

Geography A Level

Preparation work: Pre-course Reading, Research and Tasks

Pre-reading and research will help you to become more familiar with the topics you are going to study on your A Level Geography course. If you complete the tasks below, they will also help you to become more confident when you start your course. Remember it is also a good idea to make sure you recap and consolidate your GCSE Geography knowledge as well.

Specification:

A good place to start to look at the A level specification and familiarise yourself with what you will be studying on the course:

<https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/geography/as-and-a-level/geography-7037/introduction>

Task 1:

Produce a 1 side (A4) summary of at least 2 of the following topics that you will be studying as part of your course:

Changing Places:

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/changing-place;-changing-places>

Water and Carbon Cycling:

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/water-and-carbon-cycles>

Hazards:

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/plate-tectonics-and-earthquake-prediction>

Global Systems and Global Governance:

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/global-systems-and-global-governance>

Contemporary Urban Environments:

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/megacities,-urbanisation-and-development>

Case Studies:

<https://www.rgs.org/geography/advocacy-and-impact/impact>

Task 2:

Click on the above link and pick one of the topic that is of interest to you and complete the following:

- 1) Summarise the key issue and its impacts
- 2) What are the solutions and how effective have they been?

Websites for Further Research and Reading:

One of the great things about Geography is that it is always in the news. You must keep up to date with news stories that relate to key topics you will be studying:

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/geography>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/environment>

Tectonics: Build your own volcano at:

https://www.cosmeo.com/braingames/virtual_volcano/index.cfm?title=Virtual%20Volcano

Protect vulnerable populations from natural hazards at <http://www.stopdisastersgame.org>

Urbanisation: Create your own virtual city at <http://www.electrocity.co.nz>

Books to Read:

- **10 Billion** by Danny Dorling
- **Walking the Giant** by Bill McGuire
- **Population and Society** by Claire Holdsworth
- **Prisoners of Geography** by Tim Marshall
- **The Almighty Dollar** by Dharshini David
- **Factfulness** by Hans Rosling
- **Origins: How the Earth made us** by Lewis Dartnell

Podcasts:

Royal Geography Society: <https://soundcloud.com/rgsibg>

School of Geography and the Environment Podcasts from Oxford University

Task 3:

Source one of the above books or listen to one of the podcasts. Write a summary of the key geographical facts and main points you have learnt.

Films to Watch:

- **Lion:** Based on a true story, this is a voyage of discovery that gives an insight into urbanisation in Calcutta
- **The Impossible:** A film that focuses on the aftermath of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami

Progression Opportunities

Why choose Geography A Level:

<https://www.rgs.org/geography/choose-geography/geography-at-school>

Explore the range of careers you can access by studying Geography:

<https://www.rgs.org/geography/choose-geography/careers>

Geography is the “must have” A level:

https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/aug/13/the-guardian-view-on-geography-its-the-must-have-a-level?CMP=share_btn_tw

We hope you enjoy completing these tasks and look forward to you joining the course.

