

Geography – Key Questions 2026-2027

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

Topic 1: What's it like to live in a village and a city?

- What is the closest city to Madeley? (Stoke-On-Trent)
- What is the capital city of England? (London)
- Can you find Madeley/Stoke-On-Trent and London on a map?
- What are some of the human geographical features of Stoke-On-Trent? (houses, shops, canals, train station)
- What are some of the physical geographical features of Stoke-On-Trent? (River Trent, woodland)
- What are some of the human geographical features of London? (houses, skyscrapers, airports)
- What are some of the physical geographical features of London? (River Thames, hills, woodland)

Topic 2: What are continents and oceans? (All Around The World)

- 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 an example of countries on each continent? (China, Nigeria, France, USA, Mexico)

Topic 3: What is similar and different about Madeley and Tanzania?

- Where is the UK? (Europe)
- Where is Tanzania? (Africa, East Africa)
- What is the capital of Tanzania? (Dodoma)
- Which continent is it in? (Africa)
- What is Tanzania like? (vast wilderness areas)
- What are the human geographical features of Tanzania? (major cities like Dar es Salaam and Dodoma, farmlands, ports)
- What are the physical geographical features of Tanzania? (high mountains, open grass plains, long tropical sea coasts)
- What is the weather like in Tanzania? (tropical climate, warm all year round. Coast is hot and humid, north is warm by day and cold at night. Long rainy season from March to May)
- What are some famous places in Tanzania? (Serengeti National Park, Mount Kilimanjaro)
- What is life like for people in Tanzania? (traditional, rural life but also cities)

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Year 3/4 and Year 4/5

Topic 1: What are the climate zones and why do they matter?

- What is climate? (long term pattern of weather in a specific place)
- What is a climate zone? (A large region of Earth with a distinct, long term pattern of temperature, rainfall and seasons)
- What is a biome? (A large area defined by its special climate, weather, plants and animals)
- What are some different climate zones? (Tropical, dry, temperate, continental, polar)
- What are some different biomes? (Tundra, temperate forest, tropical rainforest, grassland, savanna, desert, chaparral)
- What are lines of latitude and longitude? (Imaginary grid lines on Earth used to find exact locations. Latitude runs east to west and longitude lines run north to south)
- What is the equator? (An imaginary line that circles the middle of the Earth)

Topic 2: How diverse are Europe's landscapes and places?

- 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)

Topic 3: How is our local area changing and how has it changed?

- What is a settlement? (A place where people establish a community and build homes)
- What is a village? (A small settlement, typically located in a rural area, that is smaller than a town and features basic local services, such as small shops, places of worship, pub etc).
- What is the name of our village? (Madeley)
- How can we measure how settlements change? (By using maps)
- How can we find out about how settlements change? (Interviewing residents, interpreting fieldwork data)

Geography – Key Questions 2025-2026

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)