22nd International Geography Olympiad

13 August 2026 – Fieldwork Exercise 1

İstanbul, The Golden Horn and the Bosphorus

General Instructions

All students will have 2 hours and 30 minutes to complete the entire route (**Map 1**) and finish the fieldwork exercise. Before starting the route, students will be given 10 minutes to read all tasks, examine the provided materials, and plan their fieldwork strategy**.** You can explore, observe, and take notes in the area shown on the first page under the supervision of volunteer guides. However, you must submit your exam papers at the finish point after 2 hours and 30 minutes. It is strongly recommended that you review all field tasks and determine your strategy during the reading period before beginning the exercise.

Marks

The examiners will complete this table. Please leave it blank:

Question	Mark
FWE Task 1	/3
FWE Task 2	/6
FWE Task 3	/4
FWE Task 4	/3
FWE Task 5	/5
FWE Task 6	/12
FWE Task 7	/6
FWE Task 8	/9
Total for FWE 1	**/48**

Name: ..... Team: .....

Student number

2	**2**				

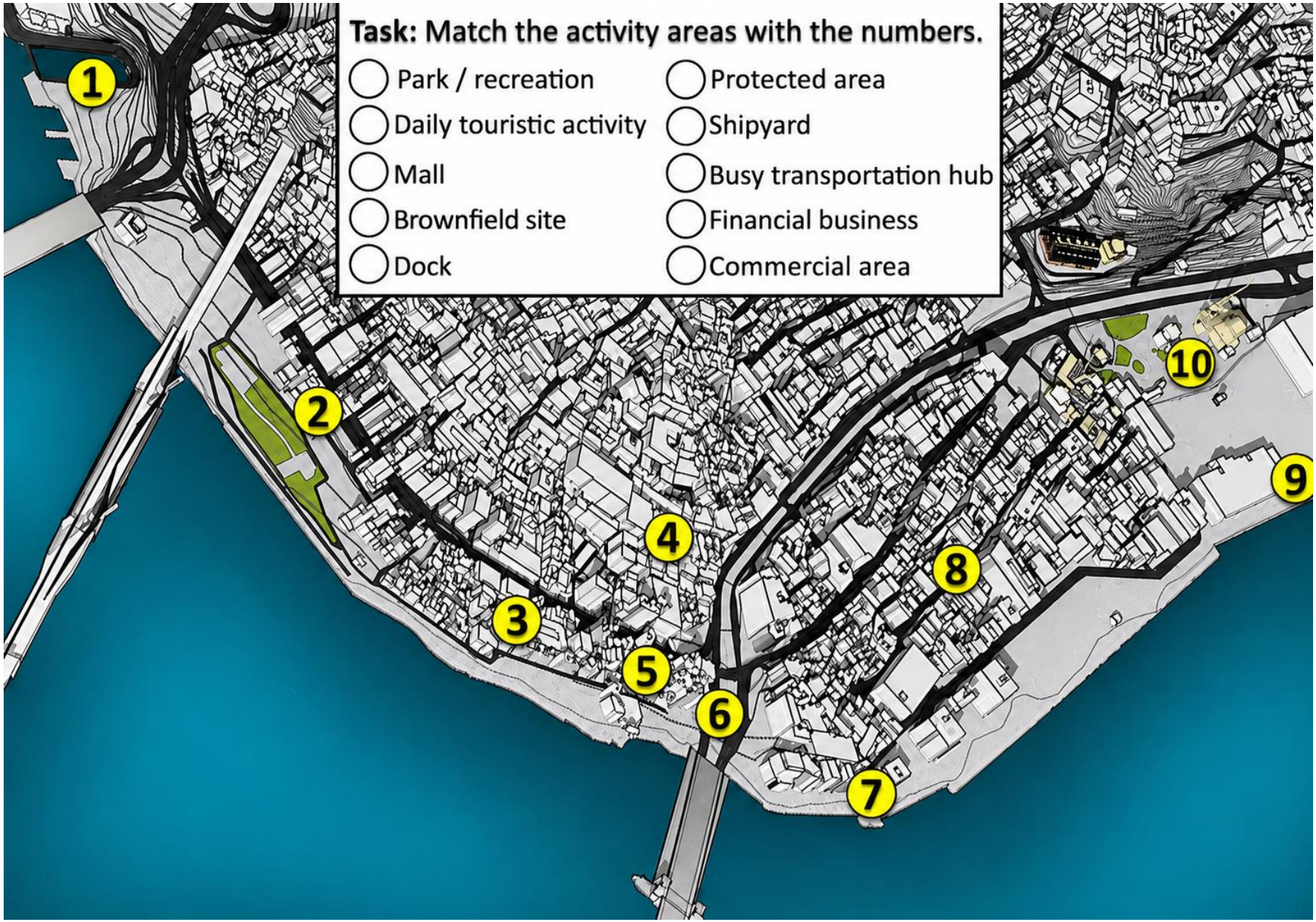
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Student number: 22

Task 1 – Land Use

As you travel through the study area, match the ten numbered activity areas on **Map 1.1** with their land use. Write the correct location number (**1 to 10**) inside the circles found in the legend. **(3 marks)**

Note: The ten numbered activity areas are distributed throughout the entire fieldwork route. Students should observe the entire study area before completing the task.



Map 1.1. The task area some specific point

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Task 2 – Field Sketching

For this task, you will draw and annotate a field sketch. Find a safe position on the wide observation platform of the Haliç Metro Bridge **(Checkpoint 1 on Map 1),** where you have a clear view of the two closest road bridges to the Bosphorus in the Golden Horn. This is the western part of your mission area and corresponds to the Golden Horn coastal belt. For this Task, you should be facing **EAST, but you should also include the bridge** as an element in your sketch.

On your field sketch, you must explicitly **draw and label** the following transportation networks **using arrows to show the direction of flow**. Use the space provided on the following page to complete this task.

- All forms of public transportation and tracks
- Maritime ferry routes
- Road infrastructure
- Pedestrian pathways and access points
- Key interchange nodes and transport hubs where different transit modes intersect

(6 marks)



Task 2: Draw and label your field sketch in the space

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Task 3 – Shoreline Engineering

Walk along the designated coastal section of the task area until you reach **Checkpoint 2 on Map 1. Make careful observations along the way.**

Based on your observations, identify **two** specific ways that human engineering has been used to modify the natural coastal geomorphology. For each example, explain the function or purpose of the modification. **(4 marks)**

Modification #1	**Purpose or Function**
Modification #2	**Purpose or Function**

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Task 4 – Urban Brownfields

An urban brownfield is an area of land that had been previously developed but has now been abandoned or left for nature to reclaim.

a) As you walk from **Checkpoint 2 to Checkpoint 3 on Map 1**, you will encounter several brownfield sites. **Discuss** their positive and negative impacts on the local area. **(2 marks)**

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b) Urban brownfield areas have adapted to form their own unique urban ecosystems. These unmanaged spaces can play a vital role in urban sustainability. **Evaluate** one way that an observed wasteland has made an ecological contribution to the area. **(1 mark)**

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Task 5 – Sources of Pollution

As you walk through the designated task area from **Checkpoint 2 to Checkpoint 3 on Map 1**, **evaluate** the spatial distribution and intensity of urban environmental pollution. Complete the chart below **identifying one specific, observable pollutant** in each category, and its source. **(5 marks)**

Pollution Category	Pollutant and Its Source
Solid waste	
Water pollution	
Air pollution	
Noise pollution	
Visual pollution	

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Task 6 – Barriers to Accessibility: Annotated Mapping

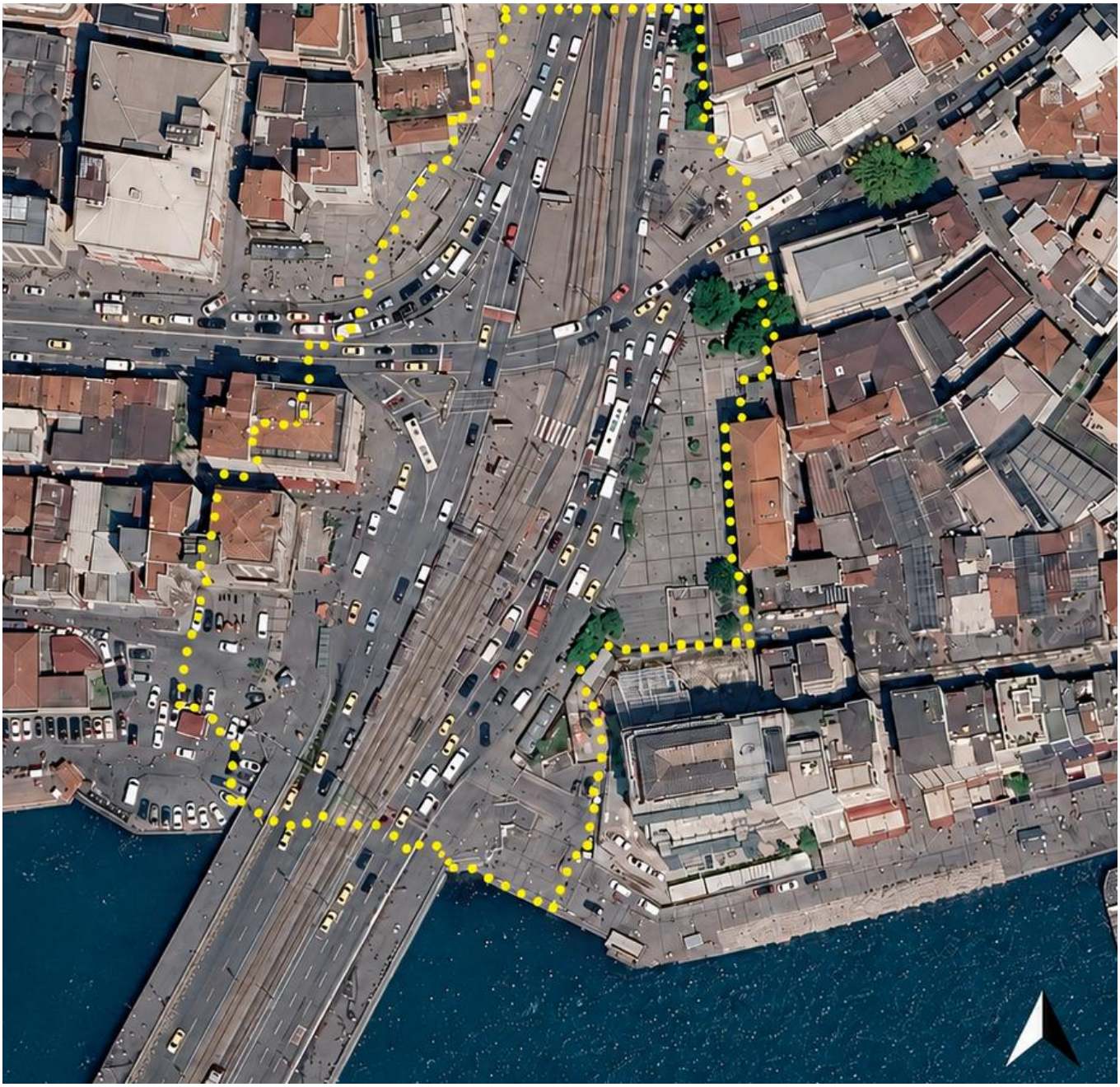
Fieldwork participants must thoroughly **survey the area near Checkpoint 3 on Map 1 (detailed view on Map 6.1)** to **identify and map** three (3) physical and spatial conditions that negatively impact disabled pedestrians' movement.

Using **Map 6.2**, for each barrier:

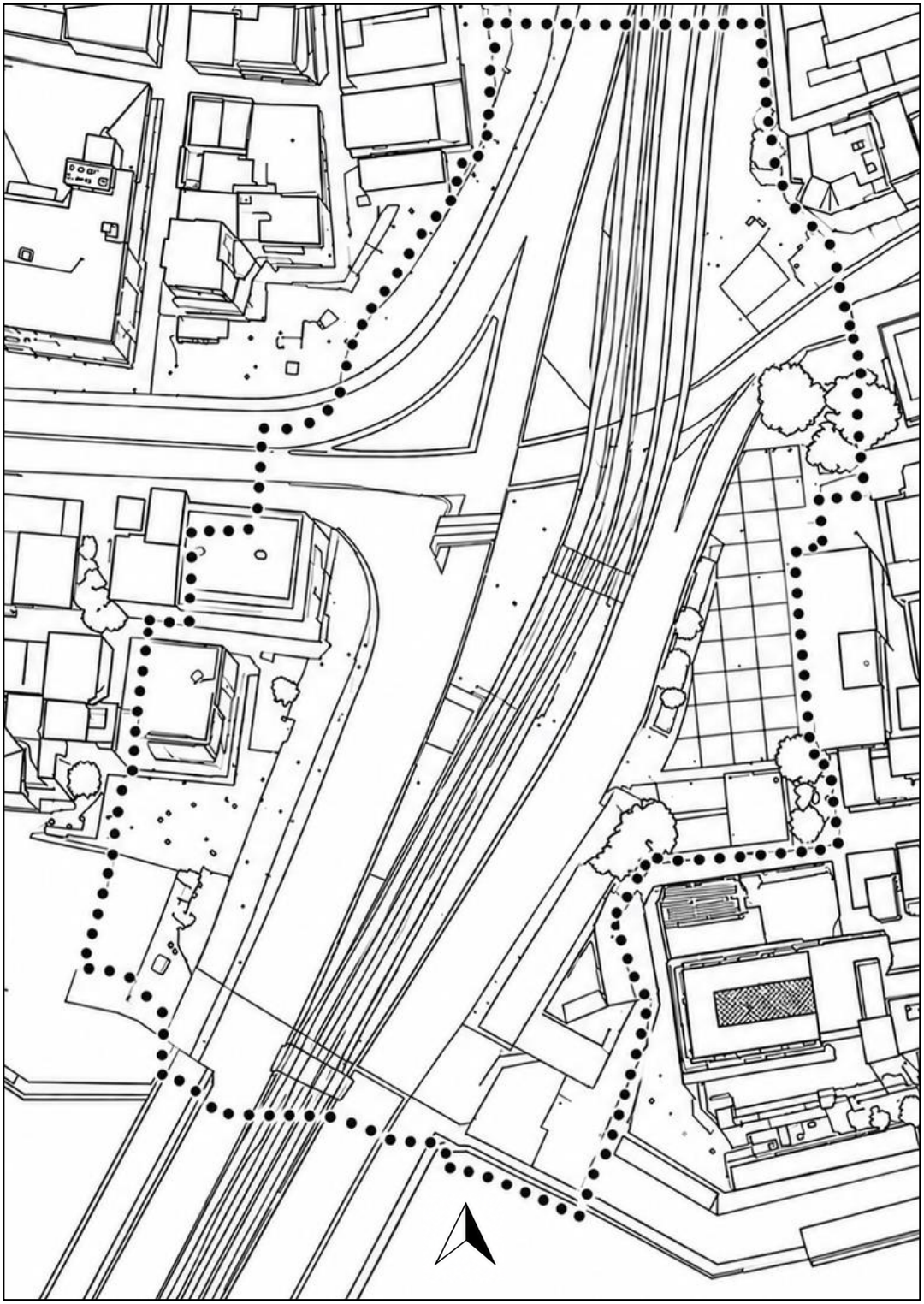
1. **Mark** the location clearly **on the map** below.
2. **Write** a brief **annotation** that:

   a) Describes the barrier.
   b) Explains how it affects pedestrian movement, safety or accessibility.
   c) Proposes one appropriate solution to overcome this problem.

(12 marks)



Map 6.1. The task area for mapping the barriers to accessibility



Map 6.2

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Task 7 – Tourist and Commercial Activities

Observe the structural and spatial relationships that exist between tourism-related economic activities and commercial activities developed for residents between **checkpoint 3** and **checkpoint 4**. Based on your field observations, **identify three distinct economic activities** that are directly related to **tourism**. For each activity, **describe exactly how it differs** from everyday commercial services that cater to local residents. **(6 marks)**

Tourism-Related Economic Activity	How is it different from Local Commercial Services?

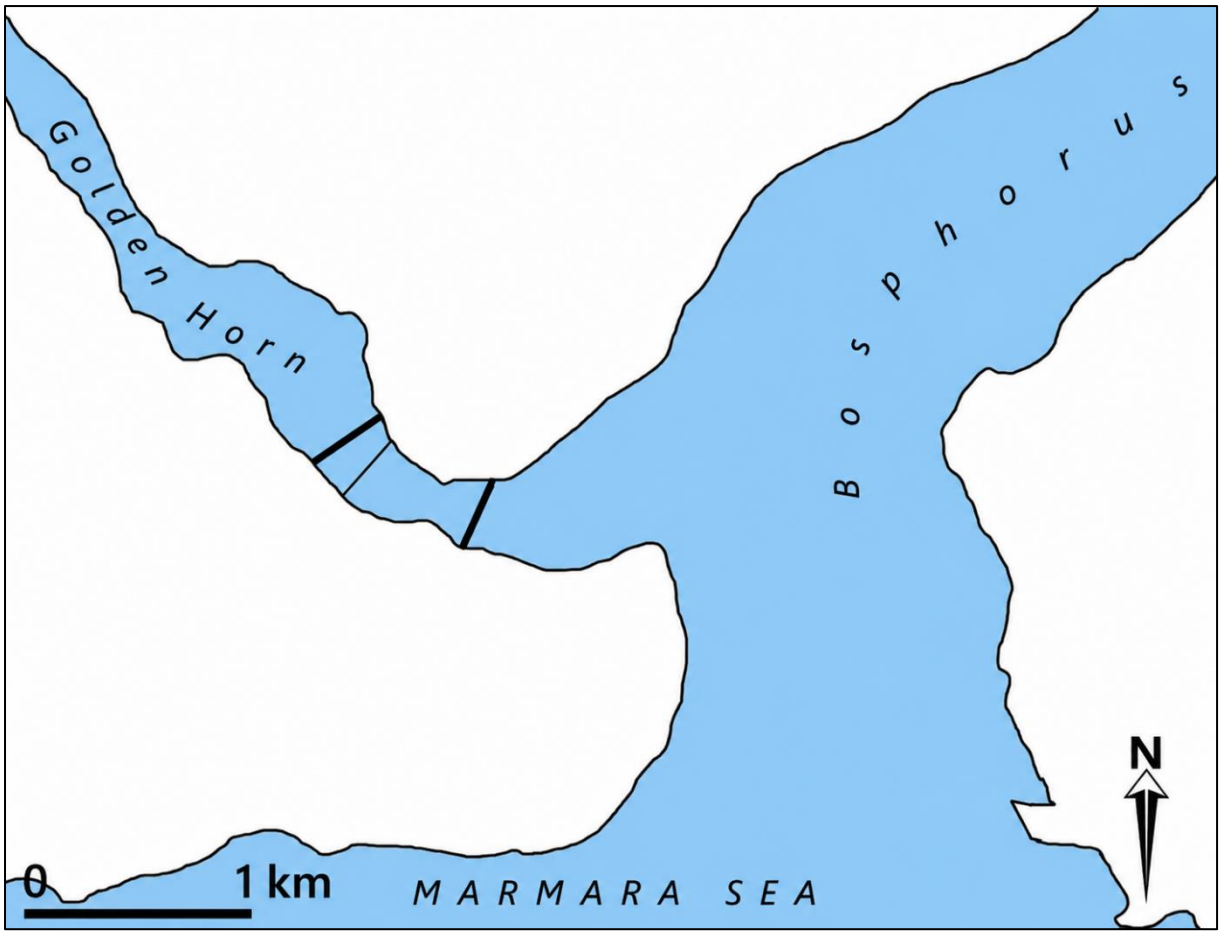
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Task 8 – Hydrographic Characteristics of the Bosphorus

Observe the Bosphorus Strait and its dynamic current system from your vantage point: **Checkpoint 4 on Map 1**. Answer the following questions related to the hydrography and urban geography of the area in the spaces provided.

a) **Indicate** the direction of surface water flow in the Bosporus by placing an arrow on Map 8.1 below. **(1 mark)**



Map 8.1. Basemap of Golden Horn and the Bosphorus

b) **Explain** why the Bosphorus flows in this direction. **(2 marks)**

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c) **Analyse** how the Bosphorus current influences the social, economic and environmental development of the area. Include examples of both positive and negative impacts. **(6 marks)**

Category	Positive Impact	Negative Impact
Social		
Economic		
Environmental		