

A-Level Geography Pre-Year 12 tasks

Geography is a very complex subject which encompasses our everyday lives. As the recent events of 2020 have shown the globalisation and connectivity of people has resulted in this year being like none other in living memory. The world has essentially shut down...

The Year 12 course starts with the following two topics:

Population and the Environment (Human Geography)

Water and Carbon Cycles (Physical Geography)

Tasks for Population and the Environment

This topic looks at how the population density and distribution of people on Earth is determined by the climate, water supply and soils in each biome. Within this there are many links to the spread of diseases, levels of development and population structure.

Task 1: On the internet find 2 maps to show the population distribution and density of people on Earth, then find a map to show the global biomes. For each biome get a definition of the characteristics and key locations.

Using the population distribution and density maps annotate the areas on Earth where most people are found. Do this for each continent, add on any large cities you know and physical features such as deserts and mountain ranges. When you have done this use the biome map and your annotated maps to see which biomes are able to support the largest numbers of people. Can you spot a trend?

Task 2: Linking into Task 1, find a population density map of Egypt, then research its population and why it has such a distinctive pattern.

Task 3: To show the link between the spread of disease and the population pick 2 of the following diseases and create a timeline to show the global spread through the human population.

Ebola

Covid- 19

Coronary Heart Disease

Malaria

These disease are linked to varying factors, some are linked to lifestyle whilst others are climatic. You need to know:

What the disease is

How it is spread

When and where it first originated

Geographic factors which play a role (maybe find a map of the distribution)

Government responses

Water and Carbon Cycles

Task 1: Get the definitions of the following key terms:

Water Cycle: System, evaporation, condensation, precipitation, evapotranspiration, interception, infiltration, surface run off, throughflow, ground water flow, percolation, bed rock, aquifer

Carbon Cycle: Carbon Dioxide, Combustion, fossil fuel, respiration, photosynthesis, phytoplankton, sedimentary rock, decomposition, oceanic current

Task 2: Find a definition of the Water Cycle and the Carbon Cycle, for each draw an annotated diagram showing the stores and flows using the keywords from Task 1.

Task 3: Use the internet to create a detailed case study of the deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest in South America. You need to include:

The location of the Amazon Rainforest, including the countries it is located within

The size and carbon storage potential of the Amazon

How the carbon cycle operates within the rainforest, this will also link into the water cycle

How people use the Amazon, what materials can be mined, forested and extracted?

How much of the Amazon has been deforested? Which areas are worst hit, when did it start to happen? Who is responsible for this?

What action is being taken by the governments of South American countries?

What action is being taken on a global scale, by different governments and organisations?

How large is the impact of commercial farming in areas which have been deforested?

Documentaries to watch:

Netflix

Into the Inferno: With stunning views of eruptions and lava flows it captures the raw power of volcanoes.

The Boy who harnessed the wind: About water shortage in Malawi and a boy who makes a windmill to pump water.

Cowspiracy: Investigate the food and meat industry.

Rotten: Docuseries travels deep into the heart of the food supply chain to reveal unsavoury truths.

Africa: Documentary series about Africa. Narrated by David Attenborough

Our Planet: Stunning Sir David Attenborough series investigating the different biomes and their varied flora and fauna.

Planet Earth and Planet Earth 2: The Irreplaceable Sir David Attenborough explores some of the world's different biomes

Blue Planet: More geographical joy from Sir David who takes us deep underwater to explore the world's oceans and seas.

Wild Caribbean: Explore the turbulent natural history and rich diversity of the Caribbean islands.

The Dark Tourist: David Farrier's eight-part series looks at unconventional destinations across the world. From the radioactive villages of Japan following the 2011 tsunami to the voodoo villages of South Africa.

Dirty Money: Dirty Money is a Netflix original television series which tells stories of corporate corruption, securities fraud and creative accounting. ... Each episode focuses on one example of corporate corruption and includes interviews with key players in each story.

Explained: From YouTube sensations, VOX Creators, each episode is 16-18 minutes long with each focusing on a different topic. There are plenty of geographical based ones to choose from including the World's Water Crisis.

72 Dangerous Places to Live: Get up close and personal with avalanches, fiery volcanoes and other natural disasters and learn why some people choose to live in their destructive paths.

Films

Before the Flood (2016): Before the Flood, presented by National Geographic, features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, travelling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change first-hand. He goes on expeditions with scientists uncovering the reality of climate change and meets with political leaders fighting against inaction.

An Inconvenient Truth and An Inconvenient Sequel (2006, 2016): These films follow Al Gore on the lecture circuit as the former presidential candidate campaigns to raise public awareness of the dangers of global warming and calls for immediate action to curb its destructive effects on the environment.

The Impossible (2012): The story of a tourist family caught in the destructive and

chaotic aftermath of one of the world's most devastating natural disasters. Based on real life events of the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami which killed 280,000 people.

Slumdog Millionaire (15): A Mumbai teenager reflects on his life after being accused of cheating on the Indian version of 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire'. Based on life in the slums of Mumbai and the realities of urban life in one of the world's largest megacities.

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): Based on the events of the brutal Ugandan dictator Idi Amin's regime as seen by his personal physician during the 1970s.

Lion (2016): An Indian man who was separated from his mother at the age of 5 and adopted by an Australian family return home determined to find his birth family. Highlights the realities of slum life.

BBC iPlayer: bbc.co.uk/iplayer

David Attenborough Box Sets

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06m42d9>

The Americas with Simon Reeve

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m00095p0/the-americas-with-simon-reeve>

Simon Reeve around the world

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06rrnkm>

Mediterranean with Simon Reeve

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b0bnb6tt/mediterranean-with-simon-reeve>

ITV Player: www.itv.com/hub/itv

Britain Underwater: Fighting the Floods

<https://www.itv.com/hub/britain-underwater-fighting-the-floods/7a0157>

Joanna Lumley's Hidden Caribbean: Havana to Haiti

<https://www.itv.com/hub/joanna-lumleys-hidden-caribbean-havana-to-haiti/2a7578>

Channel 4 On Demand: www.channel4.com

When the Immigrants Leave (Dispatches)

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/dispatches/on-demand/69555-001>

China's Lonely Hearts (Unreported World)

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/on-demand/56011-011>

The world's dirtiest river (Unreported world)

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/on-demand/58399-001>

Forests of Fear (Unreported World)

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/on-demand/69224-006>

Hurricane Hell (Unreported World)

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/on-demand/69224-007>

The World's Dirtiest Air (Unreported World)

<https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/on-demand/6719>