



# A Level Geography Transition Booklet 2026-27



Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

| Key Areas of Focus             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Introduction to A Level Course | <b>Paper 1:</b> Tectonic Processes and Hazards, Glaciated Landscapes and Change, The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity & The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security.<br><b>Paper 2:</b> Globalisation, Regenerating Places, Superpowers & Health, Human Rights and Intervention |
| GCSE Links                     | Key concepts: sustainability, climate change, resilience, human & physical processes.                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Skills                         | Transferable skills such as: critical thinking, written/verbal communication, data manipulation, analytical skills.                                                                                                                                                      |
| Wider Reading                  | See page 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

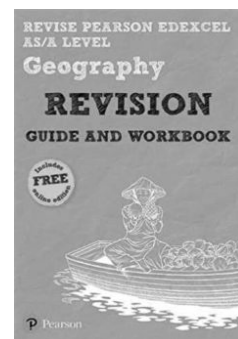
## Reading List for A Level

As a geographer it is important that we are reading books and journal articles to increase our knowledge and understanding of the world around us. It is expected that you are able to show that you have been partaking in wider reading.

Below is a list of resources you might find interesting to read over the summer and throughout the next two years.

As you will be studying Edexcel Geography A-Level, there are a number of textbooks we use in class but it might be beneficial to get a copy of the following revision guide:

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Pearson-Edexcel-Geography-Revision-Workbook/dp/1292270330>



We also recommend the following:

- Prisoners of Geography
- Factfulness
- The Almighty Dollar
- This following link provides and list of 125 books!

[https://www.geography.org.uk/write/MediaUploads/Get%20involved/125\\_books\\_for\\_your\\_A\\_level\\_students\\_to\\_read.pdf](https://www.geography.org.uk/write/MediaUploads/Get%20involved/125_books_for_your_A_level_students_to_read.pdf)

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.

Routes is a journal specifically for student geographers. Here is the link <https://routesjournal.org/>

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.

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

A Geographers, we can use a number of different mediums as sources of information. Using the list below, pick one film or documentary to watch and complete a film review about. These are available on Netflix, youtube or iplayer: *Life in the blue, Dirty Money, The future of water, islands of the future, Wild Japan, Wild Australia, Planet each, 72 dangerous places to live, Wild Alaska, Rotton, The Hunt, Tales by light, Llife, You vs Wild, Dark Tourist, Planet Earth*

|                                                                             |  |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| Watched by:                                                                 |  |  |
| Film:                                                                       |  |  |
| Production Year:                                                            |  |  |
| Link to specification point                                                 |  |  |
| Overall synopsis                                                            |  |  |
|                                                                             |  |  |
| What is the purpose of the source?                                          |  |  |
|                                                                             |  |  |
| Does the source you are using come from somewhere with a particular agenda? |  |  |
|                                                                             |  |  |
| What do you know about the trustworthiness of this source?                  |  |  |
|                                                                             |  |  |
| What would you like to challenge about the source?                          |  |  |
|                                                                             |  |  |

# Globalisation

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.

## What is Globalisation?

Definition:

## 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** What do the acronyms above stand for?

LIC -

HIC -

NIC -

OPEC -

OECD -

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

Research the characteristics of this Spiderman that are Indian rather than American. Describe them below:

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



# Globalisation

## Task

What does TNC stand for?

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.



# Globalisation

The Journal article below is from a Oxford Master's student.

1. Read through the article and highlight the key information.
2. Make a list of any words you are unfamiliar with.
3. Define these.
4. Summarise the article into 5 bullet points.

## **What is globalisation and in what ways does globalization affect social policy ?**

In its general definition, globalization can be defined as an extensive network of economic, cultural, social and political interconnections and processes which goes beyond national boundaries' (Yeates 2001) However its agreed that globalization 'is not a policy option but a fact to which policy makers must adapt' (Wells 2004)

There are different views about the emergence of globalization, it has been regarded as a result of technological development, but also derived from market economy. On top of that there is another claim which says, globalization is an outcome of the capitalist progress (Glazter & Rueschemeyer 2005). As advancement of communication technologies and the increase in productivity necessitate states' expansion of their market territory. The decline in protective social policies, the increase in the incentives for foreign trade and the convergence of free market economy, are all in line with these "perceived" global necessities. Increase in the vulnerability to external fluctuations, shrinkage in the stability of domestic economies, decline in domestic policy autonomy, and restructuring of governance are all accompanied by globalization. The rise of globalization also overlaps with the acts of free trade of goods and finances and the international evolvement of neo liberal programs. In this new frame, states have become an agent which regulates the economic structure according to the wills of the owners of capital and international coordination mechanism.

Following the orders of such mechanism is believed to have diverse effects on states' position, operations and functions in the global community. With globalization, now states began to have a limited number of agents to regulate its internal policies and create resources for redistribution. In that term it could be argued that globalization endangers the social welfare states since it rocks states' sovereignty from its foundation (Deacon 2007; Schwartz 2001) As national governments become more open to the world, the external factors are gaining more power in shaping the state's social policy. Since globalization is found on the principle of higher profit, the level of vulnerability a nation's welfare policies faces depends upon the state's protection against adverse effects of globalization. Formerly welfare policies were formed by taking the domestic situations into account, but in the "modern" era, it is planned in such a way that it is not going to interfere with growth (Yeates, 2001).

The contemporary global events unfortunately further decrease states' sovereignty within their boundaries as they are surrounded by the pressure from multi-national corporations and international capital organizations (Deacon 1997), joining to international organizations are also effects social welfare policies of governments. Because states accept to waive its rights to speak on internal economic affairs. Those states which are dominated by financial sectors start to accept the pressures on decreasing the social welfare expenditures (Jaeger & Kvist, 2003).

On the other hand international organizations such as the United Nations increase its involvement on social issues, on the principle of providing a dignified life for those in need. As a result, recent crisis, the global stock markets have fallen dramatically, giant multinational companies have started to close its branches in other parts of the world, large financial institutions have collapsed, and more importantly wealthiest governments, most of them are leading liberals, have to prepare packages to rescue their financial systems. This global financial meltdown is believed to affect the lives of millions of people all around the world. The American free-market creed has self-destructed while countries that retained overall control of markets have been vindicated' (Shah 2008).

In terms of its effect on other parts of the world, it can be said that for the developing world, the effects of worldwide financial global instability are doubled in magnitude. High fuel costs, high goods prices together with growing uncertainties in the face of global recession make governments worry about the future growth rates. On the other hand countries which are located in Africa, the less integrated continent, are believed not to be affected by the global crisis (Shah 2008). In the European continent, some major financial institutions have failed or come to a position to be saved.

Words I am unfamiliar with and their meanings:

A summary of the article:

### **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

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



1. Locate and label:
  - UK
  - USA
  - China
  - India
  - Bangladesh
  - Germany
  - Brazil
  - Nigeria
  - South Korea
  - Vietnam
2. Then add arrows to show how goods, money, people or information may move between these countries.
3. Next to each arrow, write one of the following. You should add specific examples e.g. South Korea and the exportation of K-Pop to the USA market,
  - trade
  - migration
  - outsourcing
  - manufacturing
  - investment
  - cultural flow
  - information flow

Study the table below.

| Country     | Exports as % of GDP | Internet users % | FDI inflow |
|-------------|---------------------|------------------|------------|
| Singapore   | Very high           | Very high        | Very high  |
| UK          | High                | Very high        | High       |
| China       | High                | High             | Very high  |
| India       | Medium              | High             | High       |
| Nigeria     | Low-medium          | Medium           | Medium     |
| Afghanistan | Low                 | Low              | Low        |

1. Which country appears most connected to the global economy?

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2. Which country appears least connected?.....

3. Why might internet access influence globalisation?

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 .....  
 .....

4. FDI stands for Foreign Direct Investment. Why might FDI make a country more globally connected?

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5. Suggest one limitation of using this table to measure globalisation.

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