

A-Level Geography Summer Work

Summer 2026

Please see below details of the work that we would like you to complete over the summer - enjoy!

TASK A: Getting familiar with the course

Have a read over the specification which can be found here:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/Geography/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/pearson-edexcel-a-level-geography-issue-6.pdf>

It is also worth looking at the sections on skills and the Non-Examined Assessment (NEA).

TASK B: setting up your files and reviewing your GCSE

Invest in a lever arch file and some file dividers to set up your Geography folder. Dig out and review your notes on **Coastal Landscapes** – you could even put these into your new file if you wanted to.

TASK C: Enrichment in Geography

Choose any ONE of the following and listen / watch / sign up / read etc. For anything you read or listen to, make some notes and be prepared to share in the first few lessons back.

Podcasts

People Fixing the World (BBC)

These series of podcasts look at some of the World's problems and what individuals or small businesses are doing on a local scale to try to come up with solutions. Each is only 20 minutes long....a definite listen!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04grdbc>

Books

Going to Extremes - Nick Middleton

This book goes to the hottest, coldest, wettest and driest places on Earth and looks at how humans have adapted in order to be able to live there.

Prisoners of Geography - Tim Marshall

A must read if you are also studying G&P, History or Economics. You will read about how country boundaries were made and why countries fight over certain areas so much

The Human Planet; How we created the Anthropocene - Simon Lewis

Take a look at how humans in their short time on Planet Earth have created their own footprint engrained in geology forever.

Associations/Lectures

The Royal Geographical Society <https://www.rgs.org/>

You can enrol as a student member and you will receive a monthly magazine and have access to the RGS lectures at their base in London, with lots of great speakers

Magazines

Geographical

A magazine by the RGS covering key issues in geography - a great read with lots of amazing pictures

<https://www.rgs.org/geography/geographical-magazine/>

National Geographic

A bit more of a lengthy read but some amazing stories and images

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/>

Geography Review

A magazine written specifically for A Level geography students

<https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/geographyreview>

Task D – the synoptic themes of geography

There are three synoptic themes across the A level. The synoptic themes incorporate specialist geographical concepts, namely

1. Players
2. Attitudes and Actions
3. Futures and Uncertainties.

Choose **ONE** of the following articles and read it. Read the following articles. Make some notes on which of the synoptic themes are evident in the article. You can use the prompt questions to help.

- Prompt questions:
Who are the key players in these situations?
- What are the different attitudes / viewpoints about these issues?
What is being done to help manage it?
- What is the future for these people / issues? Is it likely to continue, or can it be managed? Why / why not?

1. Water wars: Ethiopia Vs Egypt

<https://news.usc.edu/188414/nile-river-water-dispute-filling-dam-egypt-ethiopia-usc-study/>

2. Why are some countries more vulnerable to natural disasters than others?

https://www.thegeographeronline.net/uploads/2/6/6/2/26629356/gf731_what_makes_people_vulnerable_to_natural_hazards.pdf

3. China has boomed since opening up to trade but what is the downside?

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/environment/2022/11/07/china-pumps-pollution-eight-years-uk-since-industrial-revolution/>

Stretch and challenge (optional): Using the articles as a start for each can you answer ONE of the following questions (this can just be your thoughts – you do not need to write a whole essay!)

Question 1. 'It is a country's level of economic development that will determine how well it copes with natural hazards.' Evaluate the validity of this statement.

Question 2. 'Wars in the future will be fought over water.' To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Question 3. 'Globalisation is positive to all.' To what extent do you agree with this statement?