

A Level OCR **Geography** - Bridging Work

Tasks:

1. Complete section 'Systems set yourself up for success'
2. Complete task on Characteristics of your local place.
3. You might want to carry out some wider reading (optional). Suggested sources are listed.

TASK 1: Systems - Set yourself up for success

1) Print off the specification (H481) and familiarise yourself with the topics we cover that you will need to know by the end of this course. The topics we cover are Coasts, ELSS, Changing Spaces Making Places, Global Migration, Powers and Borders, Exploring Oceans and Hazardous Earth. You will find the spec on the link below.

<https://ocr.org.uk/Images/223012-specification-accredited-a-level-gce-geography-h481.pdf>

2) Buy the following equipment:

- An A4 lever arch folder & some dividers (pack of ten)
- Plastic wallet - to bring resources to and from school
- A4 lined notebook with perforated pages (to transfer notes to file)
- A full pencil case to create memorable notes



3) There is an A level textbook which would be worth buying (available on amazon, ebay and others) - the second edition is fine (and much cheaper) than the third edition. Find it here: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/OCR-Level-Geography-Second-Michael/dp/1471858707> (if not we have copies to loan).

4) Join Google Classroom: Google Classroom Code: **bfi5dz3w**

TASK 2: Characteristics of your Local Place

Research the characteristics of your local place (town or village) and present your findings in your preferred way (mindmap, written document, include relevant images) - keep your finished piece to two sides of A4

What to include:

- Natural Characteristics (e.g. the geology, altitude, shape of land, physical features- rivers, forests etc.)
- Demographic Characteristics (e.g. the age structure and ethnic mix)
- Socio-Economic Characteristics (e.g. income, employment, education, wealth, health, housing tenure etc.)
- Cultural Characteristics (e.g. religious festivals and other cultural events)
- Political Characteristics (e.g. the local council and community groups involved in making changes to the place)
- Built Environment (e.g. the architecture, types of buildings etc.)
- Past characteristics (e.g. what did it used to be like – industry, population, employment etc.)
- For extra challenge – how do you think the past has developed your local place today?

Some useful sites to get you started:

<https://www.google.co.uk/maps/>
is a good starting point to see your location

<https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/>
(this provides census data for info to use for the demographic and socio-economic characteristics)

<https://www.bfi.org.uk/bfi-national-archive/your-britain-film>
look to see if there is any video footage of your local place (use to talk about the past characteristics)

<https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/>
useful to see the geology of your area (natural characteristics)



TASK 3: Research a topic and write a summary using Cornell Notes technique

Carry out some wider reading that you think links to the topics “Changing Spaces, Making Places” and “Earth Life Support Systems” (our first two topics) (some suggestions below or find your own). Prepare ½ page of notes on why you picked the articles and how it links to the topic. One of the best ways to take notes at A Level is by using ‘Cornell Notes’ Find out what the Cornell Notes technique is here: <https://www.goodnotes.com/blog/cornell-notes>



Wider Reading suggestions for Task 2:

Earth Life Support Systems

In this topic you will explore the importance of carbon and water, the processes involved in the carbon and water cycle, how carbon and water cycle cycles operate differently in the Amazon and the Arctic, the impact of climate change on the water and carbon cycles and how they can be managed.

Suggestions:

- Audio: Forests and the Carbon Cycle: <https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/forests-and-the-carbon-cycle/>
- Reading: a good starting point read <https://pmt.physicsandmathstutor.com/download/Geography/A-level/Notes/OCR/Earths-Life-Support-Systems/Set-A/Notes%20on%20Earth's%20Life%20Support%20Systems%20-%20OCR%20Geography%20A-level.pdf>

Changing Spaces, Making Places

This is a very new topic to A level geography. Essentially, it is the investigation into what makes an area a ‘place’. In this unit we look at a range of places on different scales to investigate how places change over time, how we perceive different places, the different ways places are represented, how economic change can alter inequality in and between places and how places can be created through placemaking processes such as regeneration and rebranding.

Suggestions:

- TED Talk “Why the wrong side of the tracks is usually the east side of the tracks” https://www.ted.com/talks/stephen_deberry_why_the_wrong_side_of_the_tracks_is_usually_the_east_side_of_cities#t-219215
Video: Changing Places – watch both parts – “Slumming it” – Dharavi <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Im0tHRs9Bng>
Interactive: Changing Places – a good story map introduction – work your way through <https://focusschoolwiltomaps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=f10c512164d0498d8f3bcfad8ae61d39>
- Reading: Changing Places – a good starting point read <https://pmt.physicsandmathstutor.com/download/Geography/A-level/Notes/OCR/Changing-Spaces-Making->

Optional TASK: Wider watching/reading

Finally...optional – read a book/watch a film/listen to a Podcast about a geographical topic. There are new articles and films all the time - be ready to tell us about it!

Suggestions:

i. ONLINE NEWS ARTICLES

THE CONVERSATION.COM <http://theconversation.com/uk> We can highly recommend you use this! It provides up-to-date articles from academics and specialists in the field written in a way that is accessible to all, summarising key points in short but insightful articles.

BBC NEWS <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news> - an excellent source of up-to-date articles – explore the key headings such as Science, as well as the UK, World and other stories.

THE GUARDIAN <https://www.theguardian.com/uk> - many useful articles and logically ordered – keep an eye on the Environment, Science, Society, Global Development stories

ii. **PODCASTS** Now is the time to broaden your geographical understanding! Stick your headphones in and listen to some of the following...

Costing the Earth

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006r4wn/episodes/player> (topics including climate change, carbon, urban greening, deforestation, alternative power, plastics etc.)

Royal Geographical Society – “Ask the Geographer”

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/resources-for-schools/ask-the-geographer-podcasts>

TED Talks – Great short, powerful talks (18 mins or less) covering many topics.

iii. **BOOKS** Remember you can make use of the local libraries digital library service for books – you don't have to access hard copies, although most can be bought fairly cheaply on Amazon or you can listen to them on Audible.



Prisoners of Geography (Marshall, T) – a fascinating book which helps understand how physical geography impacts on political reality (Powers and Borders topic)



Factfulness: Ten reasons we're wrong about the world – and why things are better than you think (Rosling, H 2019) – this is a must-read book from a geography perspective

iv. GEOGRAPHICAL FILMS

The Swimmers - inspiring true story of 2 sisters escaping war torn Syria to pursue a dream of swimming in the Olympics. <https://www.netflix.com/gb/title/81365134>

The Impossible (2012) (12) – Movie based on real life events of the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami. Netflix: <https://www.netflix.com/gb/title/70251895>

Slumdog Millionaire (15) – based on life in the slums of Mumbai.

Amazon Prime: <https://www.amazon.co.uk/Slumdog-Millionaire-Dev-Patel/dp/B00FYNIHSO>

Hotel Rwanda (12) - the true story of hotel manager who houses and protects Tutsi refugees – this is a hard-hitting film based on the Rwandan Conflict of the 1990s.

Amazon Prime: <https://www.amazon.com/Hotel-Rwanda-Xolani-Mali/dp/B002BVOY7G>