

# Welcome to Plymstock Geography!



modern computer based mapping

debating and arguing your point

digital technologies

investigating issues in the real world

fieldwork

convincing others you are right

critical analysis

map skills

empathy

boosting your memory

report writing

interpreting photos, cartoons, diagrams...

decision making

problem solving

working with data

a wide variety of SKILLS

statistics

analysing articles



Source: Future of Jobs Report, World Economic Forum

# Top 10 skills

1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Critical Thinking
3. Creativity
4. People Management
5. Coordinating with Others
6. Emotional Intelligence
7. Judgment and Decision Making
8. Service Orientation
9. Negotiation
10. Cognitive Flexibility

**A-levels**  
Opinion

# The Guardian view on geography: it's the must-have A-level



“Geography is all the rage.”

“Geography is a subject for our times.”

“Geography is soaring in popularity.”

# Geography OPENS DOORS

Geography is a **facilitating subject** along with Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Maths and Further Maths, English, History, Business, Sociology and Modern Languages.

*“By choosing facilitating subjects at advanced level, you will have a much wider range of options open to you at university. An A Level qualification in any facilitating subject will keep open to you a number of degree courses.”*



# What does Geography look like at Plymstock School?

Holderness coastline → Yorkshire, East Coast.  
Highest rate of erosion in Europe.

Sources  
Cliff erosion (Flankborough, near chalk, Holderness boulder clay)

Transfers  
By Longshore drift offshore currents

Sinks  
By area where downer process @ deposition (Spurn head) → spit.

Explain the physical processes involved in a sediment cell system (6 marks)  
What physical processes could you include?  
→ Cliff erosion (specific types) → offshore transport  
→ River erosion → some barriers to transportation  
→ Weakening = Mass movement like big embankments  
→ Transport (LSD, Tides, Currents) (Wind)  
→ Deposition (Spits)

In a sediment cell there are sources, transfers and sinks and there are 11 cells, that are mostly closed, in the UK.  
Cliff erosion is a source that contributes sediment into the cell. This will be eroded by hydraulic action,

attrition and abrasion as well as sub-aerial processes and weathering. This sediment will be transferred along the cliff because of longshore drift that moves the sediment along the beach at an angle with the swash and straight back with the back wash. This sediment that gets transferred along the coastline will eventually be deposited when the tides and waves lose energy. This deposition could be in the form of a spit that will extend over an estuary. River erosion is another source of sediment that can contribute into a sediment cell. The flow of the river will bring the sediment out into the sea and will be picked up by tides and currents. The currents and tides will then transport the material along and around the coast. This material as well will also be deposited once the water's energy becomes too low to continue to carry it. This will then be deposited somewhere like a beach or possibly an offshore bar.

To conclude there are multiple ways that a sediment cell receives sediment, moves it around and then stores it.

Estimated for question benefit:  
Larger sediment cells will have more physical cells, mostly closed.  
Boundaries of sediment cells are affected by the topography of the coast (like a narrow barrier).  
Processes contained within the cell and its largely self-contained erosion and offshore processes.  
Some smaller sediment cells are contained.  
Because of tides and wind direction the system won't be as easily closed.  
Sub-cells within the main cells.

contributes to the system (S).  
in the sediment cell equilibrium of the al system.  
and sink contribute to the cells equilibrium over the rest of the coast's.

LESS SUCCESSFUL PLACE CASE STUDY: MIDDLESBROUGH

Name and locate Middlesbrough  
North - east coast of England  
Near the River Ure  
South west of Redcar (car industry)  
Above North York Moors national park

Characteristics of Middlesbrough:  
Iron, steel, heavy engineering, shipbuilding and later also chemicals  
Very dependent on these industries  
Late 1970s - early 1980s → economy went through a severe crisis  
Area has never recovered

How and why is the region less successful?  
• Industry decline → high rates of unemployment  
• Major income  
• High industry success led to high population which then became unemployed → twice national average  
• Low quality housing  
• Closure of services

What challenges are created by its lack of success?  
• Drugs  
• Popul line off of benefits → less educated → high teen pregnancy  
• High levels of anti-social behaviour  
• Lowered motivation in academic achievement

Index of Multiple Deprivation Score:  
Six wards are in the most deprived 1% of all wards in England.  
Six wards have improved over time whereas fourteen have got worse from 2010-2015  
North Cheshire, Rank 2

Article notes:

Redcar!  
Male healthy life expectancy - 54 years  
Attempted to bring back steelworks but no steel was produced between 2010 and 2012 so plant was shut for good in 2015.  
23.4% of children in poverty  
Median weekly earnings - £177 compared to national £250

North - south divide when looking at deindustrialisation and less successful areas  
Reinventor cities - changed their economic base successfully by encouraging IT and digital media, e.g. Manchester

Reinventor cities - replaced manufacturing industry with call centres and distribution centres, e.g. Plymouth  
30/41 reinventor cities are in the North  
11/16 reinventor cities are in the South

Is Cornwall a successful place?

Yes	No
• Tourism - dependent support tens of thousands of jobs	• Seasonal economy - summer holidays
• China clay extraction - potential renewable energy	• 4% of tourism businesses closed for good because of Covid
• Retooling energy	• weather dependent
• Retooling deindustrialised areas - retraining - £100M	• Care - e.g. fishing
• More again	• Campers - not necessarily spending money on hotels etc.
• More again	• Farming going out of business
• More again	• More again
• Becomes - can help with housing	• China clay extraction - looks now they employ 100s
• Creating diverse economy	• Loss of more industry than they can replace
• Firmament vital to economy	• Loss of more industry than they can replace
£2.2M worth of tourists	

Kingsbridge estuary in Devon. It provides a natural harbour with the deepest water at its mouth. These are emergent coastlines.

**Dalmatian coast:**  
These are similar to rias. In this case, the rivers flow almost parallel to the coast rather than at right angles to it. The Dalmatian coast in Croatia gives this feature its name. A submergent coast.

**Fjords:**  
Fjords are formed when deep glacial troughs are flooded by a rise in sea level. They are long and steep-sided with a U-shaped cross section and hanging valleys. Unlike rias, fjords are much deeper inland than they are at the coast. The shallower entrance marks where the glacier left the valley. Fjords can be found in Norway, New Zealand and Chile. These are submergent coastlines.

Evaluate how different stakeholders will assess the success of urban regeneration in Plymouth

1. Why did Plymouth need regeneration?  
Heavy bombed during WWII due to strategic importance. Many buildings had not quickly rebuilt. Since 1940s, economy has declined. Bomb damage makes important need to rebuild. Regeneration budget cuts meant economy was reliant on immediate state. Also competition with Plymouth to keep the town and sailing going. Employment of 250,000, retail catchment of 500,000, good transport connections to northern areas. 150,000 jobs in Plymouth, 100,000 in London. 3-4 hrs, underutilised retail space, poor housing for 1/3 of population. University has potential to expand and attract in-migration of younger age group. Vulnerability in manufacturing industry. Loss of jobs in this sector of economic disinvestment, high levels of unemployment, low levels of entrepreneurship.

2. What do the photos show about Plymouth's regeneration?  
Buildings show signs of being built by early 2000s. Some units appear to be boarded up. The Barcode (2010).

3. What regeneration is happening in Plymouth and who are the key players in this? (sites shown on map below) How would these players measure success?  
Plymouth City Council: Vision for Plymouth 2005 aims to: be a part of the national renaissance of the UK, be a city that is confident about itself again, challenge urban sprawl, create 200,000 jobs. Plymouth regeneration forum: £1.7 billion shopping mall aimed to raise population to 250,000 by 2020. Plymouth City Council: 2010-2015 strategy. Plymouth Chamber of Commerce: Plymouth Chamber of Commerce.

4. Has the regeneration of Plymouth a success? List opinions of people for each side of the argument and give reasons. Colour code these into national/local stakeholders. **Stretch 1!** Are some stakeholders more important than others? Why?

	Positive Viewpoint:	Negative Viewpoint:
Drakes Circus:	form of urban regeneration brought on Plymouth. attracted 60,000 visitors on opening day	when money away from other parts of Plymouth, Drakes Circus already closed, 2014 the other made a £50m loss, more traffic
Cruise terminal:	attract international tourists	only 26 cruise ships in 2014
Plymouth Science Park:	70 businesses employing 100 people linked to universities (keep them)	infrastructure needs improvement
Universities:	27,000 students - hopes to reduce brain drain	increase noise pollution - increase social tension
Plymouth Argyle:	New stadium complex to include a cinema, hotel and ICE rink	pulls people away from town centre
Royal William Yard:	Urban splash - regen over 20 years shops, restaurants and apartments	needs considerable amounts of money to maintain it, too expensive

Local and Contrasting Places Report: Lydbroge and Stratford

Lydbroge is a town in the south havis, Devon. It is a mainly rural area located on the A38 between Plymouth and Exeter. The town is south of the national park Dartmoor and the river Erme flows through it. Stratford is in the London borough of Newham. It is located just north of the river Thames and is where the Olympic park was built.

Figure 1: Age comparison of Lydbroge and Stratford

Age Group	Lydbroge	Stratford
0-14	1000	1000
15-24	2000	2000
25-34	3000	3000
35-44	4000	4000
45-54	5000	5000
55-64	6000	6000
65-74	7000	7000
75-84	8000	8000
85+	9000	9000

Figure 2: Ethnicity

Figure 3: Religion

As you can see from the population graph, Stratford has a much higher working age population than Lydbroge does. This will be because younger people who could be studying at university are more likely to want to live in a central location like London for better jobs and a more lively city. As the population gets older, there starts to be a larger amount of people in Lydbroge and this will be because of retirement migration as older people will set more attraction to the more slowed down lifestyle of living in a rural area.

In Stratford, you are going to have a wider variety of cultures than in Lydbroge as there are more

people who have migrated to London than Devon. London has a lot better travel links and people who migrate will stay closer so will end up in London. This can be seen by the two graphs below.

Figure 4: Health

The two pie charts below show the percentages of people with very good or good health, fair/poor and very poor. In this area, Lydbroge and Stratford only have very small differences which could be because they have similar access to healthcare as Lydbroge is fairly rural and although Stratford is more urban, the healthcare services could be improved.

Figure 5: Health

Health Status	Lydbroge	Stratford
Very good	15%	15%
Good	65%	65%
Fair	15%	15%
Poor	5%	5%
Very poor	0%	0%

Assessment Overview	A Level
<p><b>Paper One: Physical Geography</b>            Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes            30% of the qualification            105 marks</p>	<p><b>Externally-assessed:</b>            Tectonic Processes and Hazards*            Landscape Systems, Processes and Change: Coastal Landscapes and Change            The Water Cycle and Water Insecurity*            The Carbon Cycle and Energy Security*</p>
<p><b>Paper Two: Human Geography</b>            Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes            30% of the qualification            105 marks</p>	<p><b>Externally-assessed:</b>            Globalisation*            Superpowers*            Regenerating Places            Global Development and Connections: Migration, Identity and Sovereignty</p>
<p><b>Paper Three: Issues Evaluation</b>            Written examination: 2 hours and 15 minutes            20% of the qualification            70 marks</p>	<p>Based upon three synoptic themes within the compulsory content areas:            Players            Attitudes and actions            Futures and uncertainties</p>
<p><b>Non Examined Assessment</b>            20% of the qualification            70 marks</p>	<p>Independent Investigation, based on fieldwork. Report must be 3000 - 4000 words.  <b>4 days of compulsory fieldwork. You will be assigned an NEA mentor to help with this.</b></p>

\* Denotes a compulsory component of the course which may be used to form the synoptic theme for paper three.

NEA completed by end of Year 12. Exams in summer of Year 13.

# This year's NEA fieldwork...

Day 1 – The regeneration of Plymouth

Day 2 – Coastal erosion and management at Slapton Sands and Torcross

Day 3 – Is Totnes a clone town?

Day 4 – Coastal management and sand dune succession at Dawlish Warren



# Reading

Reading is a must. You are expected to read around the course as we move through it. Students are regularly set articles and text book reading.



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## ‘Switched-Off’ from Globalisation: Cuba – A Case Study

Cuba is a nation state and the largest of the islands in the Caribbean Sea, situated just 90 miles from Florida, USA. It has been ruled by the Communist dictatorship of Fidel and then Raul Castro since the Cuban Revolution in 1958.

Figure 1 Map of Cuba



### The Influence of Physical Geography

The country is located in tropical latitudes in the Northern Hemisphere, (Figure 1) close to a destructive plate boundary (North American and Caribbean Plates). Consequently, the country can be classed as being a multi-hazard zone as it is also in the Caribbean hurricane belt. Surrounded by the warm waters of the Caribbean Sea, it has high levels of annual rainfall (1000–2000mm) which combined with its mixed geology, mountainous topography and widespread occurrence of limestone, makes the landscape prone to experience landslides and rapid erosion. At the same time, there are benefits of Cuba's global position; the tropical climate and fertile volcanic soils give rise to a range of ecosystems and high-quality agricultural land. The erosion of limestone has created dramatic Karst scenery and mountain landscapes and contributes to the turquoise waters and white powder sand beaches on the north coast at Varadero and Cayo Coco. Cuba also has some of the most pristine coral reefs and beaches in the world thanks to limitations imposed on travel to the island by the communist government. It has used these natural

advantages to develop a tourist industry which, while relatively modest in scale, has the potential for further development.

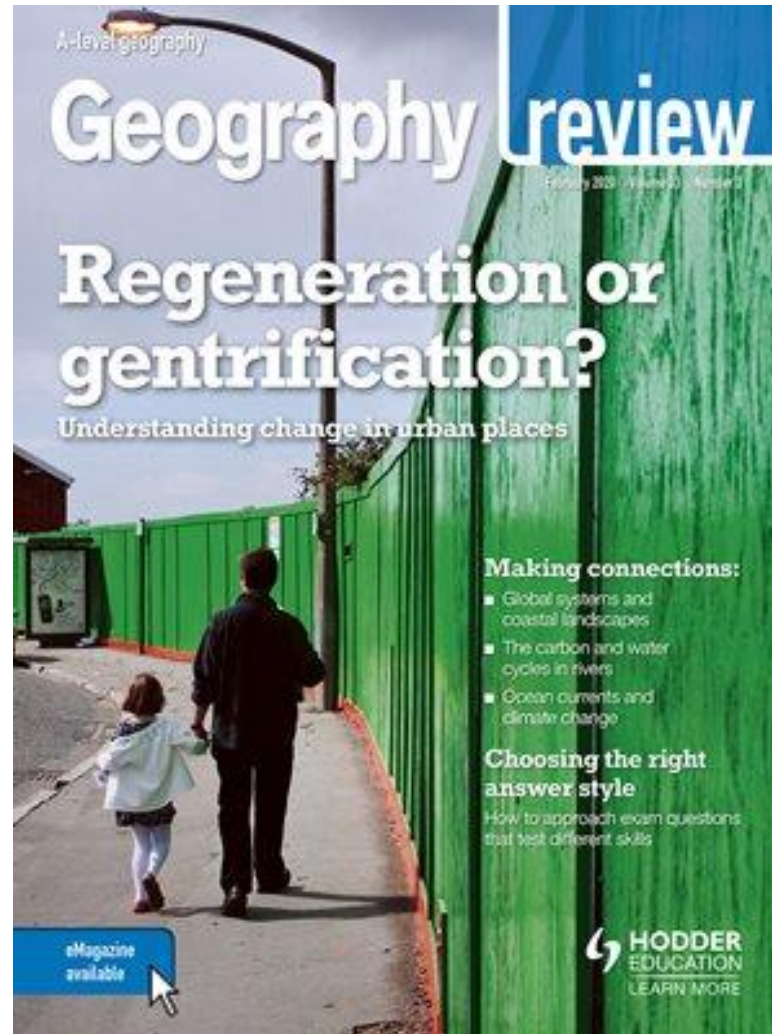
### Geo-Politics and the Cuban Revolution

Cuba has desirable agricultural land and coastal sites for industrial development. The island is in a strategic position as it has a long coastline and lies at the 'entrance' to the Gulf of Mexico. It is also close to the USA, currently the world's leading superpower. During the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Cuba was controlled by a right-wing dictator who sold off much of the country's industries, agricultural land (particularly sugar cane plantations) and tourist resorts to US companies and investors. These early agricultural TNCs paid and treated workers poorly. The country experienced economic leakages and the government was also corrupt, not reinvesting profits from foreign firms into social development. A left wing, Communist revolution, led by Fidel Castro and Che Guevara, occurred between 1953 and 1958, and in January 1959, they overthrew the government after a protracted guerrilla war.

### The influence of Communism and Socialism in Cuba and the rest of the world in the latter 20<sup>th</sup> century

The 1960s saw a 'Cold War' between the bipolar superpowers of the USA (Capitalist Politics) and the USSR (Communist Politics). The space race between them was particularly important, not only in showing the world who was the most advanced and powerful country, but also in developing nuclear, long range missiles. Due to both its politics, and investment and financial support from the USSR, Cuba became an ally of the USSR. During 1962, the USA discovered USSR nuclear weapons on Cuba. It ordered a naval blockade on Cuba and threatened war, as did the USSR in retaliation. This pushed the world to the brink of nuclear war until both sides backed down. The USA then decided to place a trade embargo on Cuba and no country that considered itself an ally of America could trade with Cuba. Any country doing so (such as other Communist nations) was not able to trade with the USA and their trading partners.

In the late 20th century, Communism started to collapse, culminating in the fall of Communist governments across the traditional party strongholds of USSR and a number of Eastern European countries. These communist countries had been key to enabling Cuba to have some level of financial support during the 1960s-80s. As crop failures occurred in west-central USSR (now Ukraine) and overspending on the military and the space race had an impact on the USSR's economy, other countries they supported, such as Cuba, lost their financial support, food supply and a vital trading partner. Eventually, the disgruntled public



## WATER WARS

WATER is a basic, essential resource, so it is hardly surprising that when water supplies are scarce, under threat or cannot cope with increasing demand, people and countries will seek to defend their rights to access it, even to the point of conflict and war.

There should be more than enough water in the world for everybody. According to the United Nations (UN) there are 1.4 billion cubic km available to us. However, only about 2.5% of this is fresh water (Figure 1), found on the surface in lakes, rivers and glaciers, and underground in aquifers. We currently only use just over half of this, yet over a billion people – 1 in 6 of the world's population – do not have access to safe drinking water (Figure 2), a figure that will almost certainly rise in the future.

Over 40% of the world's population is already affected to some degree by a lack of water. This varies in severity. Figure 3 shows how this lack can be classified according to the amount of water available, and also lists some of the regions and countries currently in each category. By 2030, the UN estimates that half the world's population will be facing water scarcity or stress. This unit explores the problems associated with decreasing fresh water supplies through three specific case studies.

### Why is access to water a problem?

- Water, like the population it serves, is not evenly distributed across the world. For example, 60% of the world's population live in Asia, but

by Oily Phillips

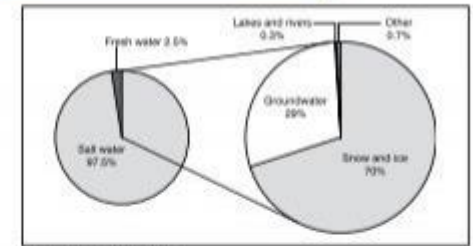


Figure 1: The world's water

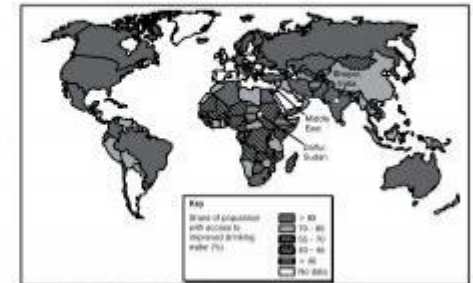


Figure 2: World population with access to improved drinking water

- Asia has only 36% of the world's water.
- As population and the demand for water increase, we are using water at a far faster rate (we have doubled since 1970) than it can be replaced by rain or snowfall. This applies to both surface and underground water. Some rivers have so much water extracted from them that they barely flow, and sometimes disappear completely. Water stored underground in aquifers (which may contain 98% of our accessible fresh water) has in many locations taken hundreds or even thousands of years to accumulate. We are using much of this at an unsustainable rate, as for example the large cities in the desert state of Arizona, USA.
- Not all water that falls as rain can be captured and stored for later use, especially when it falls in concentrated periods, as for example during the South-east Asian monsoon.
- Poverty or lack of development means that many countries are unable to afford to build large reservoirs or water supply systems, especially in remote rural areas.
- In many places where there is water, it is polluted and not safe to drink.



# Is Geography the right course for me?

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Yes, if you...

- are interested in the subject and the world around you **(really important!)**
- are a good 'all-rounder' and/or be committed to work on areas you may find trickier
- have good enquiry skills
- don't mind working with numbers occasionally!



Course Requirements:

6 or above at GCSE Geography, Maths and English

# Is there any extra-curricular activities?

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**Yes!**

**Along with our compulsory fieldwork, we have recently launched an “eco-warriors” scheme, where we have planned beach cleans and signed up to become a plastic free school – All being run by our current year 12 geographers!**

- **Geography Review Subscriptions**
- **Lectures at Plymouth University**
- **Guest lectures from other universities**
- **Geography mentors and student support**





Year 12 at the Changing Places Lectures which were put on by the University of Plymouth.



# What subject(s) does Geography go well with?

All of them!

Geography goes well with the Sciences, Mathematics, Business, Sociology and Economics, as well as the Humanities, Languages and Arts. It is very flexible in terms of what it can be combined with both at GCSE's you have taken and A Level.



**Geography keeps your options open!**

Sciences, Maths

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

Humanities & Arts

