

A-Level Preparation into the Sixth Form 2026

Geography

The A level Geography course is an exciting, topical and contemporary subject. You will be following the Edexcel specification, which will include topics such as:

Y12	Y13
Tectonic Processes and Hazards	Energy Security and Carbon Cycle
Globalisation	Water Cycle and Scarcity Issues
Regenerating Places	Superpowers (inc. USA, Brazil, Russia, India and China)
Coastal Landscapes and Change (inc. development, erosion, landforms, risks)	Global Development and Connections (inc. development, IGOs and SDGs)
	Health, Human Rights and Intervention

It is essential for A level geographers to keep up to date with current happenings in the world. Much of the course is supported by detailed case studies of geographical events or situations and you will be expected to read a quality newspaper as part of your background reading e.g. The Times, The Guardian, The Independent.

The BBC website contains a wealth of information. As well as the BBC online news area, there are various radio shows, which you can download and listen to. BBC Radio 4 hosts shows e.g. In our Time, Material World, Costing the Earth and From Our Own Correspondence. You do not need to listen to every show but check the listings beforehand to see if they contain any relevant information.

The following are a selection of magazines, which contain a vast array of relevant articles. All the magazines have websites, which you may be able to download articles from e.g. National Geographic, The Economist, Geographical Magazine, New Scientist.

Geography can be represented through TV programmes and travel writing. See below for a selection:

Travel writing/Photography suggestions	TV Programmes
Bill Bryson: Icons of England, African Diary, Neither Here Nor There, Notes from a Small Island	Documentaries: Planet Earth, Blue Planet, Men of Rock, History of the British Isles
Michael Palin: Around the World in Eighty Days	Current affairs: Dispatches (Channel 4), Panorama (BBC 1)
Yann Arthus-Bertrand: The New Earth from Above	Films: Chasing Coral (Netflix), The Edge of Democracy (Netflix), Before the Flood (Disney Plus)

Summer task

Write a 500-word report on the most important geographical issue facing the world in 2025. The choice is completely yours and can either be from any part of the course (see Y12 and Y13 table above). In your report you need to state why you believe this is the biggest issue and provide evidence you have researched to support the argument in your report and suggest what can be done to solve this issue. Topics can include but are not limited to: extreme weather events, sea level rise, global water scarcity, transnational migration, housing affordability, global inequality and international conflict.