

The selection of an adequate research question is one of the most relevant requirements for a successful extended essay. In this essay the student clearly shows a personal interest in the topic of solar energy and its applications. He successfully links a detailed review of the technical aspects of solar energy to a local reality, in this case the city of Canberra (Australia), his hometown.

This extended essay was based on secondary data but the student was very careful in the selection of reliable sources. Furthermore, he was able to manipulate and analyse the data from different sources to draw his own conclusions. One of the strengths of this essay is the application of the systems approach modelling various trends based on different possible growths of the local population together with weather changes.