

Into the world of A-Level Geography



The head start booklet.

The essential booklet.

The A-Level preparation booklet.

Name:

Tutor:

Specification

You will be studying the Edexcel A-Level Geography course. Below are all the topics you will cover.

Paper 1 – Physical Paper 30% 2hr 15mins

- Tectonics
- Landscape systems, processes and change (plus coasts)
- The water cycle
- The carbon cycle

Paper 2– Human Paper 30% 2hr 15 mins

- Globalisation
- Shaping places (Diverse places)
- Superpowers
- Global development (plus Health, human rights and intervention)

Paper 3– Synoptic Paper 20% 2hr 15mins

Linking P1 and P2 content to the 3 themes throughout your course, focussing on the 3 themes below.

- Players
- Attitudes and actions
- Futures and uncertainties

Component 4 – NEA 20%

3000-4000 word independent investigation relating to one or a combination of topics.

The specification can be found on the Pearson website. Link:

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/en/qualifications/edexcel-a-levels/geography-2016.html>

Preparations/what you will need

Preparations

In order to get a head start, you should start revising GCSE content and research different A-Level topics. This booklet will help you gain an insight into all A Level topics and provide you with tasks to complete. Again, this will provide an insight to key terminology, data, skills and content.

Short bursts of revision are recommended to benefit retention and engagement. You should spend no longer than 40 minutes at a time on revision or completing this booklet. Any questions, please see the support page at the back.

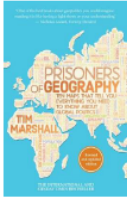
Tasks

- Follow the Geography Department on Twitter @Denefieldgeog
- Revise/memorise GCSE content.
- Revise/memorise GCSE glossaries.
- Create A-Level glossary (online is easier to add to).
- Work through this booklet.
- Complete wider reading.
- Engage in other geographical studies.

What you will need

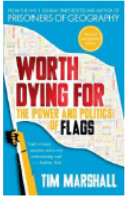
- Expected stationery (black and red pens, normal and coloured pencils, highlighters, scientific calculator).
- Optional stationery (fine tip multi coloured pens, geometry set).
- Optional revision guides.

Wider reading list

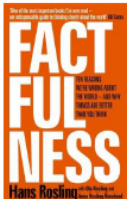
- 1** 

Prisoners of Geography
Tim Marshall

Splitting the world into 10 distinct regions suggests our key political driver continues to be our physical geography. It includes why China and India will never fall into conflict. One of the best books about geopolitics you could imagine!

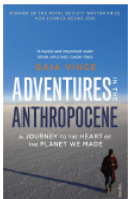
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Worth Dying For
Tim Marshall

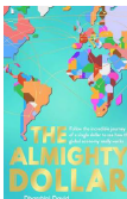
The histories, the power and the politics of the symbols that unite and divide us. We wave them and burn them and still, in the 21st century, we die for them. We need to understand the symbols that people are rallying around.
- 2** 

Factfulness
Hans Rosling

A radical new explanation of why we systematically get the answers to questions about development, revealing ten instincts that distort our perspective. Sweeps aside our worst instincts and makes the world a sunnier place.


9 

Adventures in the Anthropocene
Gaia Vince

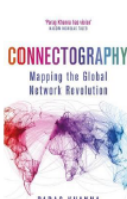
Our planet is said to be crossing into the Age of Humans. This book sees what life is really like for people on the frontline of the planet we've made, from artificial glaciers to electrified reefs.
- 3** 

The Almighty Dollar
Dharshini David

Follows \$1 from a shopping trip in Texas, via China's central bank, Nigerian railroads, the oilfields of Iraq and beyond to reveal the complex relationships of our new globalised world.

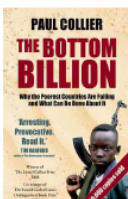
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10 Billion
Stephen Emmott

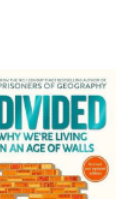
It's about our failure: failure as individuals, the failure of business and the failure of our politicians. It is about an unprecedented planetary emergency. It's about the future of us.
- 4** 

Connectography
Parag Mehta

A guide through the emerging global network civilisation in which megacities complete over connectivity and borders are increasingly irrelevant. Shows how a new foundation of connectivity is pulling together a world that appears to be falling apart.

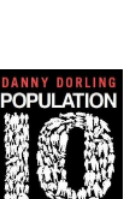
11 

The Bottom Billion
Paul Collier

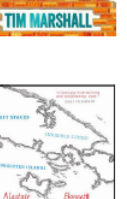
Explains four traps that prevent the homelands of the world's billion poorest people from growing and receiving the benefits of globalisation - civil war, natural resources, being landlocks and ineffective governance.
- 5** 

Divided
Tim Marshall

There are many reasons why we erect walls, because we are divided in many ways: wealth, race, religion, politics. Understanding what has divided us, past and present, is essential to understanding much of what's going on in the world today.


12 

10 Billion
Danny Dorling


Explores how we got to 10 billion and the key issues that we face in the coming decades including how to deal with scarcity of resources and how our cities will grow and how we should prepare for population decline.
- 6** 

Off the Map
Alastair Bonnett

From forgotten enclaves to floating islands, from hidden villages to New York gutter spaces, this book charts the hidden corners of our planet. Topophilia, the love of place, is a fundamental part of what it is to be human.


13 

Peoplequake
Fred Pearce

The population bomb is being defused. Half the world's women are having two children or fewer and within a generation, the world's population will be falling, and we will all be getting very old. This book confronts our demographic demons.
- 7** 

The Silk Roads
Peter Frankopan

Our understanding of the world is shaped by the narrow focus on western Europe and the US. An antidote to Eurocentric accounts of the world, examining several continents and centuries and the factors that influenced the flow of goods and ideas.

14 

This is the Way the World Ends
Jeff Nesbit

Our world is in trouble - right now. This book tells the real stories of the substantial impacts to Earth's systems unfolding across each continent from longer droughts in the Middle East to the monsoon season shrinking in India. A blueprint for real-time, workable solutions we can tackle together.

Library access

Denefield Library

Dewey decimal system. Geography and History is 900.

Use the posters and signs around the library, including on the shelves, to help you browse resources. You can always ask Miss Lloyd or a library helper for assistance.

Online resources

1. Go to <http://www.denefield.org.uk/>
2. Click on "Learning"
3. Click on "Eclipse"
4. Click on "Click here to log in"
5. Log in using your library card number as your username AND password
(Your library card number is the number underneath the barcode)

Once logged in you can use the tabs at the top to view your account, see recommended reading lists, access useful links to other websites. You can also search by key words, titles, genres, subjects and topics etc.

Examples include; "geography" or "geography fact sheets" or "globalisation".

E-books and audio books

On Eclipse you will see that there are e-books you can borrow. You can access even more e-books and audio books, including revision guides using the free app Sora.

1. Go to <https://soraapp.com/welcome> or download Sora from the Apple Appstore or Google Play. Please ask permission although is free.
2. Select "Secondary Ebooks NOW" from the drop down menu.
3. Your username is 21095-XXXX (XXXX = your library card number).
4. Your password is your date of birth. DDMMYY

Note: First time users will need to select "I have a set up code" then type "uksecondary" into the box. Then log in using the steps above. Following your first log in, click the big green button that says "My school is secondary Ebooks Now", then follow the steps above.

Any queries or issues within library resources, please contact Miss Lloyd in the library or BLD@denefield.org.uk

Activities for Tectonics

Previous studies: Earth’s structure, rock types, physical features, tectonic activity, plate boundaries, hazards.

Using a tectonic plates map, describe the distribution of tectonic hazards. Include the different types of plate boundaries.

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Draw and label a convection current diagram

Complete the table below

Plate boundary	Volcanic activity	Landform	Notes
Constructive		Ocean ridge	
Destructive	Explosive		
		Fold mountains	Mountains continue to grow as tectonic plates continue to collide.
Transform			

Explain how a *jokulhlaup* can cause damage.

Find 5 ways buildings can be designed to reduce impacts of tectonic hazards.

Keywords:

Activities for Coasts

Previous studies: rock types, erosional processes and landforms, depositional processes and landforms, transportation, weathering, management.

Categories the factors below into high-energy or low-energy coastlines.

Less powerful waves	Mass movement	Sheltered	Beaches	More powerful	Coastal plain landscape
Cliffs	Short fetch	Rocky landscape	Long fetch	Calmer conditions	Storm conditions
Spits	Wave cut platforms	Deposition	Mudflats	Erosion	Lowland coast

Research, then mind map, the changes to the coastline at Happisburgh, North Norfolk. Use websites such as the Coastal Concern Action group, Eastern Daily Press, or mapping websites that show changes over time (temporal changes).

Explain what happens when *oxidation* occurs.

Complete the table below

<i>Coastal management</i>	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
<i>Groynes</i>		
<i>Cliff regrading</i>		
<i>Revetments</i>		

Keywords:

Activities for Water cycle

Previous studies: water cycle, weather, flooding, drought, water consumption, stakeholders attitudes, water management.

Draw and label the global hydrological cycle.

Explain how the following factors affect drainage basin flows.

Factor	Impact
Vegetation cover	
Slope gradient	
Rock type	

Describe the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). What is it? How does it impact weather?

Research China's South-North Water Transfer Scheme. Mind map the reasons, positive and negative impacts.

Keywords:

Activities for Carbon Cycle

Previous studies: rock types, rock cycle, tectonic activity, physical processes, ecosystems, climate change, resources, impacts of resources.

List as many ways as possible how carbon is released into the atmosphere.

Explain why some countries are energy secure (i.e. have access to enough/surplus of resources to meet the demand).

Using the data below, create a flow-line map or a pie chart. Largest exports of oil (2014)

Russia to Europe 10.63 %	Middle East to China 6.16%	Canada to USA 6.02%	Middle East to Japan 5.63%	Middle East to India 4.34%
Middle East to USA 3.34%	South America to USA 2.84%	West Africa to Europe 2.81%	USA to South America 2.28%	

Research and mind map the positives and negatives about electric vehicles.

Keywords:

Activities for Globalisation

Previous studies: Process, TNCs, measuring development, global patterns and reasons, consequences, migration, Fairtrade.

Using the table below, explain how different factors has allowed globalisation to accelerate at such a fast pace.

Steam Engine (1712)	
Automobiles (1886)	
Jet engine (1929)	
Television (1925)	
World Wide Web (1989)	
Containerisation (1960)	

Define *trade blocs* and give five examples.

Categorise the follow factors into positive and negative impacts of TNC on host countries.

Raising living standards	Technology transfer	Tax avoidance	Higher environmental standards
Environmental degradation	Growing inequalities	Political stability	Unemployment

Explain why we have seen a global shift to Asia. Why have companies decided to open factories in Asia.

Keywords:

Activities for Diverse places

Previous studies: Urban areas in the UK, settlements, changing cities, quality of life, population patterns, migration, core vs periphery, challenges for rural and urban areas, globalisation.

Using census data and a choropleth map (from a trusted source), describe the population distribution and density within the UK.

Find two population pyramids of two contrasting locations within the UK. E.g. Scottish Highlands vs Reading. Draw the pyramid outlines (roughly) then compare the population structure.

Using the crime data below, suggest 4 reasons why it differs within a city. Think about what you may need to research.

Ward	Crime rate (%)	Ward	Crime rate (%)	Ward	Crime rate (%)	Ward	Crime rate (%)	Ward	Crime rate (%)
Anfield	10.29	Central	29.2	Clubmoor	8.59	Croxteth	4.95	Everton	12.79
Mossley Hill	2.93	Norris Green	6.25	Riverside	21.09	Wabec	6.9	Woolton	4.37

Draw and annotate a field sketch of BedZed, Beddington. Think housing and sustainability.

Keywords:

Activities for Superpowers

Previous studies: characteristics of developing and developed countries, global inequalities, TNCs, trade, aid, geopolitical relationships, urbanisation, megacities, resource availability.

Using a blank map outline, highlight the British Empire.

Define neo-colonialism.

Explain how TNCs 'force' government to change laws.

Explain why 32 countries have signed the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement

Keywords:

Activities for Health, human rights and interventions

Previous studies: development, measuring development, migration, patterns of development, NGOs, trade, aid, top down vs bottom up.

Explain why Switzerland has a higher HDI than South Sudan.

Research and describe how the following measures of development are used.

Happy Planet Index	
World Happiness Index	
KOF Index of Globalisation	
Freedom Index	

Using the data below, draw a choropleth map for Life expectancy in Brazil. Identify any patterns

Acre 73.3	Amazonas 71.4	Distrito Federal 77.6	Maranhao 70.0	Minas Gerais 76.7	Para 71.7	Parana 76.5
Rio 75.6	Rio Grande do Norte 75.2	Rondonia 70.9	Santa Catarina 78.4	Sao Paulo 77.5	Sergipe 72.1	Tocantins 72.8

Mind map how education enables countries to be more developed.

Keywords:

Activities for Paper 3

Previous studies: TNCs, stakeholders views, superpowers, resource management.

Players

Mind map as many players as possible.

Attitudes and actions

Mind map the player and their attitude or actions towards X.

Futures and uncertainties

Mind map the player, their attitude and their future plans or how X may be uncertain.

Keywords:

Activities for NEA

Previous studies: Fieldwork skills, write up, data collections, data presentation, analysis, conclusions.

Find a *Harvard referencing guide*. Reference one of the books from your reading list.

Find data on crime rates in a city within the UK. Compare these to the wards in Liverpool. Present this data.

Using this data and research, explain why they differ.

Keywords:

Practice exam style questions

These are examples. By the end of the course, you will be able to answer these.

Paper 1

Tectonics

Explain two strategies that are used to modify vulnerability to volcanic hazards (4)

Explain two reasons why the number of reported earthquakes has risen since 1960 (4)

Explain the causes of tsunamis (6)

Assess the importance of governance in the successful management of tectonic mega-disasters (12)

Assess the factors that contribute to increased impacts from some tectonic hazard events (12)

Coasts

Suggest one reason why the wave frequency differs at two locations (3)

Explain two processes in the formation of offshore bars (4)

Explain how geological structure affects the development of coastal landforms (6)

Explain the physical processes involved in a sediment cell system (6)

Evaluate the view that climate change is the most important factor influencing coastal flood risk (20)

Water

Explain why river regimes might vary between basins (6)

Explain the impact of climate type can have on soil water availability (6)

Explain how the global hydrological cycle operates as a closed system (6)

Explain how physical and human factors contribute to an increased risk of water insecurity (8)

Evaluate the view that some approaches to managing water insecurity are more sustainable than others (20)

Carbon

Explain one reason for changing oil production in the USA (3)

Explain the importance of carbon sequestration (6)

Explain the importance of fluxes to the carbon cycle (6)

Assess the extent to which one or more countries are energy secure (12)

Evaluate the extent to which alternatives to fossil fuel energy sources provide an energy secure future (20)

Paper 2

Globalisation

Define global shift (1)
Suggest one reason why labour costs are significantly cheaper in Bangladesh (3)

Explain two ways change in transport has accelerated globalisation (4)

Assess the extent to which cultural diffusion caused by globalisation inevitably leads to social and political tension (12)

Assess the impact of TNCs on creating both winners and losers for people and the environment (12)

Diverse places

Define national migration (1)

Explain why population density varies within the UK rural regions (6)

Suggest reasons why perceptions of living in an inner city area may vary (6)

Explain why levels of deprivation vary in an urban location you have studied (8)

Evaluate the view that international migration has an important impact on their population characteristics (20)

Superpowers

Define soft power (1)

Explain why defence spending is seen as crucial to the development of superpower status (4)

Explain how soft power can be used to maintain superpower status (4)

Explain the extent to which superpowers influence action on global environmental concerns (8)

Assess the extent to which the USA's superpower status is threatened by emerging economies such as the BRICS (12)

Health

Explain one reason why attitude to gender equality in education vary greatly between countries (4)

Suggest how the postage stamp shows that human rights have become important in international agreements (6)

Explain how development aid can be used to improve human rights (8)

Evaluate the view that economic development always has a negative consequence for minority groups (20)

Assess the methods used in local communities to reduce the impact of globalisation on the environment. (12)

Support

Regardless who your teacher is, all A-Level geography teachers are able to support you through the course. This includes individual topics and your NEA.

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C101

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Assistant Head's office (In English department) or around the Humanities building

Miss Lloyd Librarian

BLD@denefield.org.uk

Library