**Handout 1: UNESCO Criteria (Simplified)**

(Ref: UNESCO, 2008, <http://whc.unesco.org/en/criteria>)

**CULTURAL CRITERIA**

1. to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
2. to exhibit an important exchange of human values, over time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
3. to be a unique or outstanding record of a dead or living culture;
4. to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
5. to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment;
6. to be directly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal importance.

**NATURAL CRITERIA**

1. to contain amazing natural occurrences or areas of exceptional natural beauty;
2. to be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, or significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms;
3. to be outstanding examples of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
4. to contain the most important natural habitats for conservation of biodiversity, including those containing threatened species of universal value.

**Glossary:**

Criteria = A standard used for making a judgement or decision

Occurrence = happening or event

Monumental art = statues or buildings

Terrestrial = on land

Marine = in the sea/ocean