

Key Concepts in Geography...

• Systems



• Interconnection



• Processes



• Sustainability



• Representation



• Globalisation



• Causality



• Risk



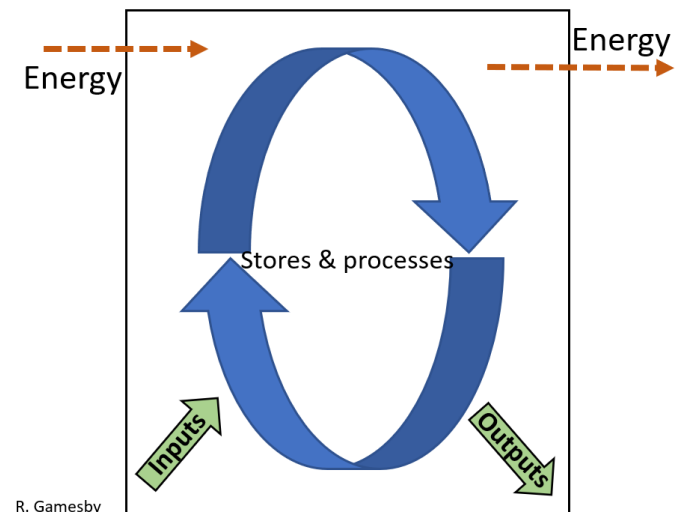
Systems...



Systems are flows of inputs, stores and outputs of energy or matter. They are the foundation of the natural and built environment, and the transfers of energy support the **balance** of life and resources on our earth and in our societies.

Enquiry Questions...

1. How does a system stay in balance?
2. What can cause a system to change?
3. How can systems adapt to change?
4. Why is it so crucial that we understand how to keep systems in balance?
5. What does it mean for a system to be 'resilient'?



Interconnection...



Interconnection is the way that **people** and/or **geographical** phenomena are **connected** to each other through environmental processes and human activity. Interconnections can be simple, complex, reciprocal or interdependent and have strong influence on the characteristics of places.

Enquiry Questions...

1. How are people and places connected to other places?
2. What role does technology play in connecting people to people, goods, services and information in other places?
3. What are the consequences of a globally connected world for people and places?
4. Why are interconnections important for the future of places and environments?



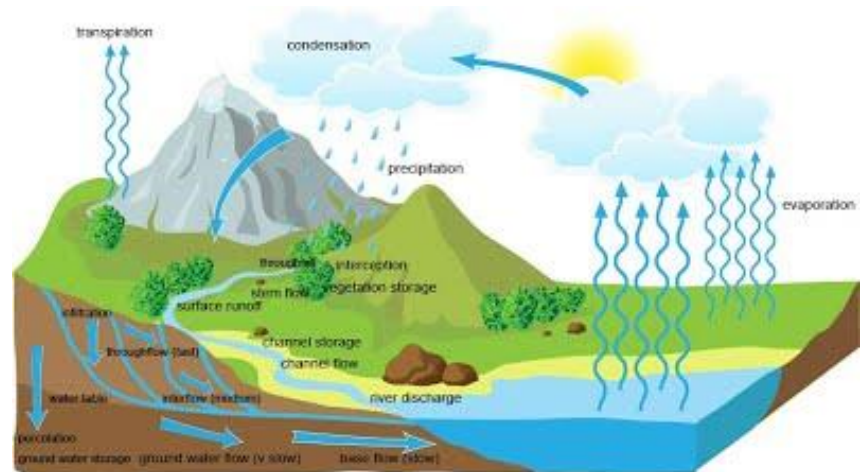
Processes...



Processes are the physical and human forces that work in combination to form and transform the world, for example, erosion, the water cycle, migration or urbanisation. **Geographical processes** can operate within and between **places**. Processes occur over several stages to form a **sequence**.

Enquiry Questions...

1. On what scales do processes occur?
2. How can humans control and predict different natural processes?
3. What are the challenges of adapting to or stopping processes?
4. Do humans interfere too much with natural processes?



Sustainability...



Sustainability is the practice of using **natural resources responsibly**, so they can support both present and future generations. Especially as the human population grows, it is critical that we reduce our consumption of forests, precious metals, and other natural resources.

Enquiry Questions...

1. What are the impacts of climate change on sustainability?
2. What are the challenges of living sustainably?
3. How can humans reduce our carbon footprints?
4. Does development influence how successful sustainability can be?



Representation



Representation is the ways in which people and places are perceived by others, whether that is understood through their culture, language, community, media or personal experience. Representation of a **place** can shape its **image, reputation and role** in broader society.

Enquiry Questions...

1. How can representation be positive or negative?
2. How do we form an opinion or judgement about a place?
3. How do our experiences impact on our perception and understanding of places?
4. How can we appreciate the different ways places can be represented?
5. How can culture change how a place is represented?



Globalisation...



Globalisation is the increasing **connections** between places and people across the planet, established through trade, politics and cultural exchanges, and helped by technology and transport. Animation, Global perspectives, geopolitics and development, Global Learning Programme.

Enquiry Questions...

1. How does globalisation increase opportunities and challenges in countries?
2. How crucial has technology been in the increase of globalisation?
3. What environmental impacts has globalisation had on the earth?
4. How will globalisation shape the future?



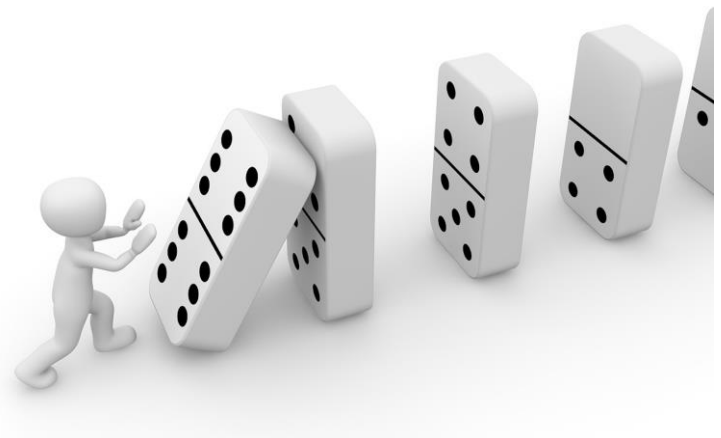
Causality...



Causality is understanding the **human and physical causes** of an event, such as desertification or drought. Causality involves assessing which causes are most significant and have the biggest impact, and understanding that human activity is often a cause alongside natural physical factors.

Enquiry Questions...

1. Are human or physical causes more significant?
2. How can humans become more aware of the physical environment?
3. What impact does human activity have on the natural world?
4. How do environments change over time?
5. Does space influence the outcomes of human and physical processes?



Risk...



A **hazard** is a natural event that can cause harm, e.g. a flood, tsunami, earthquake, etc. A **risk** is the chance, high or low, that any **hazard** will actually cause somebody harm. For example, living by a plate boundary can increase the risk of being affected by a tectonic hazard.

Enquiry Questions...

1. How do we determine hazard risk?
2. How does development influence the level of risk to a country?
3. What are the ways we can mitigate or adapt to living with hazards?
4. How has human activity increased the risk of hazards?

