



Preparing for Year 12 Geography

1. Buy a folder and set of dividers– bring these to your first lesson in September. This will help you be organised from day 1!
2. Join the twitter feed @DAOSGeography (a good source of information as you will need to read current affairs to discuss in class – look at past tweets for ideas for the bridging project)

Outline of the course

The AQA course has several topics you will not be familiar with however there will be elements that shall build on your knowledge from GCSE, helping to deepen your knowledge and understanding. There are only two terminal exams at the end of year 13 and an independent report.

The website where you can access the specification is www.aqa.org.uk and the specification number is geography (7037).

Exam 1 = Physical geography topics

- Water and Carbon cycles
- Glacial systems and landscapes
- Hazards

Exam 2 = Human geography topics

- Global systems and global governance
- Changing places
- Resource security

Geography fieldwork Investigation

- Non-Examined Assessment: Written report 4000 words

The teaching is split between two teachers. One teaches mostly human and the other mostly physical.

Bridging Project – You must complete this as you will use it in the first few lessons

By the end of the summer you should have a basic understanding of the following:

- What the systems approach is,
- How the different systems in physical geography may connect together; and,
- How humans can impact the different systems

In the first lessons especially you will use this to discuss with others in the class.

The bridging project is to get you to start reading, thinking and doing what geographers do best, presenting information in different ways.



Task 1. – Reading and writing!

What do you understand by the systems approach in geography?

Help: If you google “systems approach in geography” you will find many different definitions. You will need to read these different definitions, perhaps looking for common ideas and then formulate your own opinion based on what you have read. Remember if you don't understand a word or idea in a definition you are reading, do not give up. Carry on and read about that word or idea which will then help you fully understand the definition you are reading about. This is called reading around the subject, a skill which you need to learn how to do!

Task 2. – Thinking and linking!

1. Create an image like the one below of the 5 spheres of physical geography.
2. Using the image create geographical links/connections like the example below. You don't need to write everything out as long as you can explain your link to others.
3. Create a key; use different colours to categorise your aspects. (There is no right or wrong way to do this as long as you can justify why you categorised the links/connections in that way).

Example:

A physical geography link is that the Lithosphere connects to the biosphere as rocks break down to help form different soil types. (Don't worry if you didn't know that!)

A human connection would be that humans are impacting the biosphere by deforestation.

