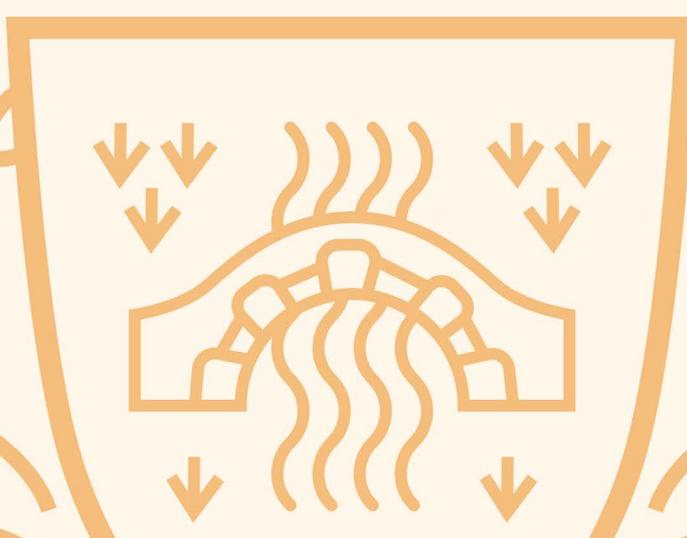




BLANCHELANDE
COLLEGE

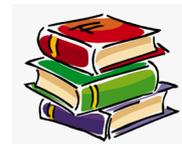
Sixth Form Bridging Courses



Geography

Geography

Bridging tasks to prepare for A Level



Suggested Reading

Prisoners of Geography (Marshall, T) – an insightful book which helps understand how physical geography impacts on political reality and really helps to understand how decisions of world leaders have been shaped by geography – a great introduction to geopolitics.

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 – this takes a more realistic view of the world, presenting issues in fact-based context. It is a rational look at actually how far the world has measurably improved and what's left to be done.

Adventures in the Anthropocene (Vince, G) (2016) – this looks at the effects that humans are having on the surface and structure of the planet with a balanced view on recognising threats and dangers whilst also look for practical answers and solutions.

The New North: The world in 2050 (Smith, L) (2012) – a book that turns the world literally upside down. Analysing four key 'megatrends' - population growth and migration, natural resource demand, climate change and globalisation - UCLA professor Larry Smith projects a world that by mid-century will have shifted its political and economic axes radically to the north.

Additional Stretch Reading – Topic based:

Plate Tectonics (The Geological Society) – this will be a good step up from your GCSE work to A Level and is definitely worth reading / working through

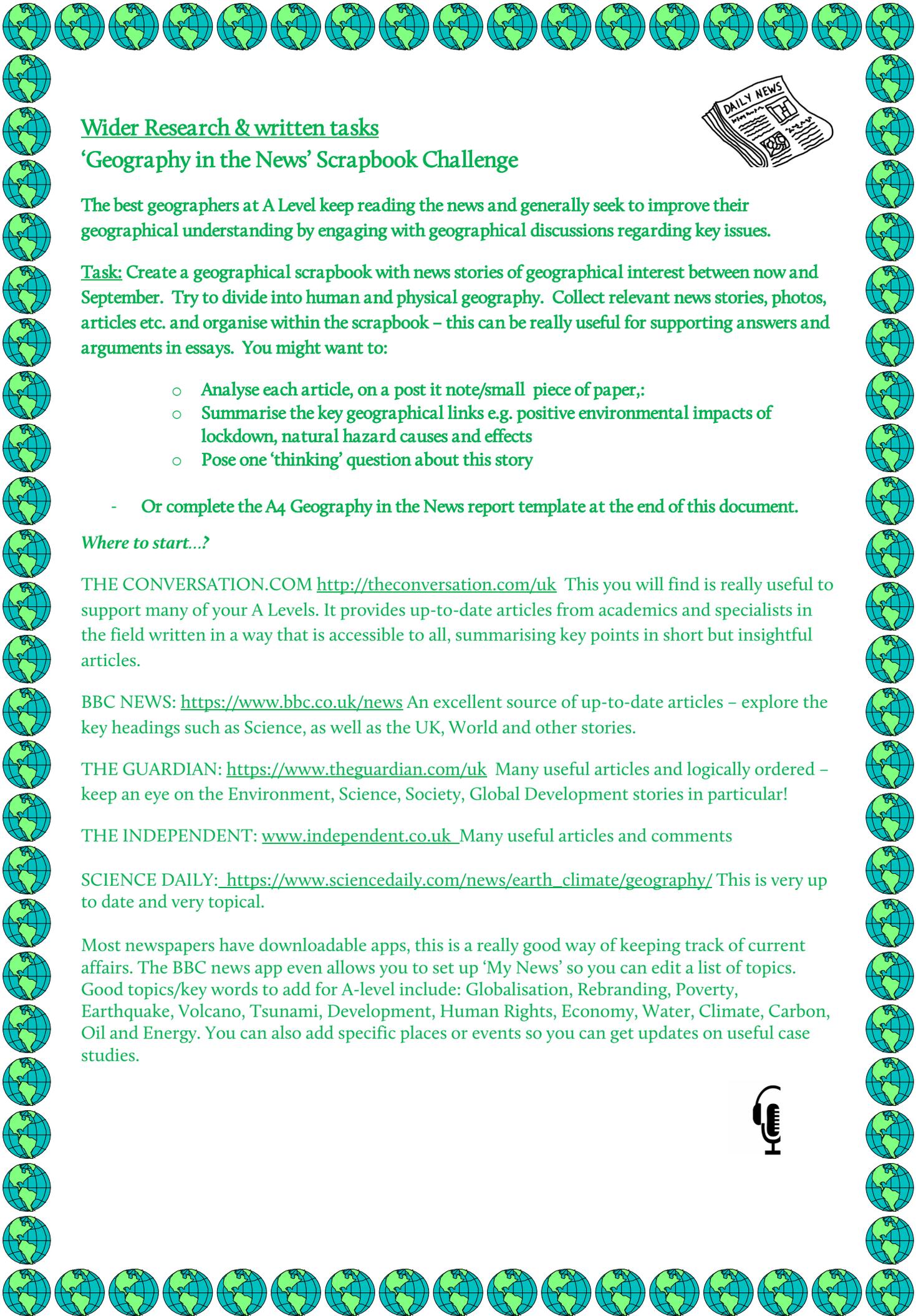
<https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/PlateTectonics>

USGS Natural Hazards – <https://www.usgs.gov/faq/natural-hazards> – some excellent reading here in bitesize chunks.

Reading Tasks – Follow up

You should select at least one of the suggested reading texts . If you choose to read more, great! For each of the texts you read, try to record what you have learned by:

- List any key terms from the text in a vocabulary list/glossary, researching their meanings
- Create a picture mind-map of the key ideas. Use doodles and images to illustrate these.
- Complete the A4 Book Report at the end of this document.



Wider Research & written tasks

'Geography in the News' Scrapbook Challenge

The best geographers at A Level keep reading the news and generally seek to improve their geographical understanding by engaging with geographical discussions regarding key issues.

Task: Create a geographical scrapbook with news stories of geographical interest between now and September. Try to divide into human and physical geography. Collect relevant news stories, photos, articles etc. and organise within the scrapbook – this can be really useful for supporting answers and arguments in essays. You might want to:

- Analyse each article, on a post it note/small piece of paper,;
- Summarise the key geographical links e.g. positive environmental impacts of lockdown, natural hazard causes and effects
- Pose one 'thinking' question about this story

- Or complete the A4 Geography in the News report template at the end of this document.

Where to start...?

THE CONVERSATION.COM <http://theconversation.com/uk> This you will find is really useful to support many of your A Levels. 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 in particular!

THE INDEPENDENT: www.independent.co.uk Many useful articles and comments

SCIENCE DAILY: https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/earth_climate/geography/ This is very up to date and very topical.

Most newspapers have downloadable apps, this is a really good way of keeping track of current affairs. The BBC news app even allows you to set up 'My News' so you can edit a list of topics. Good topics/key words to add for A-level include: Globalisation, Rebranding, Poverty, Earthquake, Volcano, Tsunami, Development, Human Rights, Economy, Water, Climate, Carbon, Oil and Energy. You can also add specific places or events so you can get updates on useful case studies.





Podcasts

Podcasts are a great way to not only develop your understanding of a topic, but to keep on top of geography in the news whilst on the go! If you listen to a podcast, try summarising your learning in the A4 Podcast report and the end of this document.

Costing the Earth – There are some great podcasts here to pick from on a wide variety of geographical issues

Royal Geographical Society – “Ask the Geographer podcasts” -

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/ask-the-expert-podcasts/> - a fantastic set of podcasts to keep A Level studies up-to-date with the latest geographical research – pick out some that interest you and give them a go! If you have read **Tim Marshall’s ‘Prisoners of Geography’**, access the podcast conversation with him through RGS here:

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/a-conversation-with-tim-marshall/>

People fixing the world – BBC World Service – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p04grdbc> - a podcast sharing brilliant solutions to the world’s problems. Interviews of people with ideas to make the world a better place and investigate whether they work. **Episode suggestions:** [The big transport swap](#), [Forecasting volcanoes](#), [Saving the world’s ice](#), and [Can we save coral?](#)

The Documentary Podcast – BBC World Service –

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02nq0lx/episodes/downloads> - this podcast covers a variety of global developments, issues and current affairs. **Episode suggestions:** [Finland’s race to go carbon neutral](#), [Lethal force in Rio’s favelas](#) and [Will China and America go to war?](#)

Floodlines – The Atlantic - <https://www.theatlantic.com/podcasts/floodlines/> - a detailed analysis at the unnatural (yet natural) disaster that was Hurricane Katrina. This series features the stories and voices of those affected by Hurricane Katrina and attempts to unpick the human causes of why this particular natural disaster was so devastating.

TV, Video and Film



There are some great videos, TV programmes and films that will inspire your geographical minds! Here are some places to start:

Vox (YouTube): <https://www.youtube.com/user/voxdotcom/videos> - an incredible visual resource that helps you cut through the noise and understand what's driving events in the headlines and in our lives. **Playlist suggestions:** [Climate Change](#), [Vox Borders](#) (Covering conflicts in India, China, Colombia, the Arctic and many more), and [Vox Atlas](#) (Geopolitics around the world).

TED-Ed (YouTube): <https://www.youtube.com/user/TEDEducation/playlists> - an educational resource on various topics with graphics that may help to consolidate your understanding of physical processes. **Playlist suggestions:** [The power of nature](#) (Natural Hazards), [Troubleshooting the world](#) (Climate and Natural Resources), and [Our changing climate](#) (Climate Change).



Hans Rosling, The Gapminder Foundation (YouTube):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMbmqUMqzerMSM48pGYMYsg> - a 'fact tank' providing incredible statistical information that makes plenty of interesting points about gaps in wealth and health, history, inequalities between countries.

Films

- Touching the Void (15) (great for visualising glacial landscapes) – a powerful true story docudrama (strong language in parts)
- Before the Flood (2016) (PG) – National Geographic
<https://www.filmsofraction.org/watch/before-the-flood-2016/> (presented by Leonardo DiCaprio – exploring climate change and looking at what needs to be done today to prevent catastrophic disruption of life on our planet.
- The Impossible (2012) (12) – Movie based on real life events of the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami which killed 200,000 people.
- Slumdog Millionaire (15) – based on life in the slums of Mumbai
- Our Planet (Netflix series) – explores how climate change impacts all living creatures.
- Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom (12) – an epic which celebrates the journey of Nelson Mandela from childhood in a rural village through to his election as President of South Africa. This explores what happened in South Africa with regards to apartheid and Black opposition through the eyes of Nelson Mandela.
- 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.
- The Last King of Scotland (15) – another hard-hitting story, based on struggles faced by Uganda under the dictatorship of Idi Amin.
- Into the Wild (2007) (15) – based on the story of a university graduate who gives up all of his material possessions and journeys alone into the Alaskan Wilderness

The next set of tasks are more focussed on preparing yourself for the A-level course content.

Physical Geography Bridging Tasks

Task 1: Physical Geography: Water and the Carbon Cycle

1. Find a diagram of the carbon and water cycles – on each of the diagrams do the following...

- ✓ Define all the key terms on the diagrams
- ✓ How might the temperature affect the water and carbon cycle? (Think about different places in the world – i.e. the tropical rainforest and the Arctic.)

- 
- ✓ Read the following article <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2011/feb/11/forests-treesclimate> Summarise the key points and explain how this creates climate change – this should be about 2 paragraphs max

Task 2: Physical Geography: Hazards

At A level we will study water and carbon cycles and tectonic hazards. Haiti is a multihazardous place. Research the hazards that Haiti faces and write a report on why Haiti is considered a multi-hazardous country. Use the following headings, the word counts are guidelines:

- Where is Haiti? [100 words and map]
- What is the socio-economic background of Haiti? [around 200 words] Think about population, average age, GNP, literacy rates etc
- What are the hazards that Haiti faces? [around 500 words] Refer to specific examples e.g. the 2010 earthquake and Hurricane Matthew in 2016 saying what happened (death tolls, homeless figures etc)
- Why is Haiti so vulnerable to hazards? [around 400 words] Use your section on socio-economic background alongside research on the natural environment of Haiti to explain why any disasters are so bad in Haiti.
- How can Haiti respond to hazards? [around 300 words] Think about short and long term responses
- Why does Haiti find it hard to respond to hazards? [around 400 words] Use your section on socio-economic background alongside research on the natural environment of Haiti to explain why Haiti struggles to respond to natural hazards
- Conclusion [100 words] Summarise your report saying why Haiti is a multi-hazardous country

Human Geography Bridging Tasks

Task 1: Human Geography: Changing Places

Read the following journal about the concept of a Global sense of place by Doreen Massey.
<https://www.unc.edu/courses/2006spring/geog/021/001/massey.pdf>

Write notes in the margin next to each paragraph to help you make sense of it. Only when you have read the whole thing, attempt to answer the questions below, as best as you can:

1. What is your understanding of the term 'internationalisation' and is there another term that you could use as a synonym?
2. What main challenges does Massey believe exist due to the internationalisation that we have experienced globally?
3. How do we 'experience' place? In other words, in what ways can we experience this 'sense of place' that Massey discusses?
4. Describe your understanding of the 'time-space compression' concept using examples from literature.

Task 2: Challenges

You will be creating a report comparing to urban areas from different countries. This report will look at the key challenges that each location is facing and attempt to compare these. Please read the guidance below and present this report. You will be investigating the issues facing 2 contrasting urban areas in 2 contrasting countries.

- Introduction (200 words) Describe some of the main issues that urban areas are facing
- Annotate a map of the UK with the following information (100 words) 5 major cities + Population of each city, Average income of each city, Unemployment rate in each city, Ethnicity of each city
- Annotate a map of Brazil with the following information: 5 major cities + Population of Rio de Janeiro, Average income of Rio De Janeiro, Unemployment rate of Rio de Janeiro, Ethnicity of Rio de Janeiro.
- Conduct some research to identify the key social and economic issues that London is facing. Use specific data to help support what you are saying. Once you have done this you need to do the same for Rio de Janeiro. (600 words)
- Conduct some research about the London 2012 Olympics and the Rio de Janeiro Olympics (2016). Focus your research around the impacts that the Olympics have had on the social, economic and environmental issues you have discussed previously. This should be done using a separate section for each city. (600 words)
- Compare the impacts that the Olympic games have had on both Rio de Janeiro and London. Consider the social, economic and environmental impact this has had on people (500 words)
- Write a final conclusion to discuss the differences between urban areas at different levels of development (200 words)

Other ideas - Stuck? Select one of the tasks or activities from the grid below

<p><i>Create a personal geography map of your own area-include photographs, personal reflections and how it may change in the future (Regenerating Places)</i></p>	<p><i>Watch one documentary on Climate Change- Create 20 questions that people could answer if they were to watch the documentary.</i> https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m00049b1 (Carbon and energy)</p>	<p><i>Read the essential notes on (Superpowers)</i> https://pmt.physicsandmathstutor.com/download/Geography/A-level/Notes/Edexcel/7-Superpowers/Essential%20Notes%20-%20Superpowers%20-%20Edexcel%20Geography%20A-level.pdf Use a timeline to show explain how superpowers have changed over time</p>
<p><i>Create a glossary for Tectonics</i></p>	<p><i>(Health, Human Rights and Intervention)</i> Give three ways in which the World Health Organisation (WHO) are helping to control the spread of Coronavirus</p>	<p><i>Produce a mind map of the multi- hazard area of the Philippines (Hazards)</i></p>
<p><i>In one typed side of A4, explain what 'geography' means to you.</i></p>	<p><i>Explore the RGS website, as well as the Geographical Association's website. These will be useful places for the next two years!</i></p>	<p><i>Water as a resource is the most fought over commodity. To what extent do you agree with this statement? Read some reading on the Water Cycle and Water Conflicts from resource security to help your answer. (Water Security)</i></p>



GEOGRAPHY BOOK REPORT

Book title:

Author:

Date:

Submitted by:

Author background:

Summary of key points:

Links to specification:

Lesson to take away:

Thought provoking quotes:

Notable statistics:

Questions that I still have:



GEOGRAPHY IN THE NEWS REPORT

Article title:

News outlet:

Date:

Submitted by:

Writer background:

Summary of key points:

Links to specification:

Lesson to take away:

Thought provoking quotes:

Notable statistics:

Questions that I still have:

GEOGRAPHY PODCAST REPORT



Podcast title:

Broadcaster:

Date:

Submitted by:

Broadcaster background:

Summary of key points:

Links to specification:

Lesson to take away:

Thought provoking quotes:

Notable statistics:

Questions that I still have: