



Geography GCSE to A-Level Transition

Year 12 Geographers! Great choice of A-level, we look forward to seeing you in September! Hopefully you are ready to get started on a fantastic A-level course where you will have the chance to really enhance your understanding of the world around you. The work in this booklet is designed to help you make the best possible start to the course. Some of it is reviewing and building on work you have done at GCSE, some of it is putting some important basics in place, and some of it is about extending and exploring what is happening in our world.

What does the A Level course look like?

At A Level, we follow the EDEXCEL specification. You will have three exams; one physical exam and one human exam, one Synoptic and one Non-Examined Assessment- essentially a 3000-4000 word piece of coursework.

Physical Exam	Human Exam	Synoptic Exam	NEA
<p>Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 30% of the qualification 105 marks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tectonic Processes and Hazards • Coastal Landscapes and Change • The Water Cycle and Water • The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security <p>The examination includes 12-mark and 20-mark extended writing questions</p>	<p>Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 30% of the qualification 105 marks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Globalisation • Regenerating Places • Superpowers • Health, Human Rights and Intervention <p>The examination includes 12-mark and 20-mark extended writing questions</p>	<p>Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes 20% of the qualification 70 marks</p> <p>The specification contains three synoptic themes within the compulsory1 content areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players • Attitudes and actions • Futures and uncertainties. <p>The synoptic investigation will be based on a geographical issue within a place-based context. A resource booklet will contain information about the geographical issue.</p>	<p>Non-examined assessment 20% of the qualification 70 marks</p> <p>This is an independent enquiry meaning that it is driven by you.</p> <p>You will need to formulate a title and hypotheses from a topic that is studied on the EDEXCEL specification. You will then need to come up with methods to test your hypotheses, you will collect your own data and then present, analyse, conclude and evaluate your investigation.</p> <p>The deadline for this will be in November of Year 13.</p> <p>You will be taken out on several days fieldwork work to prep you for this.</p>

What do I need to prepare before September?

Task 1- Scrap book challenge

Over your A level geographical studies you will be expected to create 'Geographical scrap books'. You will create two separate books, one for human geography and one for physical geography. You will be expected to collect relevant news clips, photographs and articles etc. These snippets of geography can then be used to support your answers in your exams. Over the summer you need to start your scrap books. We will expect you to have at least three bits of information in each book.

News websites include –

www.bbc.co.uk

www.independent.co.uk

https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/earth_climate/geography/

<https://theconversation.com/uk>

Most newspapers have downloadable apps, this is a really good way of keeping track of current affairs. The BBC news app even allows you to set up 'My News' so you can edit a list of topics. Good topics/key words to add for A-level include: Globalisation, Rebranding, Poverty, Earthquake, Volcano, Tsunami, Development, Migration, Economy, Water, Climate, Carbon, Oil and Energy. You can also add specific places or events so you can get updates on useful case studies.

Whenever you notice something on the news that you think links to the Geography you will cover at A-level make a note in your scrap book. Notes do not have to be detailed, they just need to be a reminder to you.

Task 2- Globalisation

The following are questions that you should properly research and write detailed notes in the boxes below. You can display your notes how you want in the spaces, try to make it neat, easy to read and interesting. You should use several sources to construct your answer to each question. There is lots of useful information online, there are some websites below to help you get started.

[http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-](http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2013/Development%20&%20Globalisation/Globalisation/Globalisation.htm)

[level/AQA/Year%2013/Development%20&%20Globalisation/Globalisation/Globalisation.htm](http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2013/Development%20&%20Globalisation/Globalisation/Globalisation.htm)

[https://pmt.physicsandmathstutor.com/download/Geography/A-](https://pmt.physicsandmathstutor.com/download/Geography/A-level/Notes/Edexcel/3-Globalisation/Essential%20Notes%20-%20Globalisation%20-%20Edexcel%20Geography%20A-level.pdf)

[level/Notes/Edexcel/3-Globalisation/Essential%20Notes%20-%20Globalisation%20-%20Edexcel%20Geography%20A-level.pdf](https://pmt.physicsandmathstutor.com/download/Geography/A-level/Notes/Edexcel/3-Globalisation/Essential%20Notes%20-%20Globalisation%20-%20Edexcel%20Geography%20A-level.pdf)

<https://geographyrevisionalevel.weebly.com/31a-what-is-globalisation.html>

<https://www.economicshelp.org/blog/401/trade/what-caused-globalization/>
<https://www.tutor2u.net/geography/reference/globalisation-benefits-and-costs-of-interdependency>
<https://intranet.royalhospitalschool.org/geography/pupil-resources/legacy-gcse-2016/year-10-archive-gcse/changing-uk-settlements/case-study-london-docklands>
<http://www.markedbyteachers.com/as-and-a-level/geography/london-docklands-decline-and-re-generation.html>
<http://www.cornwallheritagetrust.org/discover/industry-in-cornwall/>
<http://www.markedbyteachers.com/as-and-a-level/geography/case-study-of-deprivation-in-a-rural-area-cornwall.html>
<https://www.newstatesman.com/politics/welfare/2016/02/real-cornwall-county-poorer-lithuania-and-hungary>

What is globalisation?

What are the causes of globalisation?

What factors have caused globalisation to speed up?

Define the following:

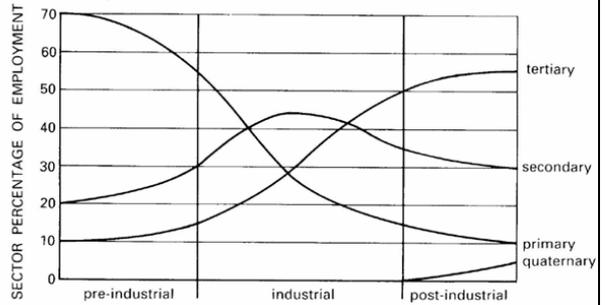
Primary industry

Secondary industry

Tertiary industry

Quaternary industry

Using the graph, and your own research, describe the changing pattern of industry.



What have caused the changes you described above?

Case Study 1: Changing Industry in The London Docklands

Find out about industry in the London Docklands since the industrial revolution to present. Your research should include a description and explanation of the changing industry in the area. It should include information about the growth of industry in the area in the 1800s, the causes and consequences of the decline of these industries, and any attempts to attract new industry to the area/any regeneration projects from the 1980s to present.

Task 3 – Develop as a Geographer

To be a great geographer, you will need to develop the ability to think synoptically, being able to see the greater overview and how everything we study in Geography links together. Geography is not just about the studying people and landscapes, it is also the relationships that exists between people and their environment.

Below are some links to podcasts, websites, books and even films which provide a great way of staying inspired and engaging with Geography:

PODCASTS:

- **Costing the Earth-** There are some great podcasts here to pick from on a wide variety of geographical issues. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006r4wn/episodes/player> (many topics including climate change, carbon, urban greening, deforestation, alternative powers, plastics (etc)
- **Royal Geographical Society – ‘Ask the Geographer podcasts’**
- <https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/ask-the-expert-podcasts/> = a fantastic set of podcasts to keep A Level studies up to date with the latest geographical research = pick out some that interest you.
- **Links to general podcasts**
- <https://eternalexploration.wordpress.com/2016/01/04/top-10-podcasts-for-geography-students/> - this has a number of different links to geography podcast, specifically targeted to Geography students. Definitely recommend the TED talks.

BOOKS:

If you are into reading both fiction and non fictions, why not try some Geographically themed books/magazines:

- **Prisoners of Geography** by Tim Marshall – an insightful book which helps understanding how the physical geography impacts on political reality and really helps to understand how decisions of world leaders have been shaped by geography- a good introduction to Geopolitics
- **Geography Review Magazines:** Subscribe for £40 and you will get 4 up to date magazines with articles that will be really relevant to the topics that you are studying.
- **Six Degrees** by Mark Lynas – a scary walkthrough of the impacts of Climate Change as world temperatures increase by 1 degree through to 6 degrees.
- **Divided** by Tim Marshall – his follow-up to Prisoners of Geography – a great book which explains how & why the world is



becoming more divided and how countries are putting up barriers. Very relevant to events in Europe (Brexit), the US (Trump) and the Coronavirus situation.

Geographical Documentaries:

There are some great geographical documentaries which will help develop your general geographical knowledge and understanding and help you see what an amazing world we live in.

The following are all available on IPLAYER:

- **David Attenborough Box Sets**- there are 9 amazing boxsets available on iplayer from David Attenborough exploring our amazing world. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06m42d9>
- **The Americas with Simon Reeve** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m00095p0/the-americas-with-simon-reeve>
The first episode in Alaska/Canada is particularly good for Resource Security looking at energy.
- **Simon Reeve around the World** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06rrnkm> The Russia series is really interesting.
- **Britain Underwater: Fighting the floods** <https://www.itv.com/hub/britain-underwater-fighting-the-floods/7a0157>
- **Joanna Lumley's Hidden Caribbean: Havana to Haiti** <https://www.itv.com/hub/joanna-lumleys-hidden-caribbean-havana-to-haiti/2a7578>
- **Race across the World** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m000g6nt/race-across-the-world-series-2-episode-1>
- **Andrew Marrs Megacities** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b011qmc1/episodes/guide>
- **Trumps War on the Border** → <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/trumps-war-on-the-border>
- **Dispatches** <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/dispatches/on-demand/67256-001>
- **Earth from Space – episode 4 The Changing Planet (BBC iPlayer)** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/p072n8m0/earth-from-space-series-1-4-changing-planet>
- **Kevin Mcleod rough guide to the Future - Channel 4 - 3 episodes,** <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/kevin-mcclouds-rough-guide-to-the-future/episode-guide/>

Geography on NETFLIX, DVD or YOUTUBE:

- **Before the Flood**- A film presented by Leonardo DiCaprio- exploring climate change and looking at what needs to be done today to prevent catastrophic disruption
- **Our Planet Netflix Series**- Explores how climate change impacts all living creatures
- **Blood Diamond** – looks at the diamond trade in Sierra Leone
- **An Inconvenient Truth** – follows Al Gore on the lecture circuit as he seeks to raise awareness about Climate Change.