

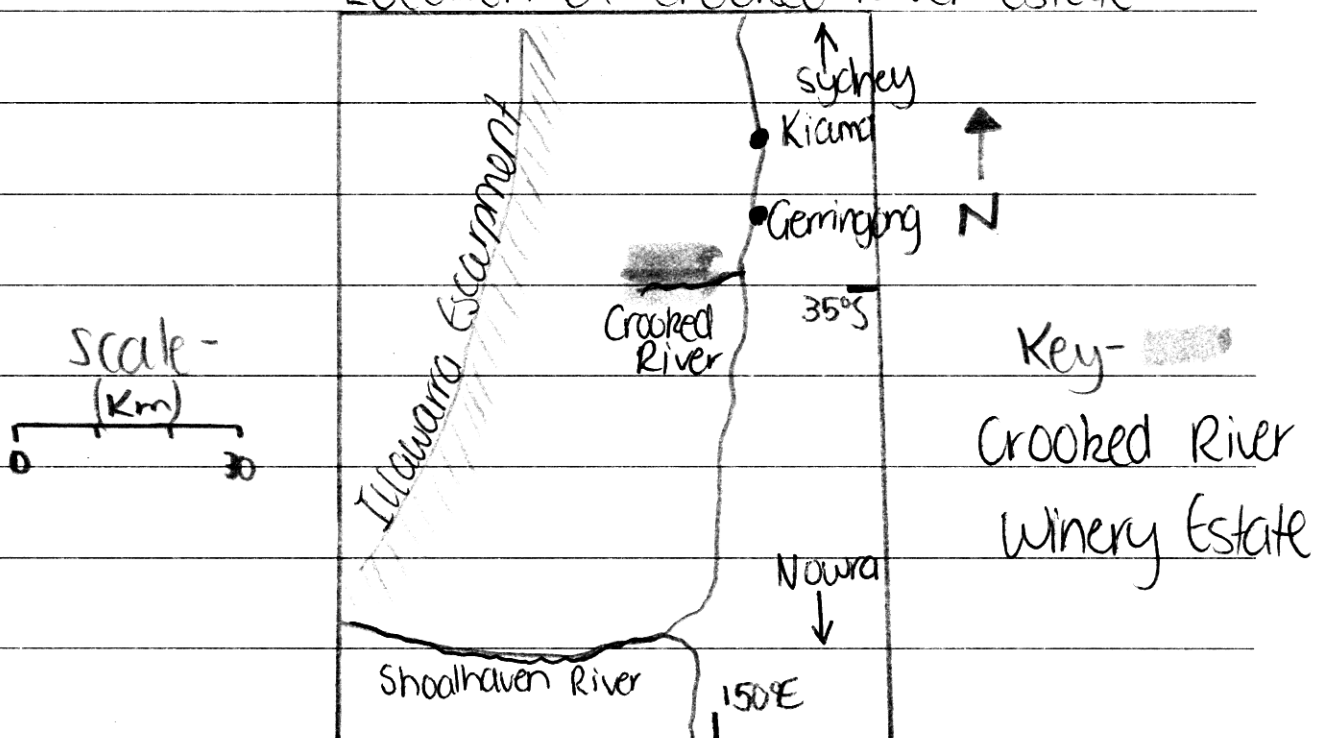
Section III Question 23. "Economic Activity"

Q23.

Crooked River Winery is a grape producing and wine making capital intensive economic activity. It is one of the very few wineries actually producing and selling its own wines on the South Coast. It is classified under the "Shoalhaven Region" and is highly recognised for its great quality.

Location of case study -

Location of Crooked River Estate





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Crooked River winery is located on the New South Wales Coast, west of Kiama approx. 35°S and 150°E . It is approx. 2 hours drive from Sydney.

This winery is conveniently located on the site where Crooked River actually runs through, hence the name of the winery.

Originally, this land was used for dairy farming, but was sold to Brian and Narelle Jackson, who began running the vineyard in 1998.

Ecological Dimensions -

Climate - • For grapes to grow, the best temp. is between 18°C and 33°C . They need a lot of sunlight to grow to maximum size.

• Rain and hail can cause severe damage to the vines -

(a) Too much rain then causes humidity, and as a result, the grapes are affected by "bunch



rot".

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(b) Hail can destroy the leaves and fruit on the vines. Crooked River Winery experienced severe hail storms in 2000 and lost a great deal of grapes, as well as profits.

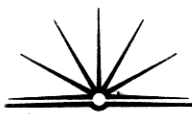
- Strong winds can also damage vines but can also be appreciated after rains as they dry out the vines, avoiding humidity and bunch rot.

Soils -

Because the land was previously used for dairy cattle farming, the soils have not, and will not need fertilizers for 8-10 yrs.

It is very neutral & the soil has only had lime ^{added} to help the neutralisation process.

Also, its fairly fine textured and has finite amounts of grainy, soft extras included in it eg. sandstone.



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Topography -

Situated on soft rolling, undulating hills, this vineyard is on perfect topography for grape growing. It faces the North to catch full extent of sunlight.

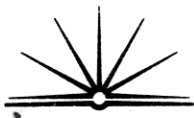
The gently sloping land not only is more appropriate but is also cheaper for irrigation etc.

There are 2 dams nearby as well. One is for waste water (for every 5L of waste water, 1L of wine is produced). These dams are put to good use and are also environmentally protected.

Water Supply -

The river / 2 dams give enough water for the vineyards. The escarpment behind the vineyard also provides water, as well as rain.

The river, however is protected by Kiama Council, to ensure that no pollutants are



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disgarded there.

With these ecological dimensions, Crooked River Winery/vineyard functions in an ecologically sustainable way, as well as making profits for Australia's wine production.

Its location is beneficiary to its prime function, thus making this economic activity part of a growing economic industry.