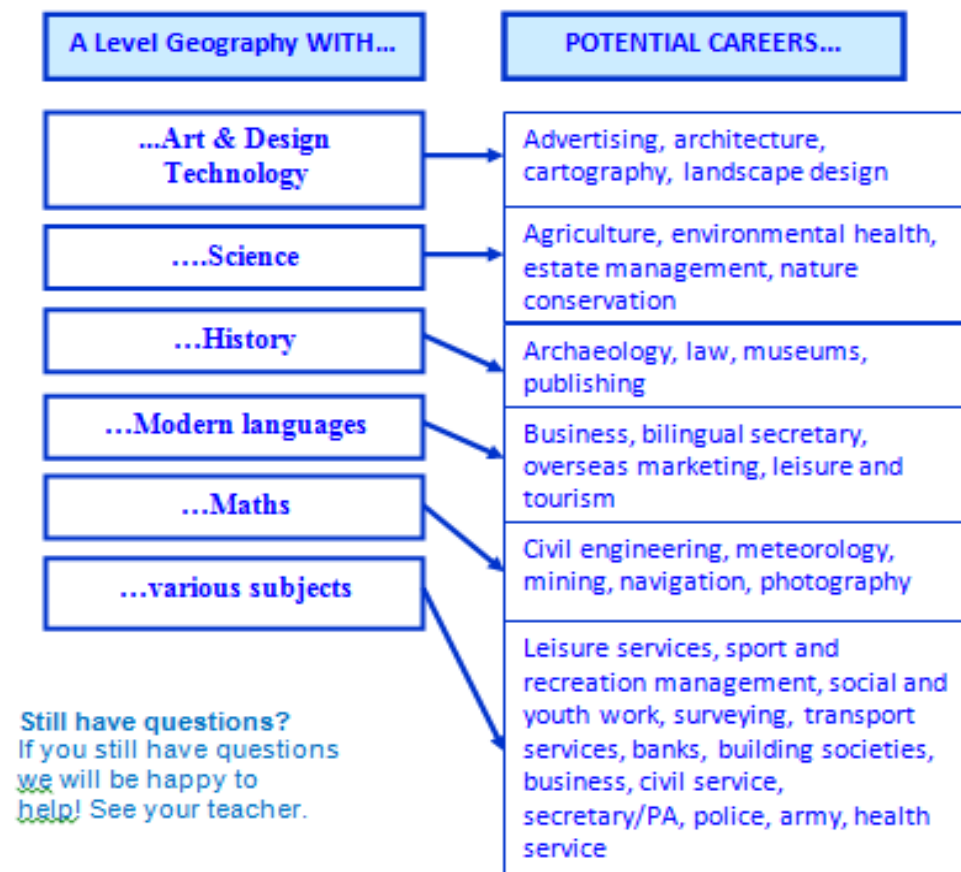


# Employability

- ① Geography is a highly topical subject, ever changing as world events unfold.
- ② Universities are extremely interested in humanities subject because of the skills that are learnt.
- ③ It can lead to exciting job opportunities, and develop skills in communication and thinking skills.



# A - Level Geography



## What does it entail?

AS Michael Palin says, "Geography is the subject which holds the key to our future."

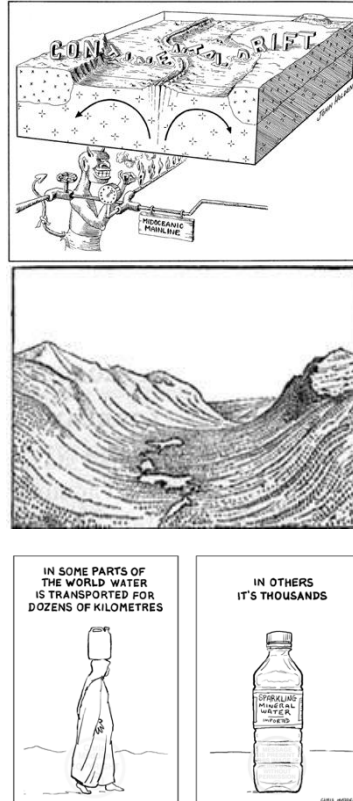


### Paper 1 – ‘The Physical Paper’

This paper is a 2 hour 15 minutes examination and will test the students understanding and application of physical geography. The paper is 30% of the overall A Level.

Topics that will be covered are...

- 1) Tectonic processes and hazards
- 2) Glaciated landscapes and change
- 3) The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity
- 4) The Carbon Cycle and Energy Insecurity



### Paper 3 – ‘Synoptic Themes Paper’

This paper is a 2 hours and 15 minutes and will test students around the compulsory synoptic themes. This will be bested around a geographical issue that will be rooted in two or more the compulsory themes in the course. The paper is with 20% of the A Level. The synoptic themes are...

- 1) Players – who are the stakeholders involved
- 2) Attitudes and uncertainties – people differing viewpoints and how this influences actions
- 3) Futures and uncertainties – How geographical decisions will affect the future.



### Paper 2 – ‘The Human Paper’

This paper is a 2 hour 15 minutes examination and will test the students understanding and application of human geography, this will cover a variety of topics across the human geography spectrum. This paper is 30% of the overall A level

Topics that will be covered are...

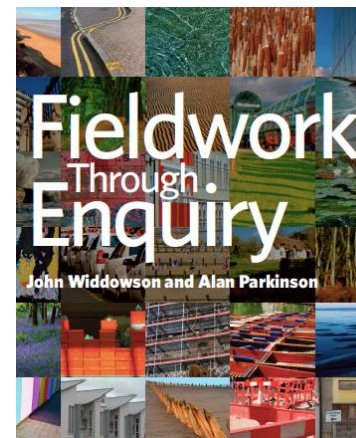
- 1) Globalisation
- 2) Regenerating Places
- 3) Superpowers
- 4) Health, Human Rights and Intervention



### Element 4: Non- examination assessment (NEA)

A core element of this section is 4 days of fieldwork. This is a piece of coursework that is between 3000-4000 words and is worth 20% of the assessment in the A Level. It will look at investigation process from start to finish. The focus is on one element of the specification and must include both human and physical elements. It looks at elements such as...

- 1) Data Collection
- 2) Data Interpretation – analysis and conclusions
- 3) Evaluative techniques
- 4) Secondary Data Research



## Topic 1 – Tectonic processes and hazards

This topic looks at the processes that pose a large risk to many part of the world.

There are many places in world where there is an interaction between these dangerous processes and high population density. This topic addresses how and why some places are more vulnerable than others. This is looked at through three key questions

- 1) **Why some locations are more at risk from tectonic hazards?**
- 2) **Why do some tectonic hazards develop into disasters?**
- 3) **How successful is the management of tectonic hazards and disasters?**

This question will be assessed through 4 mark short responses question and and 12 mark – ‘assess’ style questions.

## Topic 2 – Landscape Systems, Processes and Change – Coastal Landscapes and Change.

This topic looks at the process that created and develop landscapes in the UK and around the world. It looks at the landscapes that created by coastal processes. The topic progresses to looking at the use of the landscape by humans and how these environments need to be managed effectively through management and control of the system. The topic will be looked at through 4 key questions:-

- 1) **Why are coastal landscapes different and what processes cause these differences?**
- 2) **How do characteristic coastal landforms contribute to coastal landscapes?**
- 3) **How do coastal erosion and sea level change alter the physical characteristics of coastlines and increase risks?**
- 4) **How can coastlines be managed to meet the needs of all players?**

This question will be assessed using a range of shorter questions 6 marks and 8 mark, and a 20 mark essay question.



## Physical Topics in A Level Geography

## Topic 3 – Water Cycle and Insecurity

This topic looks at the importance of water on the planet. The water cycle operates on different scales and short and long-term timescales. It examines the circulation of water on the land, in the oceans and in the cryosphere. The topic then begins to examine the reasons and consequences behind water insecurity and the management strategies that can be put into place to ease this problem.

The topic examines the 3 key enquiry questions:-

- 1) **What are the processes operating within the hydrological cycle from global to local scale?**
- 2) **What factors influence the hydrological system over short- and long-term timescales?**
- 3) **How does water insecurity occur and why is it becoming such a global issue for the 21st century?**

This is assessed through a mixture of short and longer 12 mark ‘essay’ style questions

## Topic 4 – The Carbon Cycle and Energy insecurity

This topic looks at the importance of the carbon cycle in maintaining planter health. The topic examines the importance of carbon stores and fluxes and why this has an impact on physical and human processes. This topic further examines the role of feedback in both the water and the carbon cycle. Towards the end of the topic we look at the reliance on fossil fuels have on the changes on carbon stores and how this has contributed to anthropogenic carbon emissions. This topic examines the following key enquiry questions:-

- 1) **How does the carbon cycle operate to maintain planetary health?**
- 2) **What are the consequences for people and the environment of our increasing demand for energy?**
- 3) **How are the carbon and water cycles linked to the global climate system?**

This question is assessed through a 20 mark essay.

## Topic 1 – Globalisation

This topic looks at the global interdependence and the impact this has on the changes for business and people. It further examines the inequalities that exist at a country and global level. Looking further at cultural impacts. It look closely at the key players involved in globalisation such as the World Bank, the IMF and International monetary fund. This topic is assessed through three key enquiry questions:

- 1) **What are the causes of globalisation and why has it accelerated in recent decades?**
- 2) **What are the impacts of globalisation for countries, different groups of people and cultures?**
- 3) **What are the consequences of globalisation for global development and how should different players respond to its challenges?**

Students will assessed on this topic through short answer questions and a 12 mark 'essay

## Topic 2 – Regenerating Places

This topic looks at the dynamic nature of places and how they vary demographically and culturally. There are several processes that shape these places – this is done through the movement of people, capital, information and resources. These processes creates and exacerbates social inequalities both between and within local areas. Variations in past and present connection lead to varied lived experiences. Students will look at places where they love and understand the context of this place on the local, national and international scale. This topic is looked at through four enquiry questions:

- 1) **How do population structures vary? – Local place examples and a contrasting place**
- 2) **How do different people view diverse living spaces?**
- 3) **Why are there demographic and cultural tensions in diverse places?**
- 4) **How successfully are cultural and demographic issues managed?**

This will be assessed through shorter questions and a longer 20-mark essay



## Topic 3 - Superpowers

This topic looks at the world dominance of particular countries. However, dominance of these countries has changed over time and as China and India are developing, they are becoming threats to the current superpowers. These superpowers have a large influence on the global economy, global politics and the environment. The spheres of influence of these superpowers are often contested and result in implications for the countries involved. This topic will address the following three enquiry questions...

- 1) **What are superpowers and how have they changed?**
- 2) **What are the impacts of superpowers on the global economy, political systems and the environment?**
- 3) **What spheres of influence are contested by superpowers and what are the implications of this?**

Students will be assessed through short answer questions and a longer 12-mark essay.

## Topic 4 – Health, Human Rights and

This topic studies health and human rights, and the reason why they are contested in different parts of the world – to the extent that military action I sometimes used to defend human rights in some countries. This is assessed through four enquiry questions...

- 1) **What is human development, and why do levels vary from place to place?**
- 2) **Why do human rights vary from place to place?**
- 3) **How are human rights used as arguments for political and military intervention?**
- 4) **What are the outcomes of geopolitical interventions in terms of human development and human rights?**

This topic is assess through 2 short questions and a 20 mark essay.