for building a more sustainable and inclusive future for all inhabitants of our planet.

Keywords for SEO Optimization: Introduction to geography, what is geography, physical geography, human geography, environmental geography, importance of geography, history of geography, branches of geography, geography techniques, geographic information systems, global understanding, Earth's features, geography careers, sustainable development.

Introduction to Geography: Unlocking the World's Secrets

Geography is often regarded as the study of places, landscapes, and environments, but it encompasses much more than just memorizing maps or knowing country capitals. It is a comprehensive discipline that bridges the natural and social sciences, offering insights into the intricate relationships between humans and their environment. As a foundational field, geography provides the tools to understand the complexities of our world, from climate patterns to cultural diversity, and from urban development to environmental challenges. In this article, we will explore the multifaceted nature of geography, dissect its core components, and examine why it remains an essential discipline for understanding our planet in the 21st century.

What Is Geography? A Broad Perspective

Definition and Scope

At its core, geography can be defined as the study of Earth's landscapes, environments, and the relationships between people and their environments. It is a spatial science that examines the distribution of phenomena across the surface of the Earth and seeks to understand the patterns, processes, and interactions that shape our world.

Scope of Geography

The scope of geography is vast and can be broadly categorized into two main branches: physical geography and human geography. While these branches focus on different aspects of the world, they are interconnected, offering a holistic understanding of geographic phenomena.

Core Branches of Geography

Physical Geography: The Natural World

Physical geography deals with the natural environment?its features, processes, and the forces that shape the Earth's surface.

Key Areas in Physical Geography

- **Geomorphology:** The study of landforms, such as mountains, valleys, and plains, and the processes that form them, including erosion, sedimentation, and tectonic activity.
- **Climatology:** The analysis of climate patterns, weather systems, and their influence on ecosystems and human activities.
- **Biogeography:** The distribution of plants and animals across different regions, and how environmental factors influence biodiversity.
- **Hydrology:** The study of water bodies, including rivers, lakes, aquifers, and the hydrological cycle.

Importance of Physical Geography

Understanding physical geography is crucial for managing natural resources, mitigating natural disasters, and addressing environmental concerns such as climate change and habitat destruction.

Human Geography: The Human Dimension

Human geography focuses on the spatial aspects of human existence?how people live, work, and organize themselves across space.

Key Areas in Human Geography

- Cultural Geography: The study of cultural practices, languages, religions, and social norms and how they vary across regions.
- Economic Geography: Analyzing the distribution of economic activities, industries, and resources.
- Urban Geography: The examination of cities, urbanization processes, and issues related to infrastructure and planning.
- Political Geography: The study of borders, territorial disputes, and the influence of political boundaries on societies.
- Population Geography: Investigating demographic trends, migration patterns, and population distribution.

Relevance of Human Geography

It helps policymakers, urban planners, and social scientists understand societal dynamics, plan sustainable development, and address issues of inequality and resource distribution.

Tools and Techniques in Geography

Geography is a data-rich discipline, employing a variety of tools and techniques to analyze spatial information.

Maps and Cartography

Maps are fundamental to geography, providing visual representations of spatial data. Advances in cartography, including digital mapping and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), have revolutionized the field.

Remote Sensing

Using satellite imagery and aerial photography, remote sensing allows scientists to observe Earth's surface over large areas and monitor environmental changes in real-time.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

GIS technology enables the collection, analysis, and visualization of spatial data, facilitating complex studies like urban planning, disaster management, and environmental conservation.

Global Positioning System (GPS)

GPS devices provide precise location data, essential for navigation, navigation apps, and spatial analysis.

The Significance of Geography in Today's World

Environmental Challenges

Understanding geography is vital in addressing climate change, deforestation, pollution, and conservation efforts. It helps identify vulnerable regions and develop strategies for resilience.

Urbanization and Development

As urban areas expand, geographic insights guide sustainable city planning, transportation networks, and resource management.

Global Interconnectivity

In an increasingly interconnected world, geography aids in understanding global trade, migration, cultural exchange, and geopolitical issues.

Educational and Career Opportunities

A grounding in geography opens pathways into diverse fields such as environmental science, urban planning, international development, GIS technology, and more.

Why Study Geography? The Benefits

- Enhanced Spatial Awareness: Recognize patterns and relationships across space and time.
- Critical Thinking: Analyze complex issues involving multiple factors and perspectives.
- Problem-Solving Skills: Apply geographic tools to real-world challenges.
- Cultural Appreciation: Understand and respect cultural diversity.
- Environmental Stewardship: Foster sustainable practices and conservation efforts.

Conclusion: The Essential Discipline for Understanding Our World

In an era marked by rapid environmental change, technological advancement, and globalization, geography stands out as an essential discipline that provides the framework to comprehend our world comprehensively. Its integrative approach, combining natural sciences with social sciences, equips individuals and societies with the knowledge to navigate complex issues, make informed decisions, and promote sustainable development.

Whether you're a student, a policymaker, a scientist, or a traveler, understanding geography enriches your perspective, empowering you to see the interconnectedness of all things on Earth. As we continue to face global challenges, the insights derived from geography will be more valuable than ever, guiding us toward a more informed, resilient, and harmonious relationship with our planet.

In essence, geography is not just about knowing where things are; it is about understanding why they are there, how they interact, and what that means for our shared future.

Question What is geography? Geography is the study of the Earth's physical features, environments, and the distribution of human populations and activities across the planet. **Answer** Why is geography important? Geography helps us understand how physical landscapes and human societies interact, influencing weather patterns, resource distribution, and cultural development, which are essential for planning and sustainable living. What are the main branches of geography? The main branches are physical geography, which studies natural features like mountains and rivers, and human geography, which focuses on human activities, cultures, and settlements. What tools do geographers use? Geographers use tools like maps, globes, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing, and satellite imagery to analyze and visualize spatial data. How does geography help in understanding climate change? Geography helps analyze how different regions are affected by climate change, including shifts in weather patterns, sea level rise, and impacts on ecosystems and human communities. What is the significance of physical geography? Physical geography explains natural phenomena such as landforms, climate, ecosystems, and how these features influence human life and environmental processes. How does human geography differ from physical geography? While physical geography focuses on natural features and processes, human geography examines how humans interact with their environment, including

culture, economy, and urban development. What role does geography play in urban planning? Geography provides insights into land use, transportation, resource distribution, and population patterns, which are vital for designing sustainable and efficient urban environments. What is the significance of studying world geography? Studying world geography helps us understand global interconnections, cultural diversity, and regional differences, promoting better global awareness and cooperation. How can understanding geography benefit careers? Knowledge of geography is valuable in careers such as urban planning, environmental management, logistics, travel and tourism, and international relations, among others.

Related keywords: geography basics, physical geography, human geography, geographic concepts, maps and cartography, earth sciences, spatial analysis, geographic information systems, environmental geography, world regions

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