

## **Anglo European Sixth Form**

### **Summer Transition Work**

**Subject: Geography**

**Exam Board: IB**

**Qualification: Standard Level**

#### **Compulsory tasks:**

*These tasks must be completed by students before their first lesson in September.  
These tasks will be reviewed by the class teacher.*

#### **Learning Activities**

These tasks have been designed to keep you thinking geographically over the summer months and help you to make the transition from GCSE to IB.

#### **1. Visit: <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/age-megacities/>**

Look through the Story map from the National Geographic. For each of the cities, describe how they grow, and note the reasons behind this. Are there any similarities in their growth? (Think about physical and human geographical factors and how it changes over time).

#### **2. What are the future prospects of growth for megacities and what challenges will this bring?**

Visit: <https://www.urbanobservatory.org/compare/>

You will see a series of maps for New York, London and Tokyo by default. You can change the cities displayed by clicking on the city tab and then scrolling through the alphabet to select different cities.

Under the themes, you can change the GIS layers to show different characteristics of the city. Choose any three cities, and three characteristics. You need to describe and try to explain the patterns shown in the maps generated.

#### **3. Visit: [https://publichealthreviews.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s40985-019-0116-0#:~:text=Some%20of%20the%20major%20health,diabetes%2C%20and%20heart%20diseases\).](https://publichealthreviews.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s40985-019-0116-0#:~:text=Some%20of%20the%20major%20health,diabetes%2C%20and%20heart%20diseases).)**

Read the article on the link above. Whilst reading make notes:

- What are the challenges of urbanisation?
- Who is it likely to effect and why? (How are different groups impacted in different ways?)
- How might this link to other ideas within geography?

#### **4. Watch Parag Khanna's TED Talk on how megacities are changing the world.**

- What ideas does Khanna present?
- To what extent do you agree with them?

This is a challenging activity but it will give you some exposure to how you will be expected to think as an IB geographer.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/parag\\_khanna\\_how\\_megacities\\_are\\_changing\\_the\\_map\\_of\\_the\\_world?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/parag_khanna_how_megacities_are_changing_the_map_of_the_world?language=en)

#### **5. Watch "Before the Flood" Documentary**

[Before the Flood Full Movie National Geographic](#)

Answer the following questions in full sentences

- A. What is the main topic of the documentary "Before the Flood"?
- B. Describe the role of Leonardo DiCaprio in the documentary.
- C. List three key environmental issues highlighted in the film.
- D. How does the documentary portray the impact of climate change on wildlife and ecosystems?
- E. Identify at least two examples of sustainable solutions presented in the film.
- F. Explain the concept of greenhouse gases and their role in climate change.
- G. What is the significance of the Paris Agreement discussed in the documentary?
- H. Reflect on your own understanding of climate change before watching the documentary. How has your perspective changed after viewing it?
- I. Research one environmental organization or initiative that is actively working to address climate change.

#### **6. Do some research into the recent glacier collapse and landslide in Blatten, Switzerland and answer these questions.**

1. Define the term *hazard chain* and explain how this concept applies to the 2025 Blatten glacier collapse.
2. Describe the sequence of events leading to the destruction of Blatten following the Birch Glacier collapse.
3. Identify two physical factors that contributed to the instability of the Kleines Nesthorn region.

4. Using a diagram, illustrate how permafrost melt can lead to increased landslide risk in alpine environments.

**7. Ensure that you start your sixth form studies with a fact-based view .** Visit <https://www.gapminder.org/> and write down at least 10 misconceptions you had, along with the correct information.

**Advisory tasks:**

*These tasks will support you to excel in the course. They may not be explicitly reviewed by your teachers, but they will allow students to demonstrate a genuine passion for going “above and beyond” in this subject.*

**MOOC**

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/subject-information>

Complete one (or more) of the free courses available online through Open Learn. Check out the geography-related courses on offer in Nature & Environment, Science, Maths & Technology or Society, Politics & Law. Pick something that interests you based on what you will be studying next academic year and have a go!

- Introductory courses should consolidate your knowledge and understanding from GCSE and provide a stepping stone to studying in the Sixth Form.

- Intermediate course broadly replicate the level of detail required to achieve a top grade at A Level and in the IB.

- Advanced courses include material that is equivalent to undergraduate study at university.

**News & Magazines**

Along with the books recommended above, reading about the geographical topics that you are interested in the news will keep you up-to-date with what is happening right now.

**The BBC**

<https://www.bbc.com/news>

**The Guardian**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk>

The Guardian publishes excellent articles on a range of geographical topics with the depth of analysis and critical thought that is expected from you as an A Level or IB student.

**The Economist**

<https://www.economist.com/>

A weekly newspaper that is about far more than economics, business and finance. If you are interested in geopolitics, this is a must-read every week. In addition, it covers a broad range of geographical topics including in-depth and analytical special reports on issues such as global water security, globalisation, climate change and migration.

You need a subscription to read the Economist but there is likely to be a special offer running e.g. 12 issues for £12 to get you started.

### **Geographical Magazine**

<http://geographical.co.uk/>

The magazine of the Royal Geographical Society (RGS) is published monthly and contains illustrated articles on people, places, adventure, travel and environmental issues as well as a summary of the latest academic research in geography.

### **Podcasts**

The following podcasts are recommended and will be used throughout the IB courses to support independent learning. Check them out on your preferred podcast platform – the BBC podcasts are available online and through the BBC Sounds app.

#### **Ask the geographer**

<https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/ask-the-expert-podcasts/>

An excellent podcast produced by the Royal Geographical Society. The RGS interview a range of geographers about their current research to help keep your case studies up-to-date.

#### **GA Geogpod**

<https://www.geography.org.uk/GeogPod-The-GAs-Podcast>

A new podcast from the Geographical Association (GA) that includes interviews about teaching and learning as well as the latest geographical research.

#### **BBC The Inquiry**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p029399x/episodes/downloads>

A brilliant podcast from the BBC World Service that focuses on one question, ideas from four expert witnesses and an answer. There are a host of geographical questions in the archive. IB students, check out the podcasts about water scarcity in Cape Town and Chennai.

#### **BBC Thinking Allowed**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qy05/episodes/downloads>

Another excellent podcast from the BBC World Service. Search for the disasters episode - it is a must-listen for IB students for their hazards unit.

### **TED Talks**

<https://www.ted.com/talks>

TED talks are short, powerful talks that focus on “ideas worth spreading” There is a wealth of geographical talks on the website. As a starting point, check out anything by Hans Rosling as well as Parag Khanna’s talk on how megacities are changing the map of the world.