10 Things to Do to Prepare for...

GCSE Geography

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Activities

1. Physical (natural) processes

Can you name the key physical processes, and explain how they shape the landscape?

To do this you can draw sets of diagrams that illustrate these processes. Focus particularly on processes that might act on coastlines, rivers and in mountainous areas.

Can you extend this knowledge to include descriptions of the landforms these processes create?

2. Landforms

Our planet has a wonderful range of awe-inspiring landforms that give rise to varied landscapes.

Can you identify a number of landforms that are found at the coast or in river valleys? To help you with this, find an image of a landscape then label the natural landforms / features that you can see.

Can you extend this to landforms found in either hot deserts or cold environments?

3. Map skills – use of Ordnance Survey maps

Can you use Ordnance Survey maps with confidence?

Practise using the following:

- 4 and 6 figure grid references to show location
- scale to work out distance
- contours to identify height and shape of the land
- compass points to show direction

Practise finding places on an Ordnance Survey map, using the key provided to help you.

You can extend this by using Ordnance Survey maps in conjunction with photographic evidence.



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4. Geographical calculations

When studying Geography, you will sometimes be asked to interpret data.

To do this effectively you need to be able to work out mean, mode and median. Practise using mean, mode and median to interpret geographical data.

Can you extend this and work out interquartile range (IQR)?

5. The global atmospheric circulation model

Can you find out what the global atmospheric circulation model is?

Explain how the global atmospheric circulation model links to deserts, tropical rainforests and tropical storms.

To extend this, explain the global atmospheric circulation model to someone else.

6. Tectonic hazards

Tectonic hazards occur as a result of movements of the Earth's crust.

Investigate two tectonic events (e.g. volcanoes and earthquakes).

Find out about what caused the hazard, what the impacts were, and then explain how the impacts of the hazard could be reduced.

Can you extend this to explain why some countries cope better with tectonic hazards compared to other countries?

7. Sustainable development

Sustainable development is a big concept in Geography.

Find out what it means and why it is so important to our planet. Once you have done your research write a short report that outlines its importance.

Can you extend this to include examples of sustainable development that link to energy, water and transport?

8. High Income Countries and Low Income Countries

Countries vary in lots of ways, one way is their level of economic development. Gross National Income (GNI) is a measure of how wealthy countries are, can you find out other ways to measure development?

Can you extend this to give examples of countries that are at differing levels of development?

9. Cities

Urbanisation is the process by which more people are living in cities.

Name 7 large global cities, then describe their location, identify 3 characteristics of each city and explain why the city is growing.

To extend this - find out what megacities are.

10. The UK

It is important that geographers understand their local area.

Summarise the characteristics of an area you are familiar with. Can you describe the location, climate, natural features, land use, transport, people, landmarks, culture and traditions?

Can you extend this by investigating the UK North-South Divide? Does it exist?

