

## Lancaster Royal Grammar School Geography Department:    **Becoming an A Level Geographer**

### **Bridging work for year 11**

The Pre-U A Level encourages students to be inquisitive about the world around them. It should build on the topics and skills learnt at GCSE and help you develop your knowledge and understanding of geography.

An outline of the GEOGRAPHY A LEVEL course is shown here:

### **A Level Exam Board: Cambridge PreU**

<https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/cambridge-pre-u-geography-9768/>

4 Exam papers

Paper 1	Global Environments: 20%
Section A	Glacial and periglacial environments
Section B	The Atmospheric Environment
Paper 2	Global Themes: 20%
Section A	People, Place and Conflict
Section B	The Provision of Food
Paper 3	Geographical Issues: 40%
Section A	Tectonic Hazards and Hydrological Hazards
Section B	Health Issues and Spatial inequality and poverty issues
Section C	Combines Physical and Human Geography
Paper 4	Research: 20%    Small scale ecosystems

No Controlled Assessment but there are fieldtrips

To help you prepare for September it would be useful to explore the resources that are available to A Level Geographers, complete some or all of the enrichment activities given below and **complete the tasks** as suggested here. You should email me ([atalks@lrgs.org.uk](mailto:atalks@lrgs.org.uk)) and/or your geography teacher for advice or to show what you have done.

Specific tasks that you should aim to complete before September. You will be asked to bring in your bridging work early on in the new term for you to share.

### **For the physical geography component of the course you should complete these activities on Atmospheric Processes**

- 1) Complete this future learn course. It lasts 3 weeks from when you start: <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/come-rain-or-shine>
- 2) For Physical Geography print off a surface pressure chart for any one day for the UK and annotate it to explain what is going on:  
<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/maps-and-charts/surface-pressure/>

- 3) Keep a weather log of significant events relating to weather and climate. E.g. Cyclone Tauktae hits India 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021
- 4) Watch an online lecture from the Royal Geographical Society and make notes on it. Here is a selection on climate change: [https://www.rgs.org/all/?categories=OnlineLecture,TheCarbonAndWaterCycles\\_ClimateAndChange](https://www.rgs.org/all/?categories=OnlineLecture,TheCarbonAndWaterCycles_ClimateAndChange) (You will need the login details for the RGS given below)
- 5) Complete your own piece of weather fieldwork e.g. develop a way of assessing the microclimate of your garden/house

**For the Human geography component of the course you should complete these activities on Inequality and Poverty**

- 1) Choose a Low Income Country e.g. Somalia and produce a powerpoint examining its geography (map, flag, facts), the reasons for poverty and assessment of its future. The BBC country profile site is good alongside CIA factbook, Guardian newspaper, UNDP and here is an RGS lecture (login below) on this country: <https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/somalia-the-world%e2%80%99s-most-failed-state-james-fe/> also the Borgen project is good <https://borgenproject.org/tag/somalia/>
- 2) Examine one of the Sustainable Development Goals and assess the progress made so far: <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>
- 3) Research the question and write a short essay: To what extent is the Coronavirus an inequality virus? <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/09/america-inequality-laid-bare-coronavirus>
- 4) Take photographs and produce a photo essay on inequality and poverty in the area where you live.

**Exploring Geography online resources:**

**For geography news why not follow the LRGS twitter account:**

[https://twitter.com/LRGSGeography?ref\\_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor](https://twitter.com/LRGSGeography?ref_src=twsrc%5Egoogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Eauthor)

**Royal Geographical Society:** This site hosts lectures, and has a wealth of geographical resources

**Website:** <https://www.rgs.org/schools/>

Username: Username: [618259@rgs.org](mailto:618259@rgs.org) Password: GB747AOK

**The Geographical Association:** This is a teacher geography organisation but it has lots of useful resources and links.

**Website:** <https://www.geography.org.uk/home>

**Username: 333 Password: Lrgs2020!**

**The Geographical Magazine: Lots of interesting geographical articles**

**Website:** <http://geographical.co.uk/>

**Other useful links:**

**Top Geography weblinks**

**Digimap for Schools:** username: LA13ef password: twelds3777

**Staffordshire Learning Network:** <http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/>

The SLN best Geography weblinks page which has loads of useful links: <http://www.sln.org.uk/geography/7-11wl.htm>

**Geography Pods** - <http://www.geographypods.com/>

**BBC Bitesize Geography** - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/subjects/zrw76sg>

**Dorchester Learning Network links:** <http://www.dlconline.co.uk/index.php/links-mainmenu-23/52-geography>

**Views of the world:** <http://www.viewsoftheworld.net/>

**National Geographic:** <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>

**New Internationalist:** <https://newint.org/books/reference/world-development/case-studies>

### **News**

BBC – <http://www.bbc.co.uk/>

The Guardian – <http://www.theguardian.com/>

National Geographic: <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>

Science Daily - [https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/earth\\_climate/geography/](https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/earth_climate/geography/)

Independent: <http://www.independent.co.uk/>

**The main focus for term 1 of the Lower sixth is for Physical Geography the Atmospheric Environment and for Human Geography Inequality and Poverty. Here are some specific links for these topics.**

### **Paper 1 Global Environments**

#### **Section B**

#### **The Atmospheric Environment**

Meteorological Office: <http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/>

Royal Meteorological Society: <http://www.metlink.org/>

A Level links: <http://www.metlink.org/secondary/a-level/>

Metlinks to everything about the weather: <http://www.metlink.org/secondary/a-level/aqa-asa2-geography/>

Weather online <http://www.weatheronline.co.uk/>

Cool Geography: <http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/A-level/AQA/Year%2013/Weather%20and%20climate/Weather%20and%20climate%20main.htm>

Nasa: <http://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/>

World Meteorological Organisation: <http://www.worldweather.org/en/home.html>

International Panel for Climate Change: <http://www.ipcc.ch/>

BBC weather: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather/>

A student blog: <http://geogblogstudents.blogspot.co.uk/2012/03/weather-and-climate-and-associated.html>

RGS: <http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/Teaching+resources/Weather+and+climate+resources/Key+Stage+Five.htm>

The British Geographer: <http://thebritishgeographer.weebly.com/weather-and-climate-and-hazards.html>

Youtube links:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7RE6hEge66h80ksFN4bFaiDd0XAb8wy>

## **Human Geography**

### **Paper 3 Geographical Issues**

#### **Section B Spatial Inequality and Poverty Issues**

**Definitions:** <http://www.poverty.ac.uk/definitions-poverty/social-exclusion>

UN Development Programme: <http://www.hdr.undp.org/>

The World Bank: <https://www.worldbank.org/>

**BBC country profiles:** [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/country\\_profiles/default.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/country_profiles/default.stm)

World Factbook <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/docs/profileguide.html>

**Worldmapper:** <http://www.worldmapper.org/display.php?selected=174>

**Country classification:** [http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp\\_current/2014wesp\\_country\\_classification.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/wesp/wesp_current/2014wesp_country_classification.pdf)

**Development Theory: A Level revision summary:** <https://revisionworld.com/a2-level-level-revision/sociology/world-sociology/sociological-explanations-development-under-development/modernisation-theory>

**Causes of poverty:** <http://borgenproject.org/what-causes-global-poverty/>

**Famine:** <https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/story/new-nation-new-famine>

**This has an interesting discussion on famine:** <https://twitter.com/hashtag/famines>

**Causes of poverty:** <http://www.globalissues.org/article/3/structural-adjustment-a-major-cause-of-poverty>

**Inequality:** <https://makewealthhistory.org/2011/11/22/five-causes-of-inequality/>

There is much debate regarding whether the world is becoming more equal or not: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19WmfKE1Rtc> is really good on this.

**BBC on global inequality:**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-30939041/the-world-s-wealth-in-60-seconds>

**BBC:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-30901455/a-richer-world-but-for-whom>

**MDGs:** <https://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/>

[https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sdgoverview/mdg\\_goals.html](https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sdgoverview/mdg_goals.html)

**SDGs** <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/sustainable-development-goals/goal-1-no-poverty.html>

**Practical Action:** <https://practicalaction.org/>

Addressing Global poverty: **Other ideas:**

1) **World Bank and IMF debt relief.** Debt Initiative for Heavily Indebted Poor Countries. The HIPC programme.

<http://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/Sheets/2016/08/01/16/11/Debt-Relief-Under-the-Heavily-Indebted-Poor-Countries-Initiative>

**A critic:** <https://kmckinna.wordpress.com/2014/09/06/critical-reflection-on-the-hipc-initiative/>

2) **Micro-finance** e.g. the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh now a global player.

<http://www.grameen.com/>

3) **Private foundations** – Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/>

4) **Fairtrade** - <http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/>

5) **DFid: Department for International Development:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-international-development>

6) Money for Madagascar: <https://moneyformadagascar.org/>

Aid debate: [http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/GCSE/AQA/Development\\_Gap/Aid/Aid.htm](http://www.coolgeography.co.uk/GCSE/AQA/Development_Gap/Aid/Aid.htm)

**Regional Development:**

**Northern Powerhouse:** <https://northernpowerhouse.gov.uk/>

**Urban regeneration** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tees\\_Valley\\_Regeneration](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tees_Valley_Regeneration) <https://www.theguardian.com/business/2015/oct/03/shops-call-centres-not-answer-for-urban-regeneration-redcar>

<http://www.infrastructure-intelligence.com/article/jun-2016/teesside-can-boom-again-says-new-heseltine-report>

**The Newcastle Gateshead Initiative:** <http://www.ngi.org.uk/>

**Tourism:** <https://www.visitengland.com/destinations/north-east-england>

Hull City of culture 2017: <https://www.hull2017.co.uk/>

**Poverty in Lancaster District:** <http://www.the-olivebranch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Lancaster-District-Poverty-Statistics-June-2015-2.pdf>

<http://www.lancasterguardian.co.uk/news/charities-reveal-pockets-of-high-child-poverty-1-5457459>

<http://dclgapps.communities.gov.uk/imd/idmap.html>

<http://www.the-olivebranch.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Lancaster-District-Poverty-Statistics-June-2015-2.pdf>

**Enrichment opportunities in Geography**

Before you arrive in September do one or more of the following:

Activity	Resources	Outcome
<p>Enter the <b>RGS Young Geographer of the Year Competition</b>. <b>The deadline for all entries is Thursday 22 July 2021 at 5.00pm.</b></p>	<p>Title of the competition: <b><i>Remapping our lives</i></b></p> <p><i>Details and entry requirements:</i> We are interested to see maps which illustrate and describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Which local human and physical features they and their family used during the pandemic</li> <li>• Why some places were especially important to young people</li> <li>• The places they couldn't visit and why</li> <li>• If the pandemic has led to them experiencing any new places in their local area</li> <li>• How the pandemic changed their geographical understanding of their local area</li> <li>• Any links which 'stretch' their maps to other places which were also important to them during the pandemic</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/young-geographer-of-the-year/2021-competition/">https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/young-geographer-of-the-year/2021-competition/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>General entry criteria</b></p> <p>KS2, KS3 and KS4 students will produce an A3 size entry. This can be handmade (then sent in electronically via a scanned copy or photograph) or using PowerPoint, Word, Publisher or PDF, etc.</p>	<p>You are considered to be KS5 students if you are in the Sixth Form and KS4 in year 11.</p>

	<p>KS5 students will produce an <a href="#">Esri Story Map</a> containing no more than 1,500 words.</p> <p>ArcGIS story maps: <a href="https://storymaps.arcgis.com/">https://storymaps.arcgis.com/</a></p>	
Financial Times Essay competition	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>School Essay competition with the Financial Times</b></p> <p><i>Explain how transport changes might help the world to achieve the goals of the Paris Agreement.</i></p> <p>The Financial Times gives free access to schools to their publications  <a href="https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/school-essay-competition/">https://www.rgs.org/schools/competitions/school-essay-competition/</a></p>	Deadline 1 October 2021 at 5.00pm.
Enter the Geographical Association <b>Physical Geography Photograph Competition</b>	<p><b>2021 details still not available.</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.geography.org.uk/Physical-geography-student-photo-competition">https://www.geography.org.uk/Physical-geography-student-photo-competition</a></p>	You'll also have to complete a short (250 words maximum) paragraph as well.
Weather photographer of the year competition	<a href="https://www.rmets.org/weather-photographer-year-2021">https://www.rmets.org/weather-photographer-year-2021</a>	Deadline 29 June 2021
Write for the new online Geographical journal called Routes	<p><b>Details can be found here:</b> <a href="https://routesjournal.org/">https://routesjournal.org/</a></p> <p>The journal offers space for all areas of geographical scholarship, including both human and physical geography.</p> <p>Routes is a free, open-access journal with no pay walls or subscriptions.</p> <p>LRGS have had two articles published by this online magazine.</p> <p>They are looking for essays, research projects, fieldwork, poetry etc etc anything geographical and interesting. Please look at their website for details.</p>	
<p><b>Read one of the following Geographical books</b> or of course one of your choice.</p> <p>The school library has some of these books.</p>	<p>The <b>“Very short introduction”</b> series is excellent. They are short but pitched quite high.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Globalisation – A very Short Introduction by Manfred B. Steger</li> <li>- Plate Tectonics – A Very Short Introduction Peter Molnar</li> <li>- Global Warming – A very Short Introduction by Mark Maslin</li> </ul> <p><b>“Edgelands”</b> by Michael Symmons Roberts and Paul Farley is different!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Quirky book about places on the edge, from canals and embankments to dens and landfill sites</li> <li>- Really well written and interesting with lots of NW England examples</li> </ul> <p><b>Simon Winchester</b> on natural disasters is excellent too</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- “Krakatoa: The Day the World Exploded”</li> <li>- “A Crack in the Edge of the World” about the 1906 San Francisco earthquake</li> </ul> <p><b>“Blood River: A journey to Africa’s Broken Heart”</b> by Tim Butcher 2008</p> <p>A brilliant book for looking at the impact of conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo.</p> <p><b>“Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death and Hope in a Mumbai slum”</b> by Katherine Boo 2012</p> <p>An amazing portrayal of life in the slums</p> <p><b>“The Boy who harnessed the wind”</b> by William Kamkwamba 2009</p>	What book did you read over the summer and what did you learn from it?

	<p>Fascinating story of overcoming problems in Malawi  <b>“Chasing the monsoon”</b> by Alex Frater 1991 Very amusing description of the monsoon in India.  <b>“The Great Arc”</b> by John Keay 2000 About mapping India. It is amazing!  <b>“Confessions of an Eco-sinner”</b> by Fred Pearce 2008. He is a very good writer on Geographical themes.  Food issues: <b>Stuffed and Starved: The Hidden Battle for the World Food System</b> - Revised and Updated by Raj Patel  <b>The Silk Roads: A New History of the World</b> by Peter Frankopan  <b>The New Silk Roads: The Present and Future of the World</b> by Peter Frankopan  <b>Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Tell You Everything You Need to Know About Global Politics</b> by Tim Marshall  <b>Divided: Why We’re Living in an Age of Walls</b> by Tim Marshall  <b>Peoplequake: Mass Migration, Ageing Nations and the Coming Population Crash</b> by Fred Pearce  <b>The Last Generation: How Nature Will Take Her Revenge for Climate Change</b> by Fred Pearce  <b>Collapse</b> by Jared Diamond  <b>Arctic Dreams</b> by Barry Lopez  <b>Touching the Void</b> by Joe Simpson <b>The Ice Man</b> by Alan Parkinson -  <b>Mission Explore series</b></p>	
<p>Explore one of these websites:  Royal Geographical Society and Geographical Association</p>	<p><b>Geographical Association:</b> <a href="https://www.geography.org.uk/home">https://www.geography.org.uk/home</a>  <b>Username: 333 Password:Lrgs2020!</b>  <b>Royal Geographical Society:</b> <a href="https://www.rgs.org/schools/">https://www.rgs.org/schools/</a>  Username: 618259@rgs.org  Password: GB747AOK  <b>Geographical magazine:</b> <a href="http://geographical.co.uk/">http://geographical.co.uk/</a>  <b>Digimap for schools: username LA13ef password:twelds777</b> <b>Has now gone global</b></p>	

Enjoy the time to study the world!

Andrew Talks  
Head of Geography  
Lancaster Royal Grammar School,  
East Road,  
Lancaster  
LA1 3EF  
[atalks@lrgs.org.uk](mailto:atalks@lrgs.org.uk)