

DEVELOPING AS A GEOGRAPHER

The information below includes, websites, books, podcasts, documentaries and even films which provide a great way of staying inspired and engaging with geography.

ONLINE NEWS ARTICLES

THE CONVERSATION.COM <http://theconversation.com/uk> we can highly recommend you use this! This you will find is really useful to support many of your A Levels. It provides up-to-date articles from academics and specialists in the field written in a way that is accessible to all, summarising keypoints in short but insightful articles.

BBC NEWS <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news> - an excellent source of up-to-date articles – explore the key headings such as Science, as well as the UK, World and other stories.

THE GUARDIAN <https://www.theguardian.com/uk> - again many useful articles and logically ordered – keep an eye on the Environment, Science, Society, Global Development stories in particular!

PODCASTS

Now is the time to broaden your geographical understanding! Stick your headphones in and listen to some of the following...

- Costing the Earth – There are some great podcasts here to pick from on a wide variety of geographical issues <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006r4wn/episodes/player> (many topics, including amongst others.. climate change, carbon, urban greening, deforestation, alternative power, plastics etc.)
- Royal Geographical Society – “Ask the Geographer podcasts” - <https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/ask-the-expert-podcasts/> - a fantastic set of podcasts to keep A Level studies up-to-date with the latest geographical research – pick out some that interest you and give them a go!
- BBC Radio 4 - Crossing continents podcasts. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qt55/episodes/player> - A great series that focuses on foreign affairs issues
- BBC Radio 4 “from our correspondent podcast” <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02nrtpm/episodes/downloads> - an insightful series where journalists take a closer look behind the headlines
- BBC Radio 4 “open country podcasts” <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006ggft/episodes/player> - a podcast that tracks the rural areas featuring the people and wildlife that shape our countryside
- BBC World Service - “the documentary podcast” <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p02nq0lx/episodes/downloads> - a podcast investigating global developments, issues and affairs

BOOKS

Remember you can make use of the local libraries digital library service for books – you don’t have to access hard copies.

- Prisoners of Geography (Marshall, T) – an insightful book which helps understand how physical geography impacts on political reality and really helps to understand how decisions of world leaders have been shaped by geography – a great introduction to geopolitics.

- Factfulness: Ten reasons we're wrong about the world – and why things are better than you think (Rosling, H 2019) – this is a must-read book from a geography perspective – this takes a more realistic view of the world, presenting issues in fact-based context. It is a rational look at actually how far the world has measurably improved and what's left to be done.
- Adventures in the Anthropocene (Vince, G) (2016) – this looks at the effects that humans are having on the surface and structure of the planet with a balanced view on recognising threats and dangers whilst also look for practical answers and solutions.

GEOGRAPHICAL DOCUMENTARIES

There are some great geographical documentaries which will help develop your general geographical knowledge and understanding and help you see what an amazing world we live in.

The following are all available on iPlayer.

- David Attenborough Box Sets – there are 9 amazing boxsets available on iplayer from David Attenborough exploring our amazing world <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06m42d9>
- The Americas with Simon Reeve <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/m00095p0/theamericas-withsimon-reeve>
- Simon Reeve around the world <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/group/p06rrnkm>
- Mediterranean with Simon Reeve <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/b0bnb6tt/mediterranean-with-simon-reeve>

The following are all available on ITV Hub

- Britain Underwater: Fighting the Floods <https://www.itv.com/hub/britain-underwater-fightingthefloods/7a0157>
- Joanna Lumley's Hidden Caribbean: Havana to Haiti <https://www.itv.com/hub/joanna-lumleyshiddencaribbean-havana-to-haiti/2a7578>

The following are all available on Channel 4 – On Demand

- When the Immigrants Leave (Dispatches) <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/dispatches/on-demand/69555-001>
- China's Lonely Hearts (Unreported World) <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/on-demand/56011-011>
- The world's dirtiest river (Unreported world) <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/on-demand/58399-001>
- Forests of Fear (Unreported World) - <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreportedworld/ondemand/69224-006>
- Hurricane Hell (Unreported World) <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreportedworld/ondemand/69224-007>
- The World's Dirtiest Air (Unreported World) <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/unreported-world/on-demand/67193-002>

- The week Britain Froze (Dispatches) <https://www.channel4.com/programmes/dispatches/on-demand/66548-007>

GEOGRAPHICAL FILMS

Some are available online free – others may be available on providers such as Amazon Prime / Netflix etc.

- Touching the Void (15) (great for visualising glacial landscapes) – a powerful true story docudrama (strong language in parts)
- Before the Flood (2016) (PG) – National Geographic <https://www.filmsforaction.org/watch/before-the-flood-2016/> (presented by Leonardo DiCaprio – exploring climate change and looking at what needs to be done today to prevent catastrophic disruption of life on our planet.
- The Impossible (2012) (12) – Movie based on real life events of the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami which killed 200,000 people.
- Slumdog Millionaire (15) – based on life in the slums of Mumbai • Our Planet (Netflix series) – explores how climate change impacts all living creatures.
- Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom (12) – an epic which celebrates the journey of Nelson Mandela from childhood in a rural village through to his election as President of South Africa. This explores what happened in South Africa with regards to apartheid and Black opposition through the eyes of Nelson Mandela.
- Hotel Rwanda (12) - the true story of hotel manager who houses and protects Tutsi refugees – this is a hard-hitting film based on the Rwandan Conflict of the 1990s.
- The Last King of Scotland (15) – another hard-hitting story, based on struggles faced by Uganda under the dictatorship of Idi Amin.
- Into the Wild (2007) (15) – based on the story of a university graduate who gives up all of his material possessions and journeys alone into the Alaskan Wilderness