

Preparation for A-level Geography

A-level Topic: Water and Carbon Cycle

Key Question: How do geographers use systems to simplify the natural world

Key Terms: input, outputs, energy, stores/components, flows/transfers, positive/negative feedback, dynamic equilibrium, hydrosphere, atmosphere, cryosphere, lithosphere, biosphere.

What to watch	What to read	What to do
<p>A summary of systems: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oRfR9_Afh5U</p> <p>A podcast to help with cryosphere notes: https://www.rgs.org/schools/teaching-resources/giant-icebergs-and-the-carbon-cycle/</p> <p>A fantastic summary of the water and carbon cycle is One Strange Rock series (found on Disney plus, national geographic).</p>	<p>https://eo.ucar.edu/kids/green/cycles1.htm</p> <p>https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/lithosphere/</p> <p>https://www.nationalgeographic.org/activity/our-hydrosphere/</p> <p>https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/cryosphere.html</p> <p>https://www.rgs.org/CMSPages/GetFile.aspx?nodeguid=6dc9f1c1-f92d-4c04-9f85-9985844a6a79&lang=en-GB</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write a paragraph to explain of the concept and use of models and systems by geographers as simplifications of a complex world. 2. What are the main elements of a system? 3. Define the following terms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolated systems • Closed systems • Open systems 4. Define: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dynamic equilibrium • Positive feedback • Negative feedback 5. Describe the major subsystems of the earth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmosphere • Lithosphere • Hydrosphere • Biosphere • Cryosphere <p><i>Challenge task: How do the subsystems of the earth all link?</i></p>
<p>What to submit</p> <p>A page to summarise your notes on the systems approach in geography and the different spheres.</p>		

This is quite complicated stuff just give it your best shot. It is the background you need to be able to understand how humans can impact the carbon and water cycle. If you have any questions please email me at bradshawl@beck.uk.com. We will go over all of this at the beginning of the course but this will help start you off.