HUMAN GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK – CASTLETON

FIELDWORK: HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Aim of enquiry:

'Tourism has only positive impacts on Castleton'

Geographical theory:

- Castleton is a town in the Peak District that has developed into a tourist attraction because of its; castle, caves and caverns and shopping.
- The town's main employment is in tourism. In the winter there are fewer jobs.
- As a result these type of towns can be dominated by services for tourists, therefore we wanted to find out if the impacts of tourism on Castleton were only positive.

Secondary data:

- https://www.visitpeakdistrict.com/visitorinformation/castleton-visitor-centrep681471
- Lots of information on the town and the types of services found there available at the Castleton Visitor Centre

Risks:

Talking to people/the public → remain in groups for safety in numbers → emergency phone number

Getting lost → bring a map and a phone to ask for help

Crossing roads → risk of being hit by cars → only cross at zebra/pelican crossings or when safe to do so

Advantage of location:

Close to school → collect more primary data lots of tourist facilities → easy to see tourism's social, economic and environmental impacts

Justify the method:

- We have picked four areas around Castleton. This will allow us to clearly see the different building types and the possible tourism impacts on a wider scale across the town.
- We chose to do systematic sampling so we did not miss any buildings down the streets selected which will make the results more accurate.
- By looking at the different types of buildings we will be able to work out the impacts of tourism. If there are more than 50% tourist buildings we could say that tourism dominates the town and there is a large impact.

Maps & photographs:

Used an OS map to work out the study area and split it up.

Took photos of the shops and the streets to identify different shop types and tourist attractions.

Description of method:

Primary and Qualitative Data Collection

Land Use Survey

- Using an OS map we orientated the map until we identified our 4 research sites.
- At each selected site we walked along a transect a set distance and categorised the buildings we passed into buildings either for Tourists, Non-Tourists or Mixed Use (stratified sampling).
- We noted down these building types into a tally chart

Data presentation:

Located Pie Chart

Good things:

Easy to draw individual pie chart Simple to read

We have three data-set which can be shown easily on the pie chart

Bad things:

Hard to draw located pie charts – quite timeconsuming

Data is in % so cannot see real number of the different building uses.

- This method is easy to do. It will allow us to collect a lot of data in the limited amount of time.
- It also uses limited equipment so we do not have buy any which reduces the cost of fieldwork.
- It is a reliable method of investigation as human error would be a low possibility.

We made a pie chart to reflect the buildings on each street. We located these on a map on the streets we surveyed. We then made an overall pie chart which reflected the impact of tourism in Castleton.

Results:

	Tourist	Non-	Mixed Use
		Tourist	
Castleton	3	2	0
Car Park			
The Stones	4	30	1
Cross	8	20	5
Street			
How Lane	13	35	8

Conclusion:

- Overall tourism in Castleton is obvious, however it does not dominate the whole town.
 There are positive impacts to the tourism in Castleton as well as negatives impacts.
- We found that 28 out of the 129 buildings surveyed were used by tourists. This is less than a quarter of the number surveyed but it does suggest that the town is reliant on tourism for jobs and generating money.
- This might be expected as Castleton is a town in the Peak District. It acts as a honeypot town. This is when a town draws tourists in from a large area due to its special features, such as the castle, caves and caverns and shopping.
- Castleton has capitalised on tourists by having lots of tourists based facilities such as the Castleton Visitor Centre.
- However, the tourist facilities can dominate high profile areas such as the old market on How Lane. This has affected the social profile/fabric of the town (social impact) as there use to be houses there. In addition, the tourist buildings in these areas leads to an increase in litter and pollution from vehicles (environmental impact). Therefore not all of tourism has positive impacts on Castleton.

Positives:

Jobs, businesses, income/money to be maid

Negatives:

Too reliant – if tourists stop coming people can lose jobs and income

Social changes from the building usage in the town

Increase in litter and pollution

Evaluation: Problems Issues with the methods:

Had to guess what the buildings were

Did not cover all of Castleton

Issues with the results:

Less accurate as we had to guess what the buildings types were

Missed some buildings as we did not cover all of Castleton so it does not paint an overall picture for the town

Improvements to the method:

Groups – to cover more of Castleton \rightarrow get more data \rightarrow more reliable when the data is shared. Take a photo of building if not sure of its type – check in the classroom \rightarrow makes the results more reliable.