



# 5 hours in Geography

Research shows that the most successful students (i.e. those that make the most progress and get the highest grades) are doing between 20 and 25 hours of independent study per week by the end of Year 13. That may seem a lot, but it's something that you would build up to over the course of your A-Levels. In Year 12, we're talking something more like 15 hours per week. This equates to roughly 5 hours of independent study per A-Level per subject.

Remember that your independent study is divided into three types – **Consolidation, Reactive and Proactive**. How this is divided may vary from week to week or between subjects but one approach could be:

## Consolidation - 45mins

Straight after a lesson, or that evening / the following day you should reread your notes, talk a topic through with somebody, write summaries, mind maps, flashcards e.g., for equations, definitions, facts you need to recall etc. You could use a revision guide to work alongside your notes to help you recall key concepts from the lesson and apply specific diagrams.

## Reactive – 3hrs

This is your 'homework'. Each of your teachers should give you at least 1 hours' worth of homework each week. This could be linked to upcoming exams, preparation work for coursework or coursework that is currently being completed. This could include work for Water and Carbon, Changing Places, Hazards, Coasts or your NEA project.

If you find this takes more than 1 hour, that's fine, you can take this from the proactive phase (not from the consolidation phase though). Equally, if you find you finish your reactive work quickly, spend more time on your proactive work.

## Proactive – 1hr 15mins

This is the section that will broaden and deepen your overall understanding of the subject you are studying. It will not necessarily involve work that has been set by your teacher, but instead it is about you doing the extra practice questions, reading articles, watching videos, TED talks etc. In Geography, this might contain some of the following:

- Complete a set of practice past paper questions – available from the exam board website AQA A Level Geography (question paper and mark schemes available) (1 hour)
- Model answer practice: using an exam question and the mark scheme, produce an answer to the exam question using the mark scheme for structure and guidance (15 mins)
- Use Seneca Learning to complete and add to class notes on specific topic areas (30 minutes)
- Use the specification checklist for each topic to go through and identify areas for development/ areas to revisit (10 mins)
- Answer questions from your revision guide (30 mins)
- Creation of knowledge organisers (1 hour)
- Watch a TED talk on a relevant topic (20 mins)
- Access the additional reading folder in teams and select an article to read (30 mins)
- Use the padlet links to complete wider reading around the topic you are focussing on (30 mins)
- Use the quizlet link to create flashcards of key words and processes: <https://quizlet.com/content/AQA-A-Level-Geography-Flashcards> (30 mins)

## Useful links

Water and Carbon Padlet - <https://padlet.com/MrsAEG/WaterCarbonY12>

Changing Places Padlet - <https://padlet.com/MrsAEG/ChangingPlaces>

Hazards Padlet - <https://padlet.com/MrsAEG/Hazards12A>

Coasts Padlet - <https://padlet.com/fvenner/a-level-coasts-additional-reading-and-activities-resource-ba-7vakdr1pikay98g>

NEA Support Padlet - <https://padlet.com/fvenner/aqa-a-level-geography-nea-data-collection-fieldwork-and-writ-tv3imjg3az33h61r>