



## PREPARING FOR A-LEVEL GEOGRAPHY AT RMGS



At RMGS we follow the AQA A Level. You will have two examined units and one NEA (Non-Examined Assessment) i.e. an independent geographical investigation.

We have put the following together for you for you to start doing some reading round the topics we will be covering across the two years. For each topic, we have given a brief overview and then some starting points, with examples of reading and video links for you to follow up.

If you want to know where to start, **in the September of Year 12 we start with Hazards and Coastal systems and Coastal Landscapes**. If you have any questions whilst exploring the following please do not hesitate to contact us.

### PAPER 1 - PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

At RMGS, we cover the following three topics for Paper 1.

#### **Water and the Carbon Cycle**

*Water and carbon are fundamental to supporting life on earth and are hence regarded as 'earth's life support systems. Water and carbon are cycled in both open and closed systems between the land, oceans and the atmosphere. The processes in the water and carbon cycles are inter-related. Human activity is increasingly threatening and altering water and carbon cycles for example through deforestation, ocean acidification, desertification etc. It is important that we look at global and national solutions to protect these.*

**Reading: Water and Carbon Cycling (Royal Geographical Society)** – this is an excellent starting point / content overview for the water and carbon work that we will be looking at

<https://www.rgs.org/CMSPages/GetFile.aspx?nodeguid=6dc9f1c1-f92d-4c04-9f85-9985844a6a79&lang=en-GB>

**Reading: Introduction to the Carbon Cycle**

<https://www.khanacademy.org/science/biology/ecology/biogeochemical-cycles/a/the-carbon-cycle>

**Reading: Introduction to the Water Cycle**

<https://www.khanacademy.org/science/biology/ecology/biogeochemical-cycles/a/the-water-cycle>

**Video: Carbon cycle knowledge boosters**

[https://timeforgeography.co.uk/videos\\_list/carbon-cycle/](https://timeforgeography.co.uk/videos_list/carbon-cycle/)

**Seneca Learning – Water & Carbon**

<https://app.senecalearning.com/classroom/course/7cd34fca-4b86-48ad-a1d0-e093a6f2b66a>

**Video: Climate Change the Facts – David Attenborough**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m00049b1/climate-change-the-facts>

**Video: Panorama – Climate Change: What can we do?**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/m0009drg/panorama-climate-change-what-can-we-do>

**Video: The Disarming case to act right now climate change – Greta Thunberg (TED TALK)**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/greta\\_thunberg\\_the\\_disarming\\_case\\_to\\_act\\_right\\_now\\_on\\_climate\\_change](https://www.ted.com/talks/greta_thunberg_the_disarming_case_to_act_right_now_on_climate_change)

**Reading: Climate Change – The Guardian** have an excellent section on Climate Change which is frequently updated with articles and is well worth dipping into

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/climate-change>

**Reading: Climate Change – The Conversation** – a wealth of articles – frequently updated – highly recommended! <https://theconversation.com/uk/topics/climate-change-27>

**Reading and video: 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge – Adapting to Climate Change**

<https://21stcenturychallenges.org/discover/adapting-to-climate-change-low-carbon-living/>

## Coastal Systems and Coastal Landforms

*In common with water and carbon cycles, a systems approach to study is specified. Coastal zones are dynamic environments in which landscapes develop by the interaction of winds, waves, currents and terrestrial and marine sediments. The characteristics and development of landforms/ landscapes associated with coastal erosion, coastal deposition, estuarine conditions and sea-level change are studied together with the impact of climate change on coasts.*

**Starting points...**

**Reading:** <https://www.tutor2u.net/geography/reference/coastal-systems-and-landscapes-introduction>

**Reading:** <https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/geography-revision/a-level-aqa/coastal-systems-landscapes/>

**Video: Coasts knowledge boosters** [https://timeforgeography.co.uk/videos\\_list/coasts/](https://timeforgeography.co.uk/videos_list/coasts/)

**Reading:** <https://www.internetgeography.net/topics/the-holderness-coast-case-study/>

**Video:** Tuvalu under water <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WnohiusCDXY>

**Reading and video:** 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge – **London Flood risk** (also links to water & carbon) <https://21stcenturychallenges.org/flood-risk-in-the-uk/>

**Reading and video:** 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge – **Natural Hazards and Risk** (coastal flooding) <https://21stcenturychallenges.org/natural-hazards-and-risk-2/>

## Hazards

*At RMGS, we follow the Hazards option for topic 3. We explore how our understanding has evolved with regards to the seismic and volcanic activity that we experience through the movement of the earth's tectonic plates. We look at how these tectonic processes have shaped our world and created new landforms, helping to support life on earth. We also explore the potential impact of the hazards associated with earthquakes and volcanoes and how as technology has developed we have improved our ability to predict and mitigate, whilst considering reasons for the variation in risks associated with hazards both spatially and over time. We also study climatic hazards such as hurricanes and wildfires and geomorphological hazards such as landslides and avalanches. We will be looking at the concepts of risk and resilience and how these can be managed at various levels and to various degrees of success.*

**Starting points...**

**Video:** Power of the Planet (Volcanoes) <https://www.dailymotion.com/video/x5af4kg> - a great introduction to the work we will be doing on volcanoes.

**Reading:** Plate Tectonics (The Geological Society) – this will be a good step up from your GCSE work to A Level and is definitely worth reading / working through <https://www.geolsoc.org.uk/Plate-Tectonics>

**USGS Natural Hazards – FAQ** <https://www.usgs.gov/faq/natural-hazards> – some excellent reading here in bitesize chunks – well worth exploring

**Seneca Learning: Hazards** <https://app.senecalearning.com/classroom/course/7cd34fca-4b86-48ad-a1d0-e093a6f2b66a>

**Online University course:** <https://www.e-education.psu.edu/geog30/node/378>

**Video: Tectonics knowledge boosters** [https://timeforgeography.co.uk/videos\\_list/plate-tectonics/](https://timeforgeography.co.uk/videos_list/plate-tectonics/)

**Reading and video:** 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge – **Natural Hazards and Risk** (flooding) <https://21stcenturychallenges.org/natural-hazards-and-risk-2/>

## PAPER 2 – HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

At RMGS, we follow the AQA A Level specification and we cover the following topics for Paper 2.

### Changing Places

*This unit explores the relationships and connections between people, the economy and society and their contributing to placemaking (i.e. creating places). The unit explores the meanings and representations attached to places and how place making takes place at a variety of scales. It explores places from a local to global level.*

#### Starting points...

**Interactive: Changing Spaces, Making Places** – a good story map introduction – work your way through

<https://focusschoolwillo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=f10c512164d0498d8f3bcfad8ae61d39>

**Reading: Changing Spaces- Making Places** – a good starting point read

<https://pmt.physicsandmathstutor.com/download/Geography/A-level/Notes/OCR/Changing-Spaces-Making-Places/Set-A/Notes%20on%20Changing%20Places,%20Making%20Places%20-%20OCR%20Geography%20A-level.pdf>

**Reading: Project for Public Spaces** <https://www.pps.org/article/what-is-placemaking>

### Global Governance and Global Systems

*The focus of the global connection's topics is exploring global processes and flows and their impact on people places and institutions. This will help you start to understand how the world around you is shaped, its complexities and the issues that arise. It is broken up into (i) Global Systems and (ii) Global Governance.*

#### Starting points...

**Reading and video: 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge** – globalisation and geopolitics

<https://21stcenturychallenges.org/globalisation/>

**Reading and video: 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge** – Africa in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

<https://21stcenturychallenges.org/africa-in-the-21st-century/>

**Video: World's worst place to be a woman?** (Stacey Dooley Investigates)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b06mvwhb/stacey-dooley-investigates-worlds-worst-place-to-be-a-woman>

**Video: Why climate change is a threat to Human Rights (TED Talk)**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/mary\\_robinson\\_why\\_climate\\_change\\_is\\_a\\_threat\\_to\\_human\\_rights](https://www.ted.com/talks/mary_robinson_why_climate_change_is_a_threat_to_human_rights)

**Video: What if a single human right could change the world? (TED TALK)**

[https://www.ted.com/talks/kristen\\_wenz\\_what\\_if\\_a\\_single\\_human\\_right\\_could\\_change\\_the\\_world](https://www.ted.com/talks/kristen_wenz_what_if_a_single_human_right_could_change_the_world)

### Population and Environment

**Reading:** Introduction to Migration short notes)

<https://www.tutor2u.net/geography/reference/introduction-to-migration>

**Reading: Global Migration** – a good starting point read

<https://pmt.physicsandmathstutor.com/download/Geography/A-level/Notes/OCR/Global-Migration/Set-A/Notes%20on%20Global%20Migration%20-%20Geography%20A-level.pdf>

**Reading and video: 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge- Health and development** (air pollution, global health and poverty in Britain) <https://21stcenturychallenges.org/human-health-and-development/>

**Video: Escape to Europe: The migrant's story** – BBC Newsnight

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZqdUBpHmhM>

**Video: The truth about immigration in the UK 2014**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHplEJgevqM>

**Video:** Immigration: Is Britain Getting Full? <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/jon-snow-explains/on-demand/61877-004>

**Video:** Between Borders – America’s migrant crisis <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rxFOt-SMEXA>

**Video:** Fleeing Climate Change – The real environmental disaster (forced migration due to climate change) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cl4Uv9\\_7KJE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cl4Uv9_7KJE)

**Reading and video:** 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge - Population, demographics and migration <https://21stcenturychallenges.org/discover/population-and-migration/>

**Reading and video:** 21<sup>st</sup> century Challenge – Food security <https://21stcenturychallenges.org/food-security/>