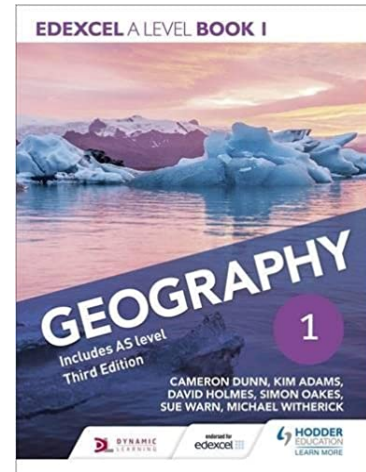
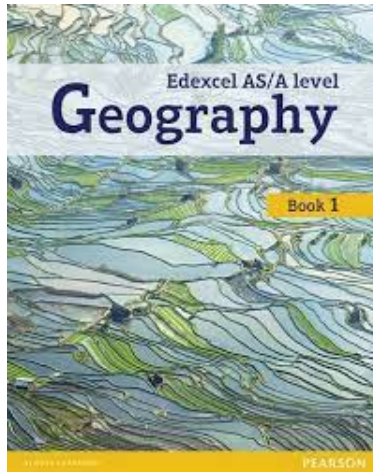
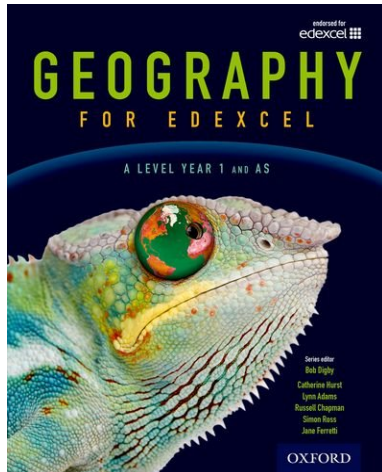


A level reading list

Wider reading is not just reading more books. It is not extra homework and it certainly is not formally set by teachers. According to the Russell Group Universities, wider reading is a 'supra curricular' activity; it is an academic exploration of the subjects you're studying in school, building your knowledge and understanding of them. Supra-curricular activities such as wider reading are incredibly important for university applications and by deepening your understanding of the wider subject you will be better prepared for your exams. Win win!

Below is a list of books that you will most definitely find useful. Some will directly link to a topic area (for example *The Ghost of the tsunami*), while others will broaden your overall understanding (such as *Prisoners of Geography* and *Sapiens*)

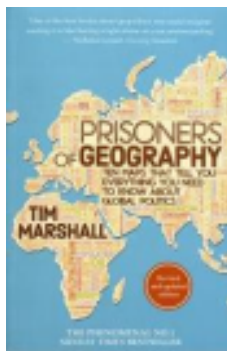
Edexcel A level Geography Textbooks Year 12



Both texts are available in the library and provide useful support but do not replace detailed classnotes! Note that different case studies may be used to those studied in class.

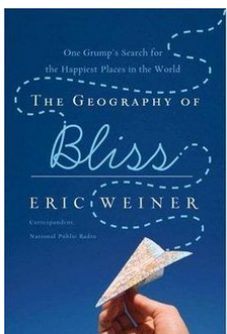
Reading and referring to core text books does not pass as wider reading! They are a useful tool but most students across the country will read a textbook!

Wider reading list



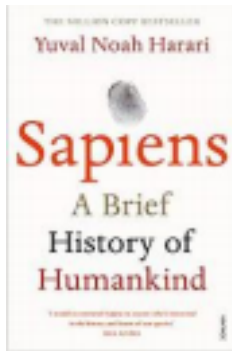
Marshall T, 2016, **Prisoners of Geography: Ten Maps That Tell You Everything You Need to Know About Global Politics**, Elliot & Thompson Ltd (ISBN 978-1783962433)

*I am not exaggerating when I say that virtually every geographer in the land has at least dipped into this book. It is informative, fascinating and super easy to read. The author looks beyond the 21st Century view that technology rules and suggests that our key political driver continues to be our physical geography. Beginning with Russia (and its bewildering eleven time-zones), Tim Marshall presents a border-by-border disassembly of what makes the world what it is; why, for instance, China and India will never fall into conflict (the Himalayas), or why Africa's rivers are much to blame for its (lack of) economic development. There is a follow up book entitled **Worth Dying For: The Power and Politics of Flags***



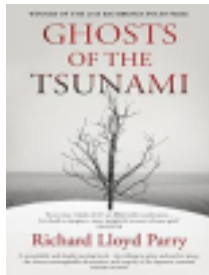
Eric Weiner, 2008, **The Geography of Bliss**: Hachette (ISBN 5802604460)

One Grump's Search for the Happiest Places in the World is the New York Times-bestselling humorous travel memoir by longtime National Public Radio foreign correspondent Eric Weiner. In the book, Weiner travels to spots around the globe—including Iceland, Bhutan, Moldova and Qatar—to search out how different countries define and pursue happiness



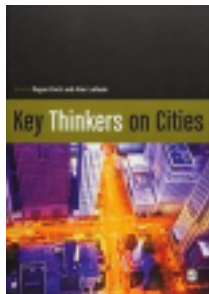
Harari Y, 2015, **Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind**, Vintage (ISBN 978-0099590088)

This book explores how in a fraction of Earth's existence, humans have come to dominate the planet the way no other species have. From the flap of the book "We are the most advanced and most destructive animals ever to have lived. What makes us brilliant? What makes us deadly? What makes us Sapiens?" It explores human history to the present day and examines what is next and tackles the big questions of the modern day.



Parry R, 2018, **Ghosts of the Tsunami: Death and Life in Japan's Disaster Zone**, Vintage (ISBN 978-1784704889)

A major case study for your hazards unit! The author was living in Tokyo during the quake and spent 6 years exploring and reporting on the event. He asks questions that were missing from widespread media: What really happened to the local children as they waited in the school playground in the moments before the tsunami? Why did their teachers not evacuate them to safety? And why was the unbearable truth being so stubbornly covered up?



Koch R, Latham A, 2017, **Key thinkers on cities**, Sage Publications Ltd. (ISBN 978-1473907751)

Key Thinkers on Cities provides an engaging introduction to the dynamic intellectual field of urban studies. It profiles the work of 40 innovative thinkers who represent the broad reach of contemporary urban scholarship and whose ideas have shaped the way cities around the world are understood, researched, debated and acted upon. Providing a synoptic overview that spans a wide range of academic and professional disciplines, theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches, the entry for each key thinker comprises. This would fit alongside your studies for Contemporary Environments rather well!



Tuan Y, 2001, **Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience**, Univ. of Minnesota Press (ISBN 978-0816638772)

The author of this book is widely considered to be the most important geographer behind the origin of critical and humanistic geography. He explores the way in which people feel and think about space, how they form attachments to home, neighbourhood, and nation, and how feelings about space and place are affected by the sense of time. A variety of modes can influence people and he examines non-fiction, novels, poetry, anthropology, psychology, and theology. This would be an excellent read for the Changing Places unit.



Smithson P, Addison K, Atkinson K, 2008, **Fundamentals of the Physical Environment: Fourth Edition**, Routledge (ISBN 978-0415395168)

This text has been the core reading for undergraduate geographers for many years (I still have a well thumbed copy of the third edition at home!) As it is written by academics for university students, much will be above and beyond what is required for your studies and the complexities of some of the science will be too much, but as far as wider reading goes, this one ticks the box!



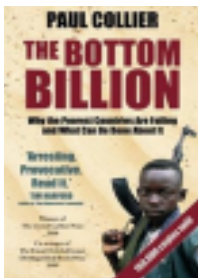
Rosling H, 2018, **Factfulness: Ten Reasons We're Wrong About The World - And Why Things Are Better Than You Think**, Sceptre (ISBN 978-1473637467)

Hans Rosling was a fascinating academic and there are many excellent TED Talks to watch. It is thought provoking and has the ability to entirely shift perspectives on things that we have come to take as gospel, from poverty to climate change. If you want to question the world that we exist in then give this book a go.



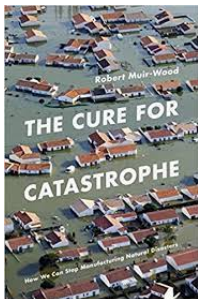
Dorling D, 2013, **Population 10 Billion**, Constable (ISBN 978-1780334912)

Responsible for www.worldmapper.org, Danny Dorling has long published on social inequalities in Britain; his work concerns issues of housing, health, employment, education and poverty. We are well aware that the recent demographic explosion is putting pressures on the planet, in this book these impacts are explored and considers ways that we can adapt to the changes.



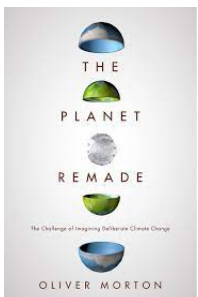
Collier P, 2008, **The Bottom Billion**, Oxford University Press (ISBN 978-0195374636)

While globalisation has undoubtedly had huge impacts upon nations and their people, the impacts are not felt uniformly. The author, who has worked as part of a research group for the World Bank on issues related to poverty and aid, writes how despite 5 billion of the world's poorest benefitting from globalisation by climbing out of poverty, the world's 1 billion poorest are being left behind, with the gap only widening.



Muir-Wood R, 2016, **The Cure for Catastrophe: How We Can Stop Manufacturing Natural Disasters**, One World Publications (ISBN 978-1786070050)

The conundrum of whether a disaster is ever purely a natural disaster is examined brutally in this book. The author asks questions such as "why did no one consider that a tsunami could disable the nuclear power plants in Fukushima?" and "why did so many die when Katrina flooded New Orleans?" He argues that despite increasingly sophisticated methods of detecting and planning for disasters, it is due to political factors that we fail to act appropriately.



Morton O, 2016, **The Planet Remade**, Granta (ISBN 978-1783780983)

Regardless of Trump's view on the matter, global warming is real and the impacts are potentially vast. Accepting and appreciating this scale compels the author to write of the importance of readdressing not just responses, but also our relationships with nature. Radical technologies are explored, from phytosynthetic plankton to a stratospheric veil against the sun while also highlighting the impacts that changes to the carbon cycle will have on climate, soils and life itself.