

Geography – Key Questions 2025-2026

Year 1

Topic 1: What is it like where we live?

- What is the name of our village? (Madeley)
- What is the name of our country? (England)
- Which villages/towns are near us? (Keele, Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Crewe)
- What can we find in our village? (Pool, shops, restaurants)
- What are the human geographical features? (Pool, trees)
- What are the physical geographical features? (Shops, houses, school, church etc)

Topic 2: Which countries are in the UK?

- Where is England? (A country in the UK)
- What is the United Kingdom? (Made up of four countries - England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland)
- Which countries make up the United Kingdom? (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland)
- What are their capital cities? (London, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Belfast)
- What is Great Britain? (Island made up of England, Wales and Scotland)
- Which seas are around Great Britain? (North Sea, English Channel, Irish Sea, Celtic Sea, Atlantic Ocean)

Topic 3: What is the weather like in different places?

- What is weather? (The conditions in the atmosphere at a particular place at a particular time)
- Where will I find weather? (Outside)
- What are the different types of weather? (Sunny, rain, fog, snow, hail)
- What is the weather I might find where I live? (Cold and raining and snowing in the autumn and winter, warmer and sunny in the spring and summer)
- What is the climate? (Weather in a place over a period of time)
- What are the seasons? (A time with a particular type of weather – autumn, winter, spring, summer)
- What is the weather like during the different seasons? (Spring – weather gets warmer and days are getting lighter, Summer – warm weather and days are longest, Autumn – weather starts to get colder and days become shorter, Winter – very cold, frosty and snow, gets dark early)
- Why do we have seasons? (Earth orbits the sun and as the Earth travels around the sun, the amount of sunlight changes. The Earth is tilted and it changes the length of days. When a part of the Earth is tilted away from the sun, the days are shorter and it is colder. When it is tilted towards the sun, the days are longer and it is warmer.)

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Year 2/3/4

Topic 1: What are the different parts of the UK and how is the land used?

- What is a county? (a region of Great Britain or Ireland that has its own local government or council)
- What are the different types of land in the UK? (urban and rural)
- Which types of land are near to us? (rural)
- What does urban mean? (areas with buildings, towns and cities)
- What does rural mean? (areas with fields and countryside)
- How is rural space used in the UK? (agriculture, forestry, coastal, freshwater, protected land)
- What are the different types of farming in the UK? (arable, dairy, sheep, mixed)
- Why are different farming types used in different places? (sheep are used in higher land in the north e.g. mountains, as they can survive on the little amount of food that grows there. Arable is mainly in the south and east, where land is flatter with good soil).

Topic 2: What is it like in Spain?

- Where is Spain? (South-western Europe)
- Which continent is it in? (Europe)
- Which countries border Spain? (Portugal, France, Andorra)
- What is the capital city of Spain? (Madrid)
- What are some other Spanish cities? (Barcelona, Seville, Bilbao, Valencia, Malaga)
- What are some Spanish islands? (Majorca, Ibiza, Tenerife)
- Which seas/oceans border Spain? (Mediterranean Sea to the E and SE, Atlantic Ocean to the NW and SW, Bay of Biscay to the N)
- What is the weather/climate like in Spain? (Mild and rainy winters, sunny and warm summers)
- What kind of biomes are in Spain? (Chaparral and temperate forest biomes. Chaparral is the main biome. Chaparral regions have cool, wet winters and hot dry summers)
- What are some of the human geographical features of Spain? (Cities, towns and villages, hotels, restaurants, farms)
- What are some of the physical geographical features of Spain? (Mountain ranges – Pyrenees, Sierra de Guadarrama, coasts and beaches, rivers – Guadalquivir, Ebro, Duero)
- What is life like for people in Spain? (Lots of tourism, high life expectancy, people enjoy eating and drinking with family and friends, agriculture, automotive and chemical industries)

Topic 3: Where is Australia?

- What is a country? (area of land controlled by government)
- What is a continent? (large area of land with lots of countries)

- What are the seven continents? (Asia, Africa, Antarctica, Europe, North America, South America, Oceania)
- What are the five oceans? (Atlantic, Pacific, Indian, Southern, Arctic)
- What is a hemisphere? (Half of the earth. The earth has a northern and southern hemisphere).
- Where is Australia? (A continent and country in the southern hemisphere between the Indian and Pacific oceans)
- What is the landscape like in Australia? (There are deserts, vast plains, forests and mountains. It is famous for the Great Barrier Reef)
- What is the weather like in Australia? (The weather is generally hot and dry. In the north, there is a tropical climate with wet and dry seasons. In the south, there are dry summers and cool winters)
- When are the seasons in Australia? (The summer is from March to December. Autumn is from March to May, winter is from June to August. Spring is from September to November)

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Year 5

Topic 1: What can the rainforest do for us?

- What is a rainforest? (dense forest rich in biodiversity, usually found in tropical areas with heavy rainfall)
- Where are rainforests located in the world? (South East Asia, West Africa, South and Central America)
- What are the different layers of a rainforest? (Emergent, canopy, understory, forest floor)
- What are some of the features in a rainforest? (plants, animals)
- What are the conditions in a rainforest? (hot, humid, lots of rain)
- Why might rainforests be in danger? (deforestation)
- Why are rainforests useful? (we can get many ingredients for products from plants that grow in the rainforest)
- What products can be made using things found in the rainforest? (rubber, chewing gum, chocolate, soap, perfume)
- What kind of trade might we have with rainforests? (fair and sustainable)

Topic 2: What is life like in Brazil?

- Where is Brazil? (It is a country on the eastern side of South America. It is the biggest country in South America)
- Where is South America? Is it a country or a continent? (a continent in western and Southern hemisphere)
- What is the equator? (circle of latitude that divides the Earth into the northern and southern hemisphere)
- What is the climate/weather in Brazil? (Tropical, wet/hot and humid)
- What kind of biomes are in Brazil? (tropical forest)
- Which language do the people speak in Brazil? (The official and national language is Portuguese)
- What are some of the cities in Brazil? (The capital city is Brasilia. Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Salvador, Manaus)
- Are there any rivers or mountains in South America? (Amazon river, Pico da Neblina)
- What are some of the human geographical features in Brazil? (cities, favelas, landmarks such as Christ the Redeemer statue).
- What are some of the physical geographical features in Brazil? (rainforest, rivers, mountains)
- What is life like for people in Brazil? (Diverse – some wealthy and poor areas. Some people live in slums called favelas. Some very traditional tribes still in the Amazon rainforest)

Topic 3: What are the capital cities of Europe?

- What are some of the capital cities around the world? (London, Paris, Washington D.C., Tokyo, Beijing, Delhi)

- What are some of the capital cities in Europe? (London, Paris, Madrid, Moscow, Oslo)
- Which countries are these capital cities in? (England, France, Spain, Russia, Norway)
- Which continent are the capital cities in? (Europe)
- What are some of the human geographical features of these cities? (landmarks e.g. Eiffel Tower, tourism, skyscrapers/buildings)
- What are some of the physical geographical features of these cities? (mountains, rivers, coasts)

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Year 6

Topic 1: What is it like in the Mediterranean?

- Where is the Mediterranean? (Between Europe, North Africa and West Asia)
- What are some countries in the Mediterranean? (Morocco, Italy, Cyprus, Spain, France, Croatia)
- What are some of the capital cities in the Mediterranean? (Rabat – Morocco, Rome – Italy, Nicosia – Cyprus, Madrid – Spain, Paris – France, Zagreb – Croatia)
- What are some seas and ocean in the Mediterranean? (Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea, Balearic Sea, Aegean Sea, Atlantic Ocean)
- What is the climate like in the Mediterranean? (Warm and rainy winters, hot and dry summers)
- Which climate zones/biomes are in the Mediterranean? (Savannah, tropical grassland)
- What are some physical features in the Mediterranean? (High mountains, rocky shores, sandy beaches, hills)
- What are some human features in the Mediterranean? (Cities, towns, villages, harbours/ports, landmarks)

Topic 2: What are the causes and effects of climate change?

- What is climate change? (Long term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns)
- What is global warming? (Long term rising of the Earth's temperature)
- What are fossil fuels? (Natural, non-renewable fuels formed in the geological past from the remains of living organisms, such as coal or gas)
- Which activities create climate change? (Agriculture, deforestation, pollution)
- What are some of the effects of climate change on the world? (Hotter temperatures, severe storms, droughts, rising sea levels)
- How does climate change affect our lives? (Loss of species, health risks, lack of food)
- How could we manage climate change? (Using fewer fossil fuels, using renewable energy, sustainable transport, better forestry management, sustainable agriculture)

Topic 3: Who can we trade with?

- What is trade? (Buying and selling goods and services)
- Where does trade occur? (locally and globally)
- Which developments have allowed trade to be global? (Developments and improvements in technology, transportation and communication)
- Which goods can be traded? (Natural resources and man-made products)
- What is a global supply chain? (Networks that span multiple countries and continents with the purpose of sourcing and supplying goods and services)
- What does the UK export and to where? (Cars, medicine, mechanical parts. The UK trades with many countries such as USA, Germany, Ireland, UAE)
- What is meant by Fairtrade? (Where people who make things are treated and paid properly and fairly for their work and products)

- What is a high-value export? (Products which sell for high prices and make lots of money, such as computer products, cars, aircraft)