



Faculty of Humanities  
Inverurie Academy

# Higher Geography Support Strategies

## Course Structure

The Higher Geography course at Inverurie Academy consists of the following topics and skills:

Physical Environments	Human Environments	Global Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Biosphere (soils and soil development)</li><li>✓ Lithosphere (Glacial Landscapes only in session 2020-21)</li><li>✓ Hydrosphere (water cycle and rivers)</li><li>✓ Atmosphere (structure, global heat balance, heat distribution &amp; ITCZ)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Urban Geography (Developed and Developing city case-studies: Glasgow and Mumbai).</li><li>✓ Rural Geography (Developed and Developing changes in farming practice)</li><li>✓ Rural Land-Use Conflicts &amp; Management (case study on the Cairngorms National Park)</li><li>✓ Population (methods and problems of data collection, consequences of population structure, causes and impacts of forced and voluntary migration)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ Global Climate Change (only topic covered in session 2020-21). This involves studying natural and human causes, local and global impacts and management strategies</li></ul>
Geographical Skills & Techniques		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Map reading and interpretation (this includes reading and providing 6-figure grid references, contours, map symbols, scale, etc.)</li><li>• Making use of numerical and graphical data (this includes interpreting graphs, diagrams, tables, pictures, field-sketches, etc)</li></ul>		

\* Please note that the Assignment (research and/or fieldwork project) has been removed for session 2020-21 by the SQA.

## **Revision Websites**

<https://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47922.html>

This is the official SQA Higher Geography website. This is an extremely valuable website to use, as it contains all the course specifications, as well as past paper questions, specimen questions and answer schemes. Making use of the past paper questions and checking answers against the marking schemes is an excellent way to improve quality of answers at Higher.

It is also highly recommended to make use of 'Understanding Standards' link on this site, as it shows you pupil work and SQA marker commentary, which is extremely valuable.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmhs34j>

This BBC Bitesize website is an excellent support and revision site. You can revise all the topics covered in Higher Geography, you can test yourself for each topic and it will score you on your performance. There are also lots of video clips to help explain key themes and concepts.

<http://www.georesource.co.uk/higher.html>

This website contains links and resources for many of the topics and skills covered in Higher Geography. Again, it has video clips, but also down-loadable resources and practice exam-style questions.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zfj8scw>

This part of the BBC Bitesize revision website goes through the various Geographical Skills that require to be covered at Higher Geography. This includes Ordnance Survey map skills and using numerical and graphical data.

## **'Command Words' in Higher Geography**

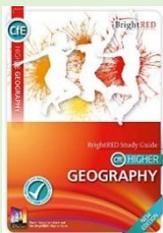
There are seven types of question used in the two question papers in Higher Geography, namely:

**A Describe . . . B Explain . . . C Analyse . . . D Evaluate . . . E Account for . . . F Discuss . . . G To What Extent.....**

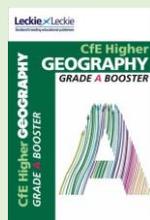
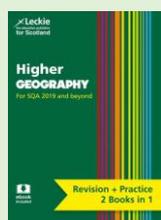
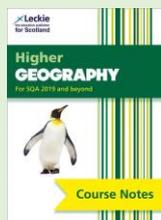
Look in the SQA marking schemes (through the above link) to read more about what these mean. This is a very important part of succeeding at Higher Geography- understanding what a question is asking of you.

## Useful Revision Textbooks/Guides

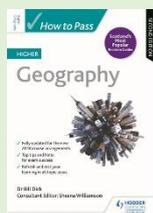
<https://www.brightredpublishing.co.uk/shop/geography>



<https://collins.co.uk/collections/higher-geography>



<https://www.hoddergibson.co.uk/subjects/geography/products/higher/how-to-pass-higher-geography-second-edition>



## Revision/Supported Study Sessions

Once we are able to offer extra revision/supported study sessions in school, we will update this website (currently prohibited due to Covid-19 restrictions). Ordinarily, Mrs Gibson and Mr Shepherd run these sessions twice a week, one over lunchtime and one after school. The new venues for these will be in rooms **S19** for Mrs Gibson and **S20** for Mr Shepherd.