



HOMEWORK: GEOGRAPHY

Our ethos

Homework in Geography serves to act as a valuable tool for extending students learning outside of lessons. All homework in the department is designed to be challenging, help students secure progress and generate a genuine interest for the subject. The aims for homework in Geography are:

- It should build on prior learning and skills from classwork
- Encourage and motivate students
- Foster a love of independent learning
- Build a solid foundation for success at the next Key Stage

How much?

Year 9 (Key stage 3): Two homeworks per fortnight, which should take between 30 minutes to 1 hour each to complete. All homework tasks are also uploaded on to the Show My Homework website.

GCSE (Year 10 and 11): Three homeworks per fortnight, which should take between 30 to 45 minutes each to complete. All homework tasks are also uploaded on to the Show My Homework website. In addition, students will be able to buy a copy of the revision guide from the department at a discounted rate to aid with their homework.

A-Level (Year 12 and 13): Students will be set a homework 'take-away' task in most lessons; these should take between 30 minutes to 1 hour each to complete. All homework tasks will also be uploaded on to the Show My Homework website. In addition, students will be able to buy a copy of the core textbook at a discounted rate from the department or loan a copy from the department or LRC to aid their homework.

What will it involve?

Year 9 (Key Stage 3) Homeworks will include a variety of activities which include:

- Research tasks - students may be asked to research a topic area in order to broaden their understanding and develop their intellectual curiosity.
- Tasks to apply new knowledge - these activities might include consolidation of new information learnt in a lesson and display that in a number of ways which allows students to be creative, such as a news reports, adverts, posters or presentations.
- Revision for tests - this type of homework is often towards the end of the term as we complete each topic; its aim is to give students time to consolidate their understanding and to build up a body of knowledge.

GCSE (Year 10 - 11) Homeworks will include a variety of activities which include:

- Research tasks - students may be asked to research a topic area and display it as a report in order to broaden their understanding and develop their intellectual curiosity.
 - Exam style questions - these are a regular homework designed to help students understand the exam criteria and to develop their exam technique.
 - Revision for tests - this type of homework is often used as we complete topics; its aim is to give students time to consolidate their understanding and to build up a body of knowledge.
 - Producing key term glossaries - GCSE contains a lot of new vocabulary that students must become adept at using within their work, completing an on-going glossary of these terms will help to boost understanding.
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A-level (Year 12 -13) Homeworks will include a variety of activities which include:

- Research tasks - students may be asked to research a topic area in preparation for a lesson or after a lesson.
- Tasks to apply new knowledge - These activities might include consolidation of new information learnt in a lesson e.g. news reports or presentations.
- Exam style questions - this aims to complement the criteria of the exam board and helps the students to develop their exam technique and understand the range of exam questions they will face.
- Revision for tests - this type of homework is often used as we complete topics; its aim is to give students time to consolidate their understanding and to build up a body of knowledge.
- Producing key term glossaries - A-level Geography contains a lot of new vocabulary that students must become expert at using, completing an on-going glossary of these terms will help to boost understanding.
- Background reading - students will be issued with a reading list for all the units in the A-Level course. This list will include suggested chapters of textbooks, academic journal articles, TV documentaries, films and news articles.

In Year 13, students will be expected to complete a portion of their Non-Examined Assessment (coursework) within their homework and private study time. They will be given interim deadlines to ensure they are on track.

Private Study

We expect students to be completing set tasks within private study sessions each week. A copy of the private study tasks will be issued to students each half-term. Students must record and keep track of work completed on a private study card they keep in the front of their folders.

Support at Home

Talking with students about their homework each week can help them stay organised. Ensure they are using their planners to record their homework and they are checking Show My Homework.

Asking students to explain what they are doing and how they are doing it will help them to clarify their understanding and improve their use of key terms.

Discuss any marking or feedback that you see from their homework and ask if they considering their targets for improvement from the last piece they completed.

When students are revising you might help by testing them on the key vocabulary. You don't have to be an expert as they will have definitions in their exercise books, revision guides or textbooks! Remind students they also seek support at the school's 'After Hours' club in the LRC.