



# Geography

## Task one: Key concepts

The A' level specification is based on fourteen key concepts. They are:

- Causality
  - Systems
  - Equilibrium
  - Feedback
  - Inequality
  - Representation
  - Identity
  - Globalisation
  - Interdependence
  - Mitigation and adaptation
  - Sustainability
  - Risk
  - Resilience
  - Thresholds
- a. Define each of these concepts and put each into a geographical context
  - b. Identify each of them in news articles containing a geographical context.
  - c. How do each of the concepts fit into the geography of the local area?  
i.e. Migration has **caused** there to be a cultural mix.

Extension: Look on the Office for National Statistics website to see if you can support any of your ideas with fact.

## Task two: Investigating global issues

Pick one of the following questions.

**Disease dilemmas:** Why was Ebola a worldwide concern?

**Trade in the contemporary world:** Should we buy from Primark?

**Future of food:** Who was right, Malthus or Boserup?

**Human rights:** What is the impact of gender inequality on society?

**Climate change:** Is global climate change inevitable?

**Exploring oceans:** Can we realistically tackle the problem of 'ocean plastic'?

Research your chosen question using at least five different sources and then answer the question in 500 words.





## Task three: Investigating development

The development of a country relates to the population's standard of living and quality of life. We use a range of indicators to help measure different aspects of quality of life. This task offers you the opportunity to consider different indicators, what they tell us about a country and whether they are a useful way to measure quality of life.

Look through some of the data on the CIA World Factbook:

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/rankorder/rankorderguide.html>

1. Choose two different development indicators (i.e. obesity and life expectancy).
2. Decide on a question relating to the two indicators (i.e. Do countries with high obesity levels have a lower life expectancy?)
3. Take a sample of 30 countries, copy and paste the data onto an Excel spreadsheet.
4. Produce a scatter graph (on Excel).
5. Conduct a Spearman Rank Correlation  
<http://www.rgs.org/NR/rdonlyres/4844E3AB-B36D-4B14-8A20-3A3C28FAC087/0/OASpearmanRankExcelGuidePDF.pdf>
6. Finally decide if there is a relationship between the two indicators and answer your question in Step 2.

Extension: In Step 3 you selected 30 countries. How representative was this sample? What would be the advantages of taking a larger sample? Are there any disadvantages of taking a larger sample?

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