

Transition Materials for A Level Geography





Introduction

It is great that you are considering studying Geography at A Level.

This pack contains a programme of activities and resources to prepare you to start an A Level in Geography in September. It is aimed to be used after you complete your GCSE throughout the remainder of the summer term and over the summer holidays to ensure you are ready to start your course in September.

The pack is divided into some of the key topics you will study in A level Geography: Coasts, Water Cycle/ Water Insecurity, Globalisation and Rebranding. There are a range of different activities to do in each topic area.

Discovering the world we live in is great fun. I hope that you will agree!



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I. Coasts

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4. The world is out there...



1. Reading list for A - level Geography

At AS and A Level Geography it is expected that you can demonstrate to the examiners that you have been partaking in wider reading.

Below is a list of books/journals and websites you could use over the next two years and beyond in university.

The list below is the name of the text books that are published by the specific exam boards. Find out your exam board from your teacher before you purchase this book.

EDEXCEL - Edexcel GCE Geography Y2 A Level Student Book and eBook (Person)	http://www.pearsonschoolsandcolleges.co.uk/Secondary/Geography/16plus/EdexcelGeographyAlevel2016/ISBN/Other/Student-Books/Edexcel%20A2%20Year%20%20Geography%20%20Student%20Book%20%20and%20ActiveBook.aspx
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This is a list of some books you might want to consider

Geography: An Integrated Approach Fourth Edition	https://global.oup.com/education/product/9781408504079/?region=international
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Journals are a good way of keeping up to date with what's happening in the world of geography. You can subscribe for a year or buy individual past publications.

Some good Geography magazines are:

Geography Review, Go to: <http://www.philipallan.co.uk/geographyreview/index.htm>

Geographical, Go to: <http://www.geographical.co.uk/Home/index.html>

You need to be aware of current global events that are related to the units you will be studying; so look out for things in the news to do with the topics we are studying. You can use Google Alerts to make this easier

<http://www.google.co.uk/alerts?hl=en>

ACTION – Please sign up by signing in and making a list of general geographic topics that are on your course. That way Google does the hard work and all the alerts come to your in box!



There are also many good websites you can use. News websites are partially good at keeping you informed and up-to-date.

News websites include –

www.bbc.co.uk

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk>

You can also use websites like –

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>

<http://www.geographyalltheway.com/>

<http://www.gatm.org.uk/>

<https://www.usgs.gov/>

<http://www.ted.com/talks>

Finally, there are a plethora of websites offering you help with the subject content.

HEALTH WARNING - Many will cover topics you don't study and most are based on the old specifications or different exam boards so check the content is relevant to you when using these sites.

This is a list of the web sites that are currently being prepared for the new Geography AQA specification for 2016.

www.geographyiseverything.co.uk

www.coolgeography.com

iii. Coasts



<http://www.onegeology.org/extra/kids/images/tides.jpg>

ACTION – TASK - Independent Research

1. How does the geological structure of the coast influence the development of coastal landscapes?
<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>
2. What effect will sea level rise have on coastlines?
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/sea-level>
<http://www.assembly.wales/Research%20Documents/Coastal%20Erosion%20and%20Sea%20Level%20Rise%20-%20Quick%20guide-30012014-235792/qg12-0014-English.pdf>
<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/climateChange/general/coastalErosion.html>
3. Why is Bangladesh so at risk from coastal flooding?



http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/geography/water_rivers/river_flooding_management_rev6.shtml

http://coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2012/Rivers_Floods/Flooding/Bangladesh/Bangladesh.htm

4. Find four images representing a range of mass movement along the coastline. Annotate them in detail and include examples of where they have occurred around the world
5. What is the difference between eustatic and isostatic sea level change?

Pre Knowledge Topics - Coasts

1. Use GIS (Google Earth) to map of a variety of coastal landscapes in the UK and around the world
2. Draw field sketches of contrasting coastlines
3. Use <http://wtp2.appspot.com/wheresthepath.htm> to measure rates of erosion over time along contrasting coastlines
4. Annotate images to show a range of approaches to coastal management and their environmental impact
5. Create a map of the sediment cells around the UK
6. Sketch and annotate a recurved spit to show its formation
7. Annotate diagrams to show the different types of erosion and transportation at the coast
8. Draw sketches of concordant and discordant coastlines
9. Draw and annotate the formation of a stump
10. Find the definition for the following words:

Term	Definition
<i>Abandon the line</i>	
<i>Abrasion</i>	
<i>Accretion</i>	
<i>Advance the Line</i>	
<i>Arch</i>	
<i>Attrition</i>	
<i>Attrition</i>	
<i>Backwash</i>	
<i>Bar</i>	
<i>Benefit cost ratio</i>	
<i>Berm</i>	
<i>Beach nourishment</i>	
<i>Blow –hole</i>	
<i>Breaching</i>	
<i>Char</i>	
<i>Constructive waves</i>	
<i>Concordant geology</i>	
<i>Corrasion</i>	
<i>Corrosion</i>	
<i>Cusp</i>	
<i>Cuspate foreland</i>	

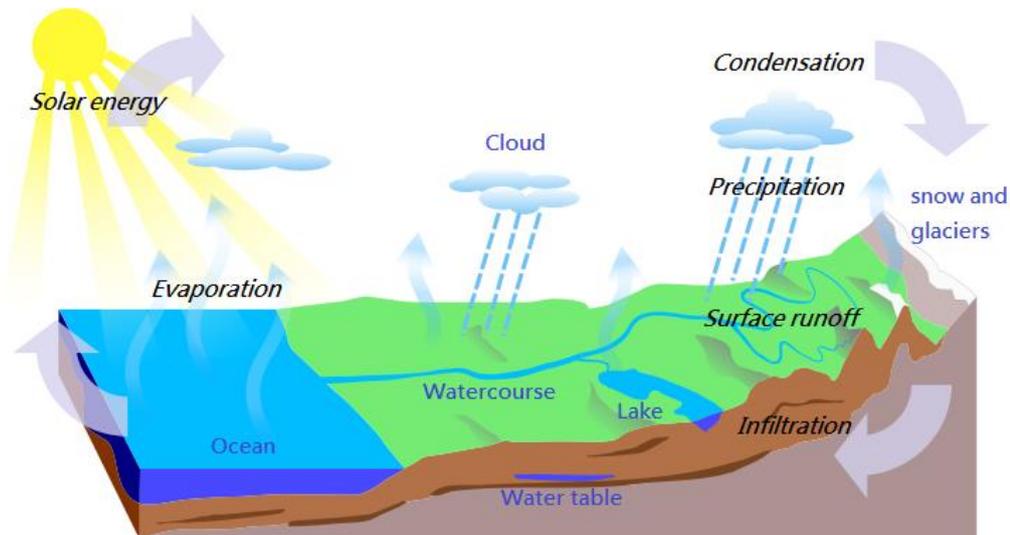
<i>Defence line</i>	
<i>Deltas</i>	
<i>Destructive waves</i>	
<i>Differential erosion</i>	
<i>Discordant geology</i>	
<i>Diurnal range</i>	
<i>Do Nothing</i>	
<i>Downdrift</i>	
<i>Dunes</i>	
<i>Eustatic</i>	
<i>Fetch</i>	
<i>Fiord</i>	
<i>Flocculation</i>	
<i>Flood</i>	
<i>Frequency</i>	
<i>Gabion</i>	
<i>Geo</i>	
<i>Groyne</i>	
<i>Halophytes</i>	
<i>Hard engineering</i>	
<i>High energy coast</i>	

<i>Hold the line</i>	
<i>Hydraulic action</i>	
<i>Isostatic</i>	
<i>Isthmus</i>	
<i>Longshore drift</i>	
<i>Low energy coast</i>	
<i>Magnitude</i>	
<i>Managed retreat</i>	
<i>Mass Movement</i>	
<i>Plagioclimax</i>	
<i>Psammosere</i>	
<i>Recession</i>	
<i>Recurrence interval</i>	
<i>Retreat the line</i>	
<i>Return period</i>	
<i>Revetment</i>	
<i>Ria</i>	
<i>Runnel</i>	
<i>Saltation</i>	
<i>Sediment cell</i>	
<i>Sediment sink</i>	
<i>Slumping</i>	

<i>Soft Engineering</i>	
<i>Spit</i>	
<i>Spring tide</i>	
<i>Stack</i>	
<i>Subaerial erosion</i>	
<i>Surges</i>	
<i>Swash</i>	
<i>Swell</i>	
<i>Tidal bore</i>	
<i>Tidal Range</i>	
<i>Tombolo</i>	
<i>Updrift</i>	
<i>Wave cut platform</i>	
<i>Wave crest</i>	
<i>Wave energy</i>	
<i>Wavelength</i>	
<i>Wave period</i>	
<i>Wave steepness</i>	
<i>Wave refraction</i>	
<i>Wave trough</i>	
<i>Weathering</i>	



iv. Water Cycle/ Water Insecurity



http://quagroup.com/wp-content/uploads/Water_Cycle-en.png

ACTION - Independent Research

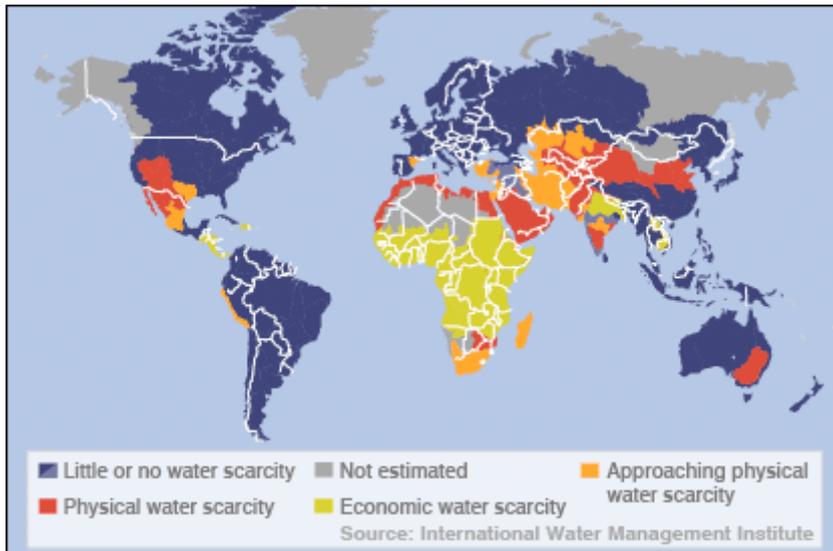
1. What affect can humans have on the hydrological cycle?
2. What is a storm hydrograph and what factors can impact it? (Physical and human)
3. How have humans contributed to drought in Australia?
4. How might climate change impact the hydrological cycle?
5. What are the human and physical causes of water insecurity?

<http://www.fao.org/nr/water/issues/scarcity.html>

<http://www.fao.org/nr/water/docs/wwd07brochure.pdf>

ACTION Pre Knowledge Topics – Water Cycle/ Water insecurity

1. Draw the hydrological cycle and label its inputs, outputs, stores and flows
2. Analyse patterns of water scarcity shown on this map:



(<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/5269296.stm>)

3. Find an image of a dam and annotate with its advantages and disadvantages
4. Using the following website, which areas of the UK are most at risk of flooding?
<http://watermaps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/wiyby.aspx?topic=floodmap#x=357683&y=355134&scale=2>
5. Sketch a map of the River Nile with its main tributaries, annotate with key characteristics e.g. major dams, major population centers, political boundaries.
6. What issues may be present when a river flows through more than one country?
7. Why are treaties like ‘The Helsinki Rules on the Use of Water’ important in managing water supply?
8. Find the definition for the following words:

Aquifer	
Desalination	
El Nino	

Economic scarcity	
Geopolitical	
Groundwater	
High pressure	
Infiltration	
Irrigation	
La Nina	
Percolation	
Physical Scarcity	
Precipitation	
Prevailing	

Privatisation	
Rainshadow	
Relief rainfall	
Riparian	
Salinity	
Spatial imbalance	
Streamflow	
Surface runoff	
Urbanisation	
Virtual water	
Water pathways	

Water rights	
Water scarcity	
Water stress	
Water wars	
World water gap	

v. Globalisation

KEY INFORMATION

In the last 30 years, globalisation has taken a real front seat in the concepts taught at A level geography. Changes in economy are at the forefront however changes in the environment, culture, demographics and politics of the world are also important and impact on areas at a range of scales.

Key past influences

- Since the discovery of the Americas, world trade and economy began to take shape.
- The colonialism of certain countries enabled the British Empire to control $\frac{1}{4}$ of the world bringing along British culture.
- The founding of the United Nations after the first world war allowed countries to work together easily.

Continued influences and evolution of globalisation

- Transnational Corporations (TNC): These are top firms with HQs usually in HICs however operate all over the world and are globally recognised (Coca Cola, Disney, Apple).
- Internet and IT: These have allowed design and manufacturing to be faster and easier. Jobs that typically humans would have done are now done online by less people- Allowing many high tech industries to be “footloose” and not reliant on being near by a resource or labour force.
- Transport: Now quicker, more efficient and low cost. The arrival of the 747 in the 1960s has revolutionised trade and movement of people.
- Growth of markets: Increase in urban living means more demand for trade, services and products.

ACTION - TASK



Spiderman- a comic superhero, has been reimagined for an Indian audience.

Research the characteristics of this Spiderman that are Indian rather than American.

What is the difference between economic and cultural globalisation? What does this Spiderman represent?

Global groupings

- Trade blocs: To trade easily between countries, certain agreements have been created. Examples are EU, NAFTA, CARICOM



- Economic groupings: Countries are grouped together based on wealth and power. Example are LICs/HICs (LDC or HDCs), NICs, OPEC and OECD.

TASK

2. What do the acronyms above stand for?

TNCs and Trade aims

- They tend to operate where labour is cheap and regulations are lacking
- To gain government grants from countries that are attracting new business
- They operate inside local trade barriers and avoid tariffs
- They like to be near markets

Positives to TNCs

- Raising living standards – TNCs invest in the economies of many NICs and LICs
- Transfer of technology – south Korean firms e.g. Samsung have learned to design products for foreign markets
- Political stability – investment by TNCs has contributed to economic growth and political stability e.g. China
- Raising environmental awareness – due to large corporate image TNCs do respond to criticism e.g. Starbucks have their sustainability campaign

Negatives to TNCs

- Tax avoidance – many avoid paying full taxed in countries they operate in through concessions, e.g. Starbucks and Amazon
- Limited linkages – FDI does not always help developing nations economies
- Growing global wealth divide – selective investment in certain global areas is creating a widening divide e.g. Southeast Asia vs. sub-Saharan Africa
- Environmental disaster and destruction – example of Bhopal, India disaster in 1984

TASK

3. Create an annotated photo of either your family car or your living room with the various places where the parts/ features were manufactured.

4. Choose an example of a TNC and create a timeline of events since their foundation as a company. What have been the benefits that the company has brought to the countries involved. Examples could be Nike, Mattel, Disney or Tesco.

Networks and hubs

The term 'global network' refers to links between different countries in the world, this includes – flows of capital, traded goods, services, information (and people). Some areas are well connected i.e. high income areas, others poorly i.e. low income areas.

- A network is a model that shows how places are linked together. E.g. London Underground.
- A global hub is used to describe a place which is especially well connected. Connections between these hubs are called flows and include:
 - ✓ Money- as major capital flows are routed through global stock markets
 - ✓ Raw materials - e.g. food and oil traded between nations
 - ✓ Manufactured goods and services - value of world trade is \$70 trillion
 - ✓ Information - internet has brought real-time communication between distant places
 - ✓ People - movement of people still an issue due to border controls and immigration law

TASK

5. Create a case study of Easyjet- an example of a shrinking world. Include some background information, role of technology and current impact of the company.

Being switched off

- Many countries in the world are unable to access global networks.
- Specific conditions have caused them being switched off.

Physical	Human
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Poor soil for farming - No coastline puts investors off as trade is harder - Vulnerability to hazards and climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Low skills of the population - Poor literacy rates - Politically instability - Civil war

vi. Rebranding

KEY INFORMATION

Why rebrand?

There are many reasons why areas need to rebrand and change their image. Some key definitions are:

Regeneration- This is the physical change of an urban or rural area. The intention is to attract investment and bring economic wealth in the area and bring in more visitors.

Re-Imaging- How areas construct and promote a more positive image to increase its popularity.

Rebranding- Helping change to the area to be more attractive to a different target audience.

Before an area rebrands itself, it must look into the following aspects:

- Environmental factors- improving derelict infrastructure
- Social factors- overcoming cycles of decline and poverty
- Economic factors- Improve investment and job opportunities
- Political factors- What money can be brought in from various initiatives and grants?

CBD in decline

- Many CBDs can fall into decline due a number of reasons
 - 1) Increase in rent and costs/upkeep
 - 2) Congestion in town centres puts people off coming in and spending money
 - 3) The rise of out of town shopping centres and outlets
 - 4) Edge of town science parks reducing the need for offices in the centre of town.

TASK

1. Create a cycle of decline for a town where the CBD is suffering. What are the knock on effects?
2. Using the photo of Birmingham below, research how the city has transformed itself.



Decline is countryside villages

Although many countryside areas are deemed as idyllic, the rural community has been hit with many crisis' and images of village life has been portrayed as difficult and sometimes boring. This is due to:

- Wide spread coverage of the food and mouth scandal in 2001, showing the nation horrible images of burning dead animals.
- Pressure groups and coverage of hunting
- Bad reputation- boring, sleeping, backward and unfriendly

This decline has led to a number of challenges for rural areas

- Affordable housing- often large farm houses or bought as second homes. This prices out first time buyers and a younger market
- Depopulation- younger residents moving out because of house prices, university or for job opportunities elsewhere.
- Changes in agriculture- low pay, long hours and increase of mechanisation
- Transport- difficult access and lack of reliant public transport

Previous coalmining areas

Between 1984 and 1997, 170,000 coal mining jobs were lost in England. This has led to a number of challenges in a previous thriving community:

- Ground contamination from the mines and now areas of dereliction
- No grounding for entrepreneurial skills or education as the population went into the coal mining business.
- Long term illnesses sue to the amount of time spent by some in the mines.

Seaside issues

Synoptic link- Tourism! As resorts tend to be seasonal in the UK, this has led to the decline of many seaside resort.

TASK

3. Create a timeline of decline for Blackpool. What have the impacts been? Have there been attempts to improve the area?



Rebranding strategies

Key definition- A stakeholder is an individual or group that has an interest in a particular project. This would be economically or emotionally.

Two types of approaches

- Top down approach where decisions are made by the authorities and then imposed on the specific people or places. The good things about this approach are that many considerations would be looked at and focus of the plans will be strategic.
- Bottom up approach is based on listening to locals and coming up with solutions. The advantage to this is that local will be in control and closely involved with the plans.

- A partnership approach is where a group of people come up with plans however they are made up from many stakeholders and will represent public, private and voluntary sectors.

Rural rebranding strategies

The countryside has a lot to offer and it is important that it is conserved and kept the way it is otherwise it would lose its appeal. When rebranding a rural community you have to think about:



Different strategies used to rebrand the countryside

- ✓ Creating a food town
- ✓ Diversifying the farm land- such as paintballing or festivals
- ✓ Growing organic crops
- ✓ Rural heritage and tourism
- ✓ On farm tourism- horse-riding, clay pigeon shooting or B&Bs
- ✓ Rural energy- HEP or solar plants
- ✓ Farm shops

Case study – Eden project, St Austell

Who were the stakeholders involved with its development?

Has the development been a success? Why?



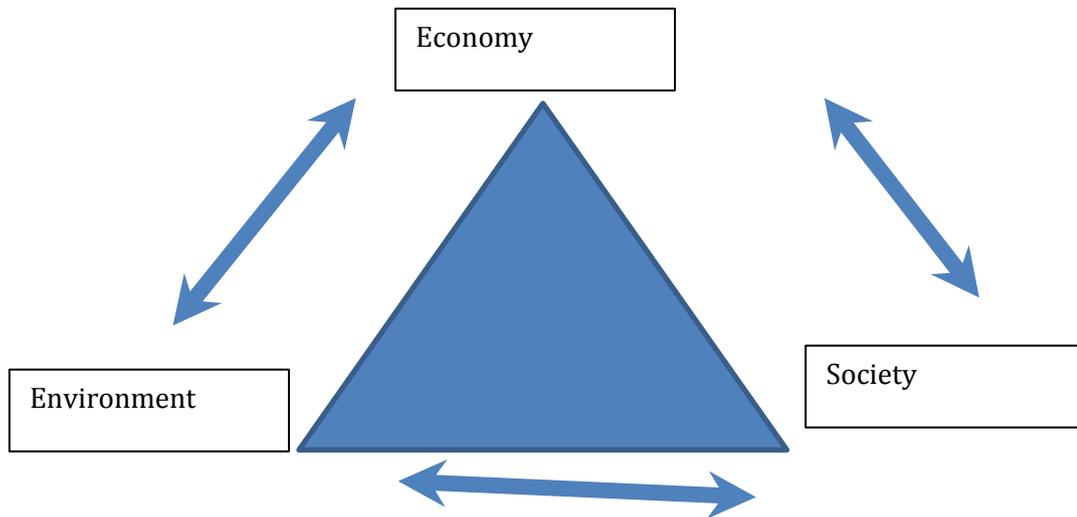
Urban rebranding strategies

Towns and cities thrive on culture and heritage in the UK and when rebranding, it is important to harness these features.

- ✓ Technology led enterprise
- ✓ Sport, art and culture- such as the Tate Modern at Margate
- ✓ Improvements in retail- Bullring in Birmingham
- ✓ Improvement in public transport
- ✓ Themed events throughout the year- Christmas Markets are popular
- ✓ Food cities
- ✓ Redevelopment of warehouses- such as Royal Victoria docks and Docklands
- ✓ Creation of sustainable cities- Curitiba

Sustainable rebranding

More and more redevelopment and rebranding will involve some form of sustainable development.



Case study - Curitiba, Brazil

Research ways in which Curitiba has developed with sustainability in mind.



The World is Out There

1. Check your local museums and visit one that has an exhibition related to Geography eg; Science museum or Natural History Museum in London and the Museum of London (development of a settlement over time)
2. Local museums are great sources of information on development of settlements over time, and local history / culture, including Barnet, Brent, Croydon, Kingston, Bromley, Hackney etc.
3. Any museums outside of London, such as The Shed in Bristol these are great for studying local geography.

Evaluation involves looking at an area before and after rebranding

Rebranding processes should begin with a detailed assessment, measuring the economic, social, environmental and social state of the place before rebranding starts.

Later evaluations can then measure any changes by comparing data – e.g. whether more residents are happy with the facilities after rebranding. They should also take into account the impact on different groups – e.g. local businesses and visitors.

Comparing the data can be a good way of measuring whether the rebranding has been successful, but it can never be completely reliable – e.g. residents might be happier, but that could be because the resident who weren't happy with the rebranding have moved away.

many being based on topics you will study at A level. They are run by university's and are great background preparation for the students. Most of the courses have approximately 3 hrs study time a week.

8. Download news apps onto your phone and read on the go - The Telegraph has a great Travel section and so does The Daily Mail.
9. When visiting somewhere new – eg: on holiday- keep a journal of all the new geographical features you see and try to find out as much as you can about where you are visiting.
10. Use YouTube to watch documentaries on weather change and global warming.