

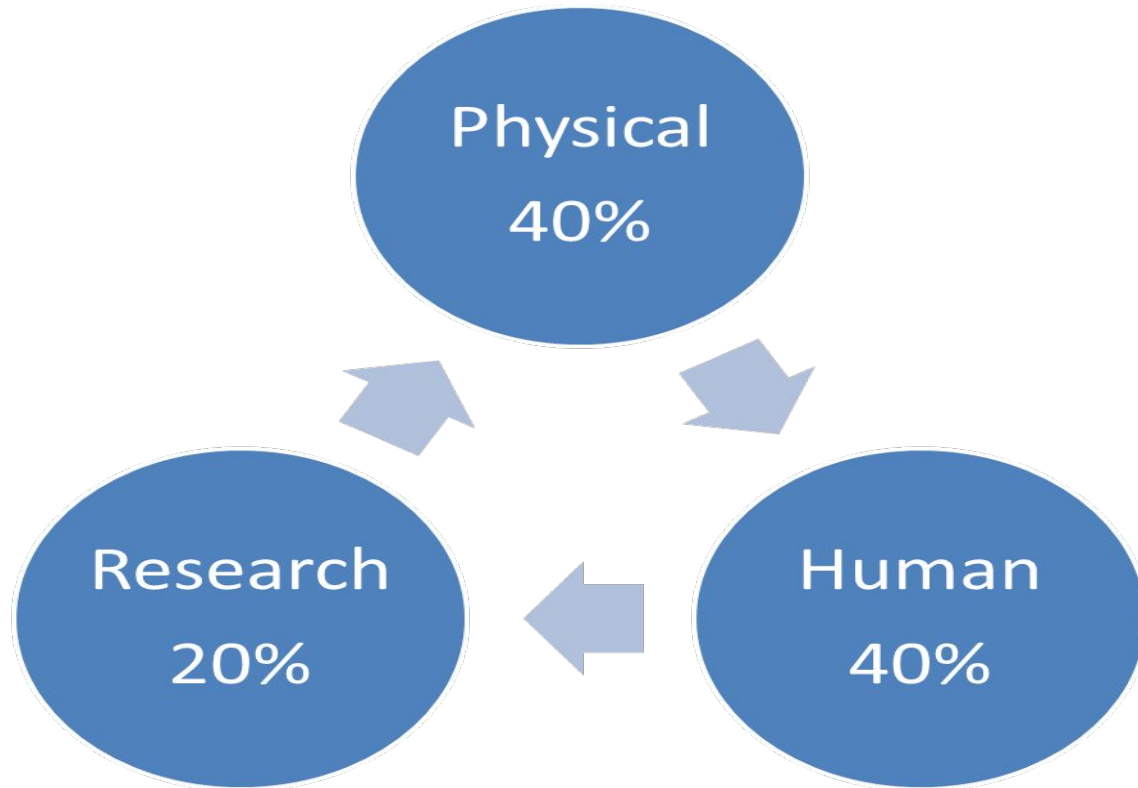
# TRANSITION WORK

Working through the tasks in this slideshow will help prepare you for the step up between GCSE and A level. There are lots of important resources to watch/read and make notes on. The task at the end will need to be submitted to your teacher at the start of the course in September.

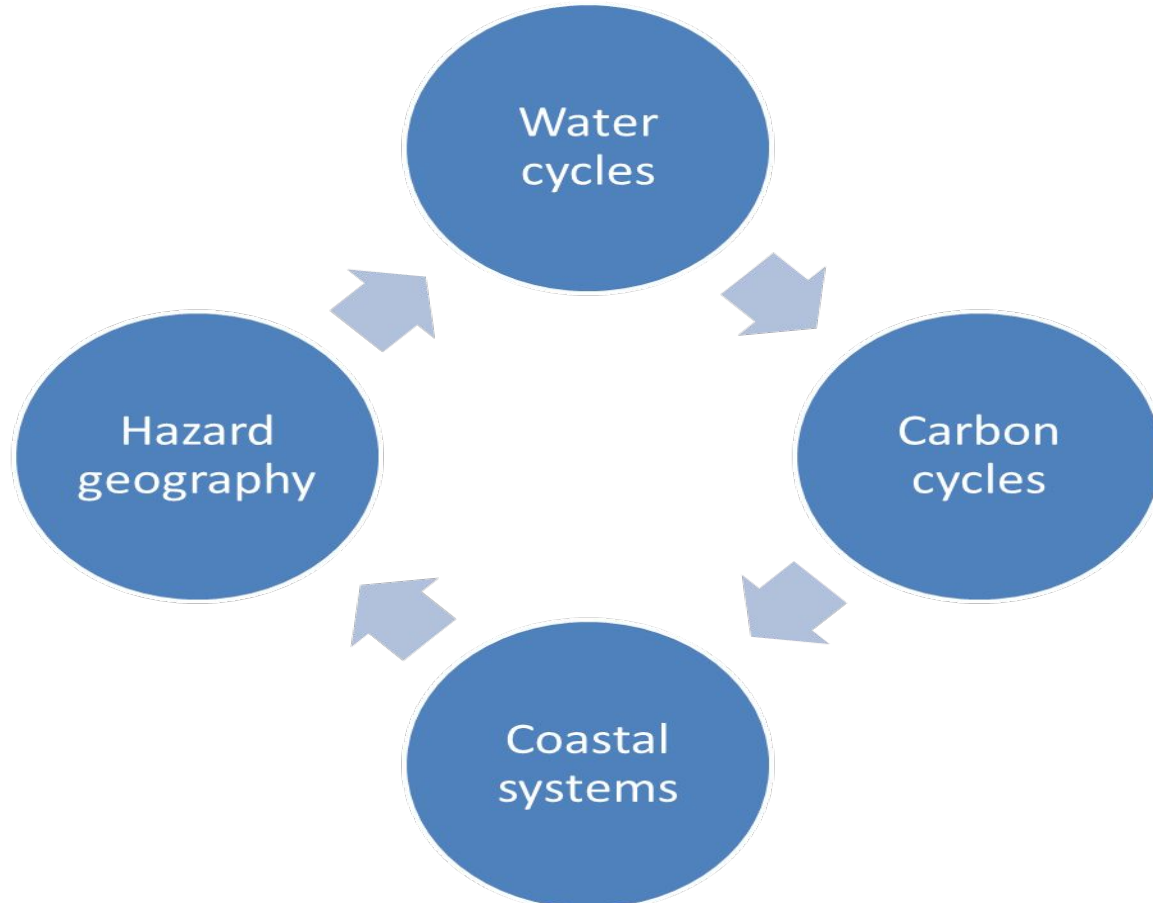
# A Level Geography

**Introducing A level geography**

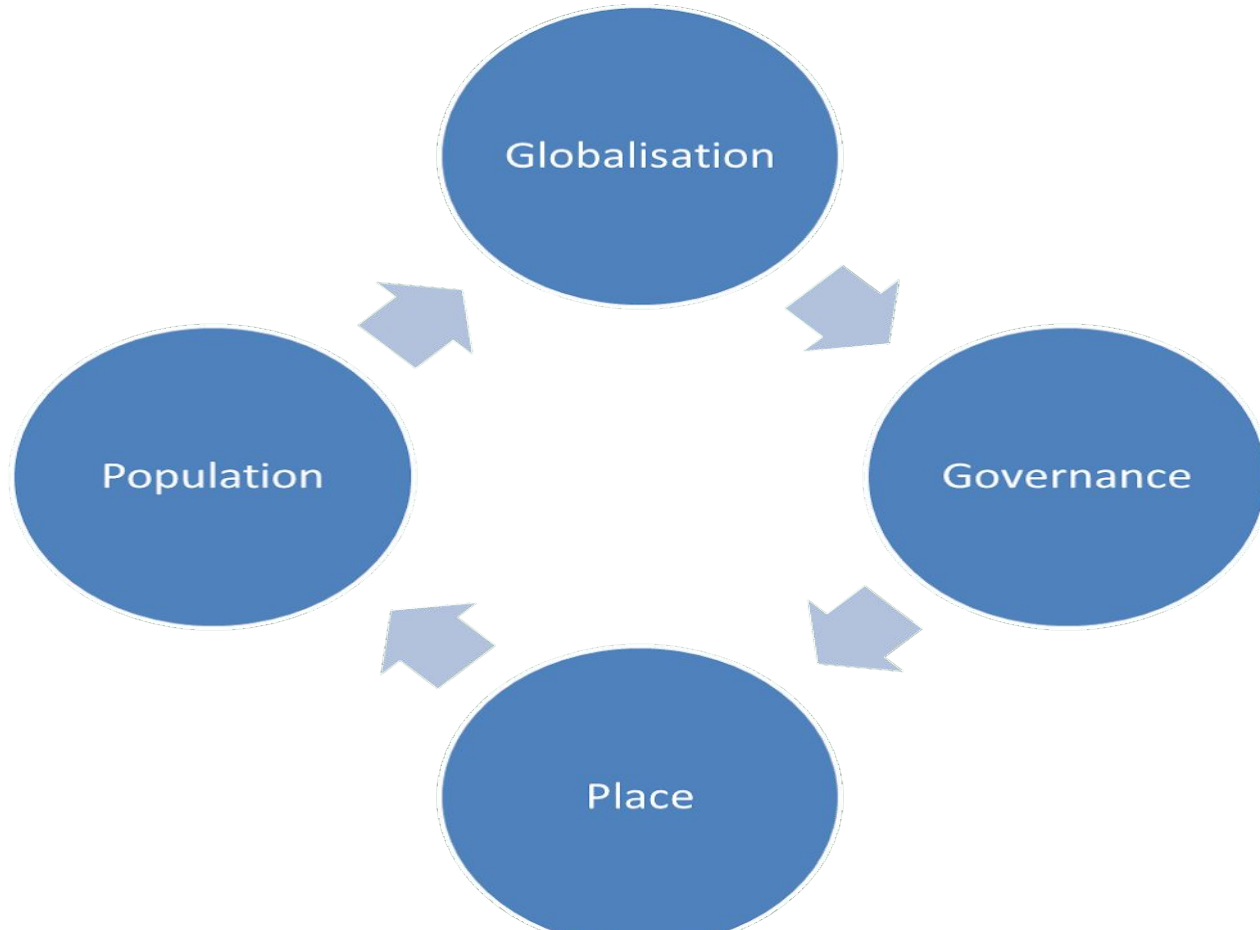
# The structure of the course



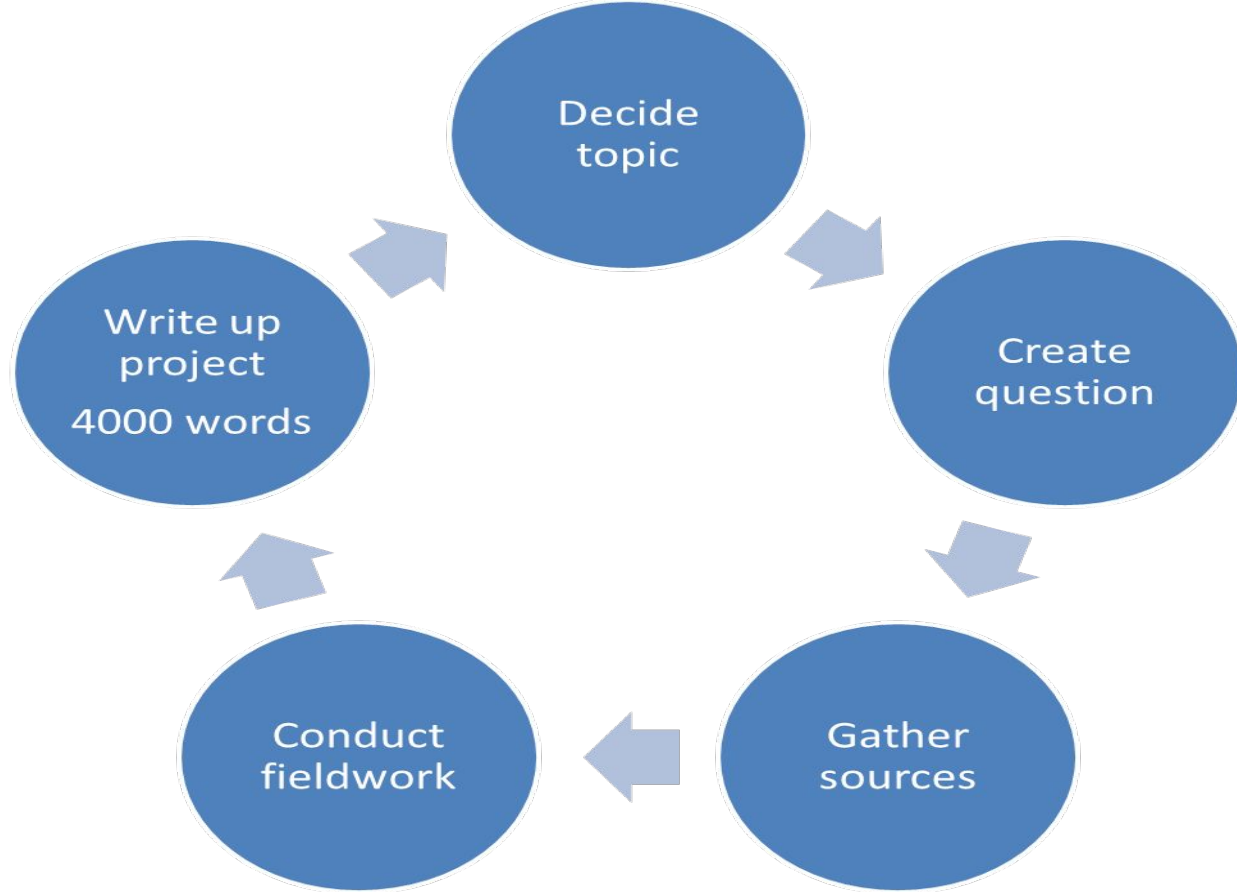
# Physical content.....



# Human content....



# The research....



A video summary of the A level  
course....

[Watch it here to help prepare  
yourself for what is to come](#)

If you really want to drill down into the detail,  
you will find it all here in the specification



# Preparing to study human geography at A level



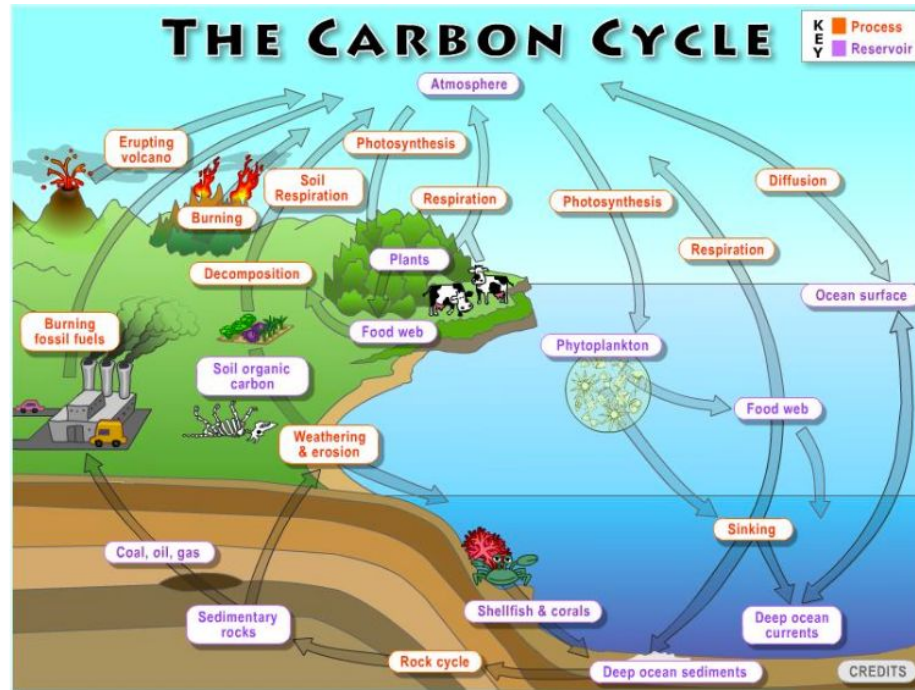
Hans Rosling (1948- 2017) was a Swedish statistician who changed popular understanding of the world through his talks and presentations Watch him at work and **decide** whether he makes you optimistic or pessimistic about the future of humanity

[A crash course in 'the world'](#)

[Danny Dorling \(a giant of human geography\) is showing how maps have moved on in recent years!](#) Think very carefully about what a map should be used for in this modern world. Should they still be limited to just showing us the LOCATION of places, or should they be used to tell us the CHARACTER of places? **Make notes on the key points of his presentation about the way maps can be used**

[Read through this sample of student work from last year.](#) This was actually done during a period of remote learning, but if you **read it carefully now**, having had a look at all the charts linked on the first page, it will help to prepare you for the challenges to come in terms of demographic geography (i.e. population geography)

# Preparing to study physical geography at A level



# Videos & tasks relating to the Physical Geography component of the course

## The importance of Carbon in supporting life

An important concept to grasp for the beginning of the A-level course is the essential role that Carbon plays in supporting all life on Earth.

## Human Impacts on the carbon cycle

An important section of the Year 12 course is to understand the impact of human activity on the long and short natural Carbon cycle stores and transfers. **Task:** Make a note of the key processes mentioned and how they are (directly or indirectly) affected by human activity and try to assess to what extent they are affected.

The importance of the carbon cycle in understanding climate Understanding the operation of the natural carbon cycle is essential to understanding climate change, how this works, the concept of positive and negative feedback loops and the potential for mitigating of the impacts of climate change.

## Hazard modelling

This video introduces you to 2 key models used in Hazard modelling - the idea that specific hazard events can be 'modelled' and profiled. **Task:** Aim to make notes on these 2 models and importantly, consider the strengths and weaknesses of the 2 models and how useful/effective they are at trying to compare the impacts as well as help prepare for hazard events.

# Preparing to conduct independent research

This is a great opportunity to read a student project in entirety. This will show you what independent research looks like. We will teach you how to create a project like this as part of the A level course.

# Written task....

## Introduction

It is great that you are going to study Geography at A Level.

Your course is a fantastic one and it will be very exciting to work through as it includes units of work which reflect all the recent changes in the subject. For example there are units of work on water and carbon cycles, global systems of governance and the meaning of 'place'. There are also more traditional A level geography units including for example, hazards, rivers and coasts.

This booklet of work gets you started on two of the units you will be able to work on alone during the summer ready for a running start in September. You should bring in the work you have completed on the tasks in the first week of the course to give to your teacher. Remember, none of this work is formally assessed but it is intended to indicate where help might be needed, and how well you can work independently.

In A Level Geography it is expected that you can demonstrate to the examiners that you have been partaking in wider reading. Below is a useful journal and websites you could use over the next two years and beyond in university.

Go to: [Geographical Magazine](#)

You need to be aware of current global events that are related to the units you will be studying; so look out for things in the news to do with the topics we are studying.

There are also many good websites you can use. News website are partially good at keeping you informed and up-to-date.

News websites include –

[www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)

[The Guardian](#)

You can also use websites like –

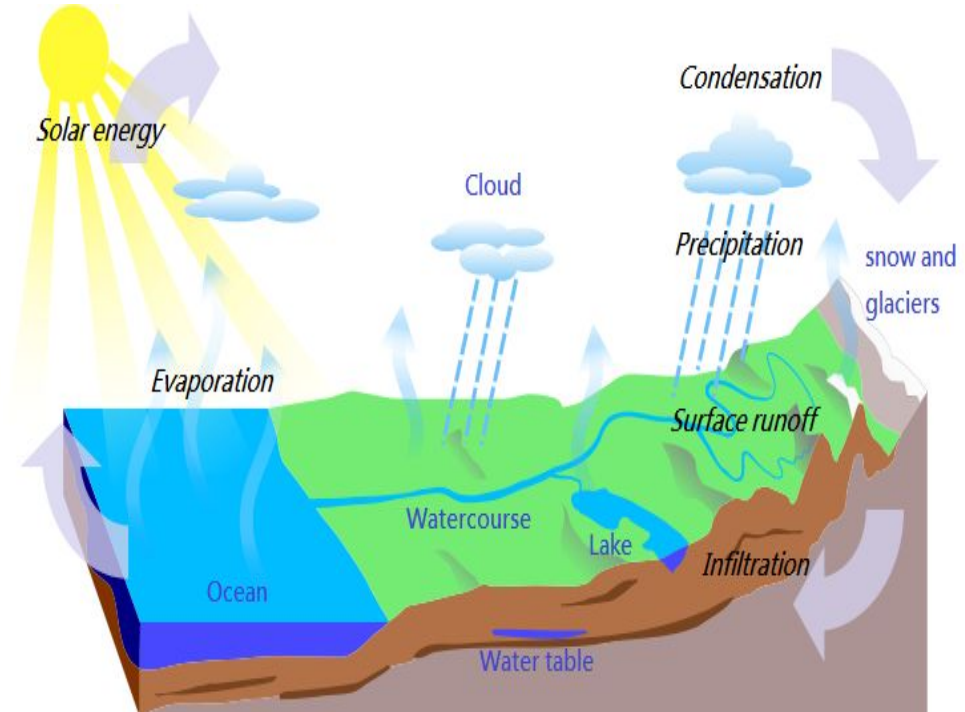
<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>



# Topic 1: Physical Geography; Water cycles

This will build on the subjects you have studied at GCSE level.

## A simple water cycle diagram

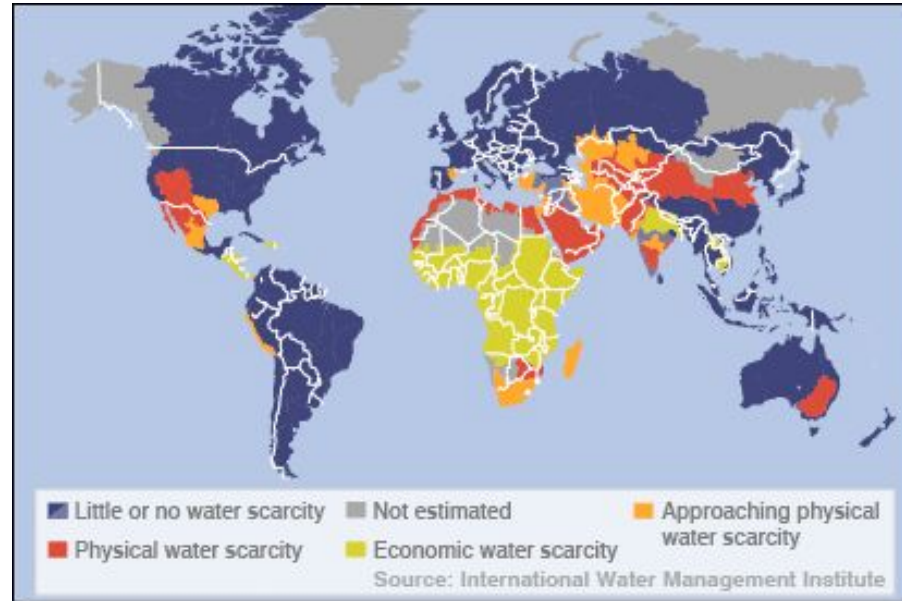


**TASK: Independent Research (WRITE A SHORT ESSAY UP TO 300 WORDS)**

1. What effects can humans have on the hydrological cycle?

**TASK: Exam style questions:**

2. Analyse patterns of water scarcity shown on this map (approx. 250 words)



3. What issues may be present when a river flows through more than one country?

## Topic 2: Human Geography: GLOBALISATION

Globalisation is a huge topic in geography, however, it is not beyond a critical approach which is exactly what we shall subject it to in our lessons. These tasks will introduce you fully to the concept ready for the course.

Historical factors:

Since the discovery of the Americas, world trade and economy began to take shape.

- The colonialism of certain countries enabled the British Empire to control  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the world bringing along British culture (and of course the English language).
- The founding of the United Nations after the First World War allowed countries to work together easily.

### Continued influences and modern developments of globalisation

- Transnational Corporations (TNC): These are top firms with HQs usually in HICs however operate all over the world and are globally recognised (Coca Cola, Disney, Apple).
- Internet and IT: These have allowed design and manufacturing to be faster and easier. Jobs that typically humans would have done are now done online by fewer people- allowing many high tech industries to be “footloose” and not reliant on being nearby a resource or labour force.
- Transport: Now quicker, more efficient and low cost. Container ships and then the arrival of the 747 in the 1960s has revolutionised trade and movement of people.
- Growth of markets: Increase in urban living means more demand for trade, services and products.

## **TNCs and Trade aims**

- They tend to operate where labour is cheap and regulations are lacking
- To gain government grants from countries that are attracting new business
- They operate inside local trade barriers and avoid tariffs
- They like to be near markets

## **Positives of TNCs**

- Raising living standards – TNCs invest in the economies of many NICs and LICs
- Transfer of technology – south Korean firms e.g. Samsung have learned to design products for foreign markets
- Political stability – investment by TNCs has contributed to economic growth and political stability e.g. China
- Raising environmental awareness – due to large corporate image TNCs do respond to criticism e.g. Starbucks have their sustainability campaign

## **Negatives of TNCs**

- Tax avoidance – many avoid paying full taxed in countries they operate in through concessions, e.g. Starbucks and Amazon
- Limited linkages – FDI does not always help developing nations economies
- Growing global wealth divide – selective investment in certain global areas is creating a widening divide e.g. Southeast Asia vs. sub-Saharan Africa
- Environmental disaster and destruction – example of Bhopal, India disaster in 1984

**TASK:**

4. Choose an example of a TNC and create a timeline of events since their foundation as a company. What have been the benefits that the company has brought to the countries involved? Examples could be Nike, BMW, Disney, Ikea or Tesco. (approximately 300 words)

