



Year 7 Geography Knowledge Organiser

Geography – My Doha: Topic Checklist

■ Physical Geography of the Middle East

- Identify major landforms: deserts, mountains, plateaus
 - Understand the desert climate: high temperatures, low rainfall
 - Name important rivers and seas (e.g. Tigris, Euphrates, Red Sea)
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■ Living in an Urban Area – Doha

- Understand the reasons for Doha's rapid urban growth
 - Describe key parts of the city (e.g. West Bay, Souq Waqif, Corniche)
 - Identify challenges of urban living (e.g. traffic, water use, energy)
 - Explain how Doha is becoming more sustainable (e.g. Msheireb project)
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■ Map Skills

- Recognise common map symbols (e.g. school, airport, hospital)
 - Annotate a map clearly with labels and arrows
 - Understand and apply **scale** (e.g. 1:50,000)
 - Use **direction** and compass points (N, NE, E, etc.)
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■ Grid References

- Find locations using **4-figure grid references** (e.g. 4732)
 - Find precise points using **6-figure grid references** (e.g. 473326)
 - Remember the method: **“Along the corridor, up the stairs”**
 - Practise finding and plotting grid references on maps
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 Key Vocabulary	 Common Misconceptions	 Key Questions
Urbanisation Sustainability Desert climate Infrastructure Plateau Compass rose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All deserts are completely uninhabitable and have no life.• Doha is fully sustainable because it is a modern city.• The desert climate means it is always hot—nighttime temperatures can drop.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What challenges does Doha face as a rapidly growing urban area in a desert environment?2. How is Doha balancing modern development with environmental sustainability?3. Why are map skills important for understanding both physical and human geography?



Geography – Development: Topic Checklist

■ Understanding Development

- Define **development** – What does it mean? How is it measured?
 - Identify and explain **my chosen development measure** (e.g. GDP, HDI, literacy rate)
 - Understand what **concluding indicators** show about a country's progress
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■ Case Study: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

- Locate the **DRC on a map** and describe its physical and human geography
 - Explain **factors influencing development** in the DRC (e.g. conflict, resources, colonisation)
 - Understand **Top-Down support** in the DRC (e.g. government or international projects)
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■ Aid and Global Support

- Understand the **Aid Dilemma** – advantages and disadvantages of giving/receiving aid
 - Assessment: Make an **Aid Decision** for Haiti – What type of aid is most effective?
 - Part 2: Reflect on the decision – What worked, what didn't, and why?
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■ Key Concepts and Skills

- Explain what **Fair Trade** is and how it supports development
 - Case Study Writing: Use PEEL structure (Point, Evidence, Explain, Link)
 - Location & Place Knowledge: Accurately describe places using human and physical features
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🔑 Key Vocabulary	⚠️ Common Misconceptions	❓ Key Questions
<p>Development</p> <p>GDP (Gross Domestic Product)</p> <p>HDI (Human Development Index)</p> <p>Literacy rate</p> <p>Fair Trade</p> <p>Aid (emergency, long-term, bilateral, multilateral)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A high GDP always means a high quality of life (it doesn't account for inequality).• All aid is helpful and always works as intended.• Countries like the DRC are poor solely due to internal issues—external factors like colonisation and exploitation are key.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What does it truly mean for a country to be “developed”?2. How effective is aid in helping countries overcome development challenges?3. How do global inequalities shape the development of different regions?



Geography – Ecosystems: Topic Checklist

▨ Core Knowledge

- **Introduction to Ecosystems and Biomes** – What are they? Examples around the world
 - **Climate Graphs** – How to read and interpret temperature and rainfall patterns
- SKILLS:** Map and data analysis (biome locations, climate data)
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▨ Tropical Rainforests (Amazon)

- **Factors affecting biomes** (climate, altitude, latitude, soils)
 - **Structure & features of rainforests** – layers, biodiversity
 - **Nutrient cycle** – how nutrients move through the ecosystem
 - **Rainforest adaptations** – plants and animals
 - **Exploitation of the Amazon** – logging, farming, mining
 - **Rainforest deforestation** – causes, effects, solutions
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■ Hot Deserts (Sahara)

- **Desert adaptations** – how plants and animals survive extreme conditions
 - **Opportunities in the Sahara** – tourism, energy, mining
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 Key Vocabulary	 Common Misconceptions	 Key Questions
Ecosystem Biome Biodiversity Adaptation Nutrient cycle Deforestation Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All biomes are similar in temperature and rainfall.• The Amazon rainforest is untouched and entirely natural – many areas are affected by human activity.• Deserts are lifeless and empty – in reality, they support adapted species and economic activity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How do ecosystems vary across the globe, and what factors influence these differences?2. How do human activities threaten ecosystems like the Amazon and the Sahara?3. What can be done to manage and protect ecosystems sustainably for the future?