

Welcome to A-Level Geography

Congratulations on choosing A-level Geography, we're excited to begin this journey with you.

Please find below an outline of the topics you will be covering in Paper 1 and Paper 2 and the research you should complete for a smooth transition from GCSE to AQA A-level Geography.

Paper 1 focuses on Physical Geography and includes three key topics:

- **The Water and Carbon Cycles**
- **Coastal Systems and Landscapes**
- **Tectonic Hazards**

Paper 2 focuses on Human Geography and includes three key topics:

- **Global Systems and global governance**
- **Changing Places**
- **Contemporary urban environments**

Paper 1

Task 1 A-Level Geography Command Word Match-Up

Instructions:

1. Match each command word in Column A with its definition in Column B.
2. Then match it to a relevant example question in Column C. (*write your answers in the box with the command word (see example)*)
3. Bonus: Choose 2 command words and write your own exam-style questions using them.

Command Words	Definitions	Example Questions
Analyse C iv	A. Give reasons for something, showing causes and effects.	i. "Evaluate the effectiveness of coastal management strategies along the Holderness Coast."
Assess	B. Make a judgement after considering strengths and weaknesses.	ii. "Compare the impacts of tropical storms in an LIC and a HIC."
Evaluate	C. Identify patterns or relationships and interpret what they mean.	iii. "Explain how tectonic hazards are influenced by plate margin type."
Explain	D. Explore both sides of an issue before reaching a conclusion.	iv. "Analyse the link between global atmospheric circulation and tropical storm formation."
Compare	E. Break an idea into parts and explore their significance.	v. "Assess the view that wildfires are primarily caused by human activity."
Justify	F. Give a detailed account of something's characteristics.	vi. "Describe the distribution of earthquakes globally."

Discuss	G. Consider arguments or evidence to reach a supported judgement.	vii. "Suggest reasons why rainfall patterns vary across the UK."
Examine	H. Offer a possible reason or solution based on knowledge.	viii. "Justify the choice of location for your NEA fieldwork investigation."
Describe	I. Look at an idea, topic, or issue in detail.	ix. "Discuss the potential impacts of climate change on the carbon cycle."
Suggest	J. Identify similarities and/or differences between two or more things.	x. "Examine how coastal processes shape different landforms."

2. Key terminology definitions

KEY TERM	DEFINITION
Water and Carbon Cycles	
Closed system	
Store (or reservoir)	
Flux (or flow)	
Precipitation	
Interception	
Infiltration	
Runoff (overland flow)	
Carbon sequestration	
Photosynthesis / respiration (carbon cycle processes)	
Soil moisture budget	
Coastal Systems and Landscapes	
Dynamic equilibrium	
Sediment cell	
Longshore drift	
Sub-aerial processes	
Weathering (mechanical, chemical, biological)	
Mass movement	
Erosion (abrasion, hydraulic action, attrition, corrosion)	
Deposition	
Wave refraction	

Hard engineering	
Soft engineering	
Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)	
Managed retreat	
Constructive vs Destructive waves	
Sea level change (isostatic/eustatic)	
Resilience	

2. Geography Documentary Reflection

Task: Watch the following (or similar) and write a 1-page summary:

- *Netflix: Explained – The World's Water Crisis* Include:
- Key points
- Geography links
- One question you'd like to explore further

3. Independent Case Study Research

Task: Choose one recent hazard event (within the last 2 years) (e.g., earthquake, tsunami, cyclone, wildfire) and create a case study fact file. (this can be done as a PowerPoint) Include:

- Location map and key facts
- Causes (physical and human)
- Social, economic, environmental impacts
- Short-term and long-term responses
- Evaluation: what made it severe?

Paper 2 Focus: Global Governance

1. Watch the introductory video below to gain a greater insight into the meaning of global governance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PGFue66Fgz4&list=PLkocNW0BSuEHDbiRPe8fRm1DyhcyiLBfH&index=32&t=16s>

2. Complete the following independent research for Antarctica using the information provided in the textbook.
 - A. Antarctica: Threats from fishing, whaling and mineral extraction.
 - B. Antarctica: Threats from scientific research and climate change.