



Topic name	Term	Skills developed	Prior learning	Next link in curriculum
<p>Topic 7. Human Systems and Geopolitics – Superpowers EQ 1: What are superpowers and how have they changed over time?</p> <p>7.1 Geopolitical power stems from a range of human and physical characteristics (economic, political, military, cultural, demographic and access to natural resources) of superpowers. It can vary from 'hard' to 'soft' and its maintenance changes over time</p>	AUTUMN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constructing power indexes using complex data sets, including ranking and scaling. 	Y7.5 Earth's resources. Y8.2 Development & Y8.4 globalisation Y10 & 11 Economic development unit.	Synoptic links with globalisation and (as a core unit) in Paper 3 Revision
<p>7.2 Patterns of power change over time and can be uni-, bi- or multi-polar. This has changed from the imperial era of direct colonial control (British Empire to the neo-colonial mechanisms of the Cold War era and recently the emergence of China as a potential rival to the USA's hegemony). Each having varying degrees of geopolitical stability and risk.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping past, present and future sphere of influence and alliances using world maps 	Y8.1 China Y8.6 also 10&11 development & colonialism in Africa. Y9.3 Russia Y12 Globalisation	Synoptic links with globalisation. Revision
<p>7.3 Emerging powers, including the BRICs and other G20 members, vary in their influence on people and the physical environment, such as global environmental governance (UN Climate Change Conference). These changes can be explained using various Development Theories.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding how models can make complex topics simpler but appreciating this oversimplification can also have problems. 	BRICS builds on 8.1 China; Y9.3 Russia. G20 on Y10.9 Nigeria. Environmental governance in Y9.5 Climate change & Y10 Climate change	Synoptic links with Y12 globalisation; Y13 Water (Unit Y12 (unit 3) 5) and Carbon (Unit 6)
<p>EQ 2: What are the impacts of superpowers on the global economy, political systems and the physical environment?</p> <p>7.4 Superpowers have a significant influence over the global economic system, promoting free trade and capitalism through a variety of IGOs. Also dominant in the global economy are TNCs Promoting economic and cultural (often 'westernisation') globalisation.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using graphs of world trade growth using linear and logarithmic scales 	Y10 & 11 Economic development – UN Y12 Globalisation- global bodies and also cultural and westernisation.	Synoptic links with Y12 (unit 3) globalisation. Revision.
<p>7.5 Superpowers and emerging nations play a key role in international decision-making concerning people and the physical environment such as crisis response, conflict & climate change. Often seen as 'global police'.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilising current affairs from a number of media outlets: BBC; Aljazeera; France 24; CNN; NHKTV; RT & CCTV. 	Y12 Globalisation – political organisations and Global IGOs. Y12 trade blocs.	Synoptic links with Y12 (unit 3) globalisation. Revision.



<p>7.6 Global concerns about the physical environment are disproportionately influenced by Superpower actions particularly in search of resources. This causes environmental degradation with increasing carbon emissions. Future growth in middle-class consumption increases demands.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mapping emissions and resource consumption using proportional symbols. • Utilising current affairs from a number of media outlets: BBC; Aljazeera; France 24; CNN; NHKTV; RT & CCTV. 	<p>Y9.5 & 10.3 Climate change issues Y12 Impacts of globalisation on LICs / NEEs</p>	<p>Synoptic links with Y12 (unit 3) globalisation. Also Water and carbon cycles in Y13. Revision.</p>
<p><u>EQ 3: What spheres of influence are contested by superpowers and what are the implications of this?</u> 7.7 Global influence is contested in a number of different economic, environmental and political spheres. Tensions arise over disputed physical resources (oil & gas in the Arctic); over intellectual property rights and counterfeiting, and over territory and physical resources</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilising current affairs from a number of media outlets: BBC; Aljazeera; France 24; CNN; NHKTV; RT & CCTV. To look at S. & E. China Seas and conflict over Russian gas. 	<p>Y7.5 Earth's resources.</p>	<p>Synoptic links with Y12 (unit 3) globalisation. Revision.</p>
<p>7.8 Developing nations have changing relationships with superpowers which increase interdependence, cause environmental impacts, and bring opportunities and challenges. as well as differing cultural, political, economic, and environmental ideologies.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plotting the changing location of the world's economic centre of gravity on world maps. • Utilising current affairs from a number of media outlets: BBC; Aljazeera; France 24; CNN; NHKTV; RT & CCTV. To consider China in Africa and the Middle East 	<p>Y8.1 &2 China and development in Africa Y8.6. From 2022/23 will build on intro work on the Middle East in Y7.</p>	
<p>7.9 Existing superpowers face ongoing economic restructuring, which challenges their power. These include problems such as debt, unemployment, and social costs and the cost of maintaining global military power and space exploration.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing future Gross Domestic Product (GDP) using data from different sources 	<p>Y11 UK economic landscape N-S divide. Y12 Globalisation – negative impacts on HICs such as deindustrialisation.</p>	
<p>Topic 8. Global Development and Connections - Health, Human Rights, and Intervention <u>EQ1. What is human development and why do levels vary from place to place?</u> 8.1 Human development is traditionally measured using GDP but human contentment versus levels of wealth and income is complex and contested Improvements in environmental quality, health, education, life expectancy and human rights are seen as more significant goals for development while economic growth often delivers them.</p>	<p>SPRING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparison of different measurements of development using ranked data. 	<p>Y10.7 economic development. Y12 Measures of development in globalisation – happy planet index . Y12 GII (Gender inequality index) linking into Sharia Law.</p>	<p>Synoptic learning and revision only for paper 2.</p>



<p>8.2 There are variations in human health and life expectancy. In the developing world these are explained by differential access to basic needs. In the developed world variations are due more to lifestyles, levels of deprivation and the availability, cost and effectiveness of medical care with variations also within countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of scatter graphs and correlation techniques to describe the relationship between health and life expectancy and other indicators of development. 	<p>Y8 Minority groups in China Links Y11.1 UK economic divide Y12 regenerating places – North -South divide variations of health and life expectancy within UK.</p>	<p>Synoptic links especially with Y12 globalisation for Paper 2.</p>
<p>8.3 Governments and International Government Organisations (IGOs) play a significant role in defining development targets and policies ranging from welfare states to totalitarian regimes. Progress in the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) has been mixed but these have still been increased to include sustainable development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of proportional circles to show the relative size of government spending and the share of that spending devoted to welfare, health and education across developing, emerging and developed nations. • Extended synoptic writing 	<p>Y12 Globalisation – political organisations and Global IGOs.</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>
<p><u>EQ 2: Why do human rights vary?</u> 8.4 Human rights have become important in international law. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) and Human Rights Act 1998 protect the individual. The Geneva Convention prosecutes those committing war crimes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing a balanced argument. • Applying the laws and conventions to real life examples. (E.g. British troops in Basra Iraq) 	<p>New topic. Possible links with history at GCSE Geneva Convention re World Wars.</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>
<p>8.5 There are significant differences between countries in both their definitions and protection of human rights. Some states invoke human rights whilst others prioritise economic development. The degree of democratic freedom varies from authoritarian to democratic systems, as does political corruption threatening human rights.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use qualitative and quantitative indicators to derive an index of corruption and show this on global maps to compare variations in levels of corruption with types of government. • Utilising current affairs from a number of media outlets: 	<p>Mainly new material Y8 China – political corruption. Y10&11 Economic Nigeria. Y12 Elite migrants – oligarchs in UK</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>
<p>8.6 There are significant variations in human rights within countries, which are reflected in different levels of social development. In some states there are groups, defined by gender and/or ethnicity(indigenous populations) that have had fewer rights especially in health and education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilising current affairs from a number of media outlets: BBC; Aljazeera; France 24; CNN; NHKTV; RT & CCTV. Especially having an awareness of bias. • Extended synoptic writing. 	<p>Y10.7 economic development. Y12 Measures of development– happy planet. GII (Gender inequality index) Sharia law.</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>



<p><u>EQ 3: How are human rights used as arguments for political and military intervention?</u> 8.7 There are different forms of geopolitical intervention in defence of human rights including development aid, trade embargoes, military aid, indirect and direct military action. These Interventions are promoted by IGOs, national governments and NGOs like Amnesty International.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilising current affairs from a number of media outlets: BBC; Aljazeera; France 24; CNN; NHKTV; RT & CCTV. Especially having an awareness of bias. 	<p>Y12 Globalisation – political organisations and Global IGOs. Y13 7.5 global police</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>
<p>8.8 Development from governments to NGOs is focused on improving both human rights and human welfare. The impact of such development aid is contested, but there are successes like reducing malaria and improvements in gender equality. Some critics argue this encourages dependency and corruption. Other 'development aid' from TNCs has negative environmental impacts.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of flow-lines on global maps to show both the direction and level of aid from donor to recipient global regions. Evaluating source material, including newspaper articles and marketing material to determine the impact of development aid. Interpreting images to evaluate the impact of economic development on minorities. in. 	<p>Y10 Natural hazards Haiti and Y12 Also Resources – oil in Niger delta (Nigeria) Y7.5; 9.5; 11.5 resource management – global scale. Y12 environmental impacts of NICs / NEES.</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>
<p>8A.9 Military aid, and both direct and indirect military intervention, are frequently justified in terms of human rights. Though it can support countries that themselves have questionable human rights records. Direct military intervention in the 'war on terror', promotes human rights of minority communities but is compromised by torture.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilising current affairs from a number of media outlets: BBC; Aljazeera; France 24; CNN; NHKTV; RT & CCTV. Especially having an awareness of bias. Extended synoptic writing 	<p>Y13 7.5 global police</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>
<p><u>EQ4: What are the outcomes of geopolitical interventions for development and human rights?</u> 8A.10 There are several ways of measuring the success of geopolitical interventions including improvements in health, life expectancy, educational levels, gender equality, freedom of speech (democracy) and successful management of refugees as well as increases in GDP per capita.</p>	<p>SUMMER</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Critical analysis of source material to identify possible reasons for error in the assessment of success for named interventions such as the management of European or Asian boat people. 	<p>Synoptic drawing on various Y12 globalisation and Y13 Superpowers</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>
<p>8A.11 Development aid has a mixed record of success. In some states there is success such Ebola in West Africa contrasted with relative failure in Haiti and Iraq. Some states that receive development aid, have seen economic inequalities increased impacting on health and life expectancy. Such aid can be used by superpowers as an extension of their foreign policy.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using Gini Coefficient and income or wealth proportion for deciles of the population to describe inequalities in and between nations. Critical analysis of source materials to identify possible misuse of data in the qualitative assessment of success for military interventions such as Iraq, Afghanistan, and Libya 	<p>Y10 & 11 Economic development gap – Ebola. Y10 & Y11 Haiti earthquake aftermath. Y8 China / Africa & Kenya / Y9 Russia economic inequalities.</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2 especially with Superpowers.</p>



<p>8A.12 Military interventions, both direct and indirect, have a mixed record of success. While some are successful there are significant costs, including loss of sovereignty and human rights a short-term gain with long-term costs. A lack of action also has global consequences impacting negatively on progress in many spheres.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Extended synoptic writing and decision making on the right course of action using a balance argument.	<p>Links with Military aid within this topic. 8.9</p>	<p>Synoptic links for revision for Paper 2.</p>
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