

# Post-16 Transition Support

## A Level Geography

### Transition Project

In preparation for your course, you should complete the following tasks:

#### Knowledge Topics

##### Coasts: 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.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://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](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?

##### Coasts: Pre-Knowledge Topics

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:

Abandon the line / Abrasion / Accretion / Advance the Line / Arch / Attrition / Attrition / Backwash / Bar / Benefit cost ratio / Berm / Beach nourishment / Blow –hole / Breaching / Char / Constructive waves / Concordant geology / Corrasion / Corrosion / Cusp / Cuspate foreland / Defence line / Deltas / Destructive waves / Differential erosion / Discordant geology / Diurnal range / Do Nothing / Downdrift / Dunes / Eustatic / Fetch / Fiord / Flocculation / Flood / Frequency / Gabion / Geo / Groyne / Halophytes / Hard engineering / High energy coast / Hold the line / Hydraulic action / Isostatic / Isthmus / Longshore drift / Low energy coast / Magnitude / Managed retreat / Mass Movement / Plagioclimax / Psammosere / Recession / Recurrence interval / Retreat the line / Return period / Revetment / Ria / Runnel / Saltation / Sediment cell / Sediment sink / Slumping / Soft Engineering / Spit / Spring tide / Stack / Subaerial

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erosion / Surges / Swash / Swell / Tidal bore / Tidal Range / Tombolo / Updrift / Wave cut platform / Wave crest / Wave energy / Wavelength / Wave period / Wave steepness / Wave refraction / Wave trough / Weathering

### Water Cycle/ Water Insecurity: 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?

### Water Cycle/ Water Insecurity: Pre-knowledge Topics

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

### 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 ¼ 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).*

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- *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.*

### Globalisation: Task

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

1. Research the characteristics of this Spiderman that are Indian rather than American.
2. What is the difference between economic and cultural globalisation? What does this Spiderman represent?

### Global groupings: Key information

- 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.

### Global groupings: Task

1. 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 nation’s economies*
- *Growing global wealth divide – selective investment in certain global areas is creating a widening divide e.g. Southeast Asia vs. sub-Saharan Africa*



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- *Environmental disaster and destruction – example of Bhopal, India disaster in 1984*
2. Create an annotated photo of either your family car or your living room with the various places where the parts/ features were manufactured.
  3. 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: Key information

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

### Networks and hubs: Task

1. 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.

### 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

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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.

### Rebranding: 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 opposite, research how the city has transformed itself.



### Suggested Reading or Viewing

1. Watch some key geographical programmes on TV or on DVD.
2. Read the National Geographical Magazine (this is very focused upon the United States) or take out a subscription to the Geographical Association for Geography Review. You could also subscribe to the RGS publication.
3. Follow some key players on Instagram and Twitter- Such as USGS, National Geographic and NASA.
4. <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses> - These are free online courses that anyone can join with 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.
5. Download news apps onto your phone and read on the go - The Telegraph has a great Travel section and so does The Guardian

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>

There are also many good websites you can use. News and other specific websites are particularly good at keeping you informed and up-to-date, including:

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk) / <http://www.telegraph.co.uk> / <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/> /  
<http://www.geographyalltheway.com/> / <http://www.gatm.org.uk/> /  
[www.geographyiseverything.co.uk](http://www.geographyiseverything.co.uk) / [www.coolgeography.com](http://www.coolgeography.com)