



The Thomas Hardy School

Summer Preparation Task

Geography A Level
AQA 7037

Purpose of task:

To explore some of the human and physical concepts covered during the two year A-Level course and to give your teachers a sense of your current level of geographical understanding and skills.

Task:

To produce a 1,500 word essay based on the question, “**What is the geography of your favourite place?**”. Your essay should:

- ✓ Discuss the relationships and connections between the social, cultural, political and environmental geography of your favourite place
- ✓ Consider how your favourite place is changing, the processes behind these changes, and any potential challenges that it may be facing
- ✓ Discuss the people and/or activities that make your favourite place meaningful
- ✓ Examine how your experience of your favourite place may differ from other peoples’
- ✓ Discuss the links and interconnectivity between your favourite place, the local and the global

Recommended resources:

Visit the link below for more information and examples of winning work from previous years.
<http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Schools/competitions.htm>

Tourism sites for your specific location

Google Maps/Bing Maps

Organisation websites e.g. National Parks, Conservation, UNESCO

Websites for particular events e.g. Olympics

Key terms to consider:

Social, cultural, political, environmental, environment, change (past and future), interconnectivity, global impact, identity

Additional Information:

‘Place’ is one of the most important terms used by geographers, allowing an exploration of the people, processes and connections that make a particular space meaningful. Everyone’s favourite place is different and unique. It could be somewhere everyday—such as a local space, a football stadium or a museum—or somewhere extraordinary—such as a holiday destination, a place that holds a special memory, or a place that you have read about or seen in a film. It could be found anywhere—local, national or international.

In an exploration of your favourite place, you should consider how their favourite place is shaped by local, national and global processes, and what these geographical processes—both physical and human—are; the people and connections that make this place meaningful; and the social, cultural, political and environmental geography of their favourite place.

The best essays will be submitted to the national “*Young Geographer of the Year*” competition run by the Royal Geographical Society. Therefore you should also make sure that you demonstrate the following:

- Excellent attention to spelling, punctuation and grammar
- Use of accurate geographical terminology throughout
- Clearly labelled and appropriately acknowledged diagrams, graphs, maps and other data visualisation
- Accurate use of symbols, scales and keys, where appropriate
- Original and independently produced
- If produced electronically, please use a minimum font size of point 8.

Deadline for Task: First lesson in week commencing 10th September 2018

Required Stationery and Equipment for A Level Geography

Three lever arch files to be kept at home; Blue for “Water and Carbon”, Red for “Hazards”, Yellow for “Changing Places”. Each folder should have dividers within them for specification areas (a list of these will be provided for each topic).

Three ring binders to be used as “working folders” to bring in to school for each of the above topics. Work should be transferred from these folders into your main folders at home periodically.

(Later in the course, four additional sets of folders will be required for Fieldwork and Year 2 topics).

Stationery: Pens, Pencils, Highlighters, Calculator, Maths Set (Compass, protractor, ruler etc.).

Essential Resources

[A Level Revision Guide \(highly recommended\). Available through THS from September. Hodder A Level Geography text book \(optional, online purchase\) https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/Product?Product=9781471858697](https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/Product?Product=9781471858697)

Students complete CATs on a fortnightly basis during independent study. These must be handed in centrally to the Humanities office on a Wednesday Week 1. Alongside such directed tasks, there is an expectation for students to be “inquisitive Geographers” outside of the classroom; keeping an eye on the news and other relevant publications in order to contextualise their understanding alongside current events. Independent Investigations, later in the year, will also require students to complete some fieldwork in their own time alongside the fieldwork carried out in school.