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TOTTENHAM

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LAE
Tottenham
Preparatory
Tasks for
Offer
Holders

Preparatory Tasks: Geography

These tasks are designed to help start bridging the gap between GCSE and A-level.

Tasks 1-3 are expected to take around 15 hours. But do feel free to spend more time on them if you wish!

Task 4 is an optional extension task for those aiming for A*-A.

Task 1: GCSE revision notes (14 hours)

Make a complete set of summary revision notes / flashcards on these GCSE topics which overlap with the topics you will study for the OCR A-level specification. This will give you a good foundation for moving onto A-level study.

Make summary revision notes as if you were to sit GCSE exams in September. This means, only note down what you haven't understood & memorised. To illustrate, 2 days before Miss Kwong (Geography Lead Teacher) sat her Geography GCSE exams years ago, she had already condensed her summary notes down to just 2 sides of A4! She had already understood and memorised everything else! For you, the expectation is to produce summary notes of 10 – 20 pages of A4 (20 sides – 40 sides), depending on how many diagrams you use / size of your handwriting.

You will be tested on some of these topics in September Baseline Assessment when you join Y12.

You should make use of your GCSE workbook / notes / resources on BBC Bitesize (<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zkw76sg>) / to produce summary notes.

Top tips for making high quality summary notes:

1. Define key terms
2. Don't just copy paragraphs / sentences from the textbook! This doesn't show you have understood what you have written. Instead, re-arrange the information using the techniques below.
3. Categorise information e.g. short-term/long-term impacts, local/regional/national scale, social/economic/environmental/political impacts.
4. Draw a mind map to show connections between different points.
5. If you are explaining processes e.g. how headlands and bays form, break down the explanation into clear steps and write in bullet points to make sure the sequence of the steps is correct.
6. Draw diagrams e.g. of landforms, and add labels will help improve understanding.
7. **A*-A:** Pay attention to **spatial changes** i.e. how different places are different from each other e.g. high-income vs low-income countries.
8. **A*-A:** Pay attention to **temporal changes** i.e. how things change through time e.g. deindustrialisation will change the level of unemployment / as global warming continues, sea-level will change

GCSE topics which overlap with OCR A-level specification are listed below. Refer to your GCSE exam board and make notes on the topics identified. There is no need to make notes on topics not covered by your GCSE exam board, unless you are interested in extending your knowledge further!

GCSE specifications can be found here:

AQA <https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/geography/specifications/AQA-8035-SP-2016.PDF>

OCR A <https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/207306-specification-accredited-gcse-geography-a-j383.pdf>

OCR B <https://www.ocr.org.uk/Images/207307-specification-accredited-gcse-geography-b-j384.pdf>

Edexcel A [https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-A/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/Geography_A_Issue3%20GCSE%20\(9-1\)%20Specification.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-A/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/Geography_A_Issue3%20GCSE%20(9-1)%20Specification.pdf)

Edexcel B https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/GCSE/Geography-B/2016/specification-and-sample-assessments/Specification_GCSE_L1-L2_Geography_B.pdf

GCSE topics to make revision notes on

Note: unless specific key ideas / sub-headings / enquiry questions are included, all content under the section (e.g. 3.1.1.1) will be relevant

You may find some of the topics listed are optional for GCSE exam. If your school did not choose these options, feel free to look it up on BBC Bitesize website to gain an overview. But there is no expectation for you to study these prior to arriving at LAE Tottenham.

Linked A-level topic	AQA	OCR A	OCR B	Edexcel A	Edexcel B
<p>Earth's life support systems</p> <p>Exploring Oceans</p>	<p>3.1.1 (A) Challenge of natural hazards</p> <p>3.1.1.3 Weather hazards:</p> <p><i>Global atmospheric circulation helps to determine patterns of weather and climate</i></p> <p><i>The UK is affected by a number of weather hazards</i></p> <p>3.1.1.4 Climate change</p> <p>3.1.2 (B) The living world</p> <p>3.1.2.1 Ecosystems</p> <p>3.1.2.2 Tropical rainforests</p> <p>3.1.2.4 Cold environments</p> <p>3.2.3 (C) Challenge of resource management</p> <p><i>Changing demand and provision of resources in the UK create opportunities</i></p>	<p>Paper 1 Living in the UK Today</p> <p>1.3 UK environmental challenge</p> <p>Paper 2 The World Around Us</p> <p>2.1 Ecosystems of the planet</p> <p>2.3 Environmental threats to our Planet</p>	<p>Paper 1 Our Natural World</p> <p>Topic 1 – Global hazards</p> <p><i>1.1. How can weather be hazardous</i></p> <p><i>a. Why do we have weather extremes?</i></p> <p>Topic 2 – Changing Climate</p> <p>Topic 4 – Sustaining ecosystems</p>	<p>Component 1: The physical environment</p> <p>Topic 2: weather hazards and climate change</p> <p><i>2.1 The atmosphere operates as a global system transferring heat and energy</i></p> <p><i>2.2 The global climate was different in the past and continues to change due to natural causes</i></p> <p><i>2.3 Global climate is now changing as a result of human activity</i></p> <p><i>2.4 The UK has a distinct climate which has changed over time</i></p> <p>Topic 3: Ecosystems, biodiversity and management</p> <p><i>3.1 Large-scale ecosystems are found in different parts</i></p>	<p>Component 1: Global Geographical Issues</p> <p>Topic 1: Hazardous Earth</p> <p><i>1.1-1.3 Enquiry question: how does the world's climate system function, why does it change and how can this be hazardous for people?</i></p>

	<p><i>and challenge – water and energy only</i></p> <p>3.2.3.3 Water (optional topic for GCSE)</p> <p>3.2.3.4 Energy (optional topic for GCSE)</p>			<p><i>of the world and are important</i></p> <p><i>3.4 Tropical rainforests show a range of distinguishing features</i></p> <p><i>3.5 Tropical rainforest ecosystems provide a range of goods and services some of which are under threat</i></p> <p>Component 2: The Human Environment</p> <p>Topic 6: Resource management</p> <p><i>Optional sub topic 6A: Energy resource management</i></p> <p><i>Optional sub topic 6B: Water resource management</i></p>	
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<p>Coastal landscapes</p>	<p>3.1.3 (C) Physical landscapes in the UK</p> <p>3.1.3.2 Coastal landscapes in the UK (optional topic for GCSE)</p> <p>3.1.2 (B) The living world</p> <p>3.1.3.3 River landscapes in the UK:</p> <p><i>The shape of river valleys changes as rivers flow downstream</i></p>	<p>Paper 1 Living in the UK Today</p> <p>1.1 Landscapes of the UK</p>	<p>Paper 1 Our Natural World</p> <p>Topic 3 – Distinctive Landscapes</p>	<p>Component 1: The physical environment</p> <p>Topic 1: Changing landscapes of the UK</p> <p><i>1.1-2.1 Overview of the UK's physical landscape</i></p> <p><i>Optional sub topic 1A: Coastal landscapes and processes</i></p>	<p>Component 2: UK Geographical Issues</p> <p>Topic 4: The UK's evolving physical landscape</p> <p><i>4.1-4.2 Enquiry question: Why does the physical of the UK vary from place to place?</i></p> <p><i>Sub topic: coastal change and conflict</i></p> <p><i>4.6 Distinctive river landscapes have different characteristics formed by interacting physical processes</i></p>
<p>Hazardous Earth</p>	<p>3.1.1 (A) Challenge of natural hazards</p> <p>3.1.1.1 Natural hazards</p> <p>3.1.1.2 Tectonic hazards</p>		<p>Paper 1 Our Natural World</p> <p>Topic 1 – Global hazards</p> <p><i>1.2 How do plate tectonics shape our world?</i></p>		<p>Component 1: Global Geographical Issues</p> <p>Topic 1: Hazardous Earth</p> <p><i>1.7-1.9 Enquiry question: why do the causes and impacts of tectonic activity and management of tectonic hazards vary with location?</i></p>

<p>Global connections: Trade in contemporary world Powers & borders</p>	<p>3.2.2 (B) Changing economic world</p> <p><i>There are global variations in economic development and quality of life</i></p> <p><i>Various strategies exist for reducing the global development gap</i></p> <p><i>Some LICs and NEEs are experiencing rapid economic development which leads to significant social, environmental and cultural change</i></p>	<p>Paper 1 Living in the UK Today</p> <p>1.2 People of the UK</p> <p><i>1.2.1 UK is connected to many other countries and places</i></p> <p>Paper 2 The World Around Us</p> <p>2.2 People of the planet</p> <p><i>2.2.1 The world is developing unevenly</i></p> <p><i>2.2.2 There are many causes of uneven development</i></p> <p><i>2.2.3 Many factors contribute to a country's economic development</i></p>	<p>Paper 2 People and Society</p> <p>Topic 6 – Dynamic Development</p> <p>Topic 7 – UK in the 21st Century</p> <p><i>7.2 Is the UK losing its global significance?</i> <i>a. What is the UK's political role in the world?</i></p>	<p>Component 2: The Human Environment</p> <p>Topic 5: Global development</p>	<p>Component 1: Global Geographical Issues</p> <p>Topic 2: Development dynamics</p> <p>Component 2: UK Geographical Issues</p> <p>Topic 5: The UK's evolving human landscape</p> <p><i>5.1-5.2 Why are places and people changing in the UK?</i></p>
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<p>Changing spaces; making places</p>	<p>3.2.1 (A) Urban issues and challenges</p> <p><i>Urban change in cities in the UK leads to a variety of social, economic and environmental opportunities and challenges</i></p> <p>3.2.2 (B) Changing economic world</p> <p><i>Major changes in the economy of the UK have affected, and will continue to affect, employment patterns and regional growth</i></p>	<p>Paper 1 Living in the UK Today</p> <p>1.2 People of the UK</p> <p><i>1.2.2 UK is a diverse and unequal society which has geographical patterns</i></p> <p><i>1.2.3 There are different causes and consequences of development within the UK</i></p> <p><i>1.2.5 There are causes for and consequences of urban trends in the UK</i></p> <p>Paper 2 The World Around Us</p> <p>2.2 People of the planet</p> <p><i>2.2.5 Causes and consequences of rapid urbanisation in LIDCs</i></p>	<p>Paper 2 People and Society</p> <p>Topic 5 – Urban Futures</p> <p><i>5.2 What are the challenges and opportunities for cities today?</i></p> <p><i>a. What is life like for people in a city?</i></p> <p>Topic 7 – UK in the 21st Century</p> <p><i>7.1 How is the UK changing in the 21st century?</i></p>	<p>Component 2: The Human Environment</p> <p>Topic 4: Changing cities</p>	<p>Component 1: Global Geographical Issues</p> <p>Topic 3: Challenges of an urbanising world</p> <p>Component 2: UK Geographical Issues</p> <p>Topic 5: The UK’s evolving human landscape</p> <p><i>5.3-5.8 Case study – Dynamic UK cities</i></p>
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Task 2: Read & comprehend (45 min)

At A-level, one of the main ways to learn a new topic / new case study is to read, understand and analyse articles. This is also a crucial learning skill at university level.

To give you an idea of the standards students can achieve, by the start of Y13 the 2 articles used for this task should only take 15 minutes for A*-B grade A-level student to read and understand. This is an encouragement for you to start reading more to increase your reading & comprehension speed ☺

The two articles are taken from materials from Financial Times and Guardian websites. They discuss the issue of urban regeneration in light of the Grenfell Tower disaster in June 2017, which is a topic we will explore this academic year.

Urban regeneration can be defined as: ‘attempt to reverse the decline of an area by both improving the physical structure, and, more importantly, the economy of the area. Public money is used in urban regeneration schemes to attract private investment into the area.

Instructions

1. Read the articles carefully, using dictionary / research online to find the meaning of any keywords you do not understand. Annotate the article to add definitions of key terms to the margin to help you understand what you are reading.
2. In bullet points, make notes to summarise the arguments for and against urban regeneration. You may want to organise your notes in the form of a table with two columns as shown below.
3. Bring your notes to the first Geography lesson of the academic year. We shall discuss the points raised by the articles as a class.

For urban regeneration	Against urban regeneration

London’s ‘regeneration’: the backdrop to Grenfell rage

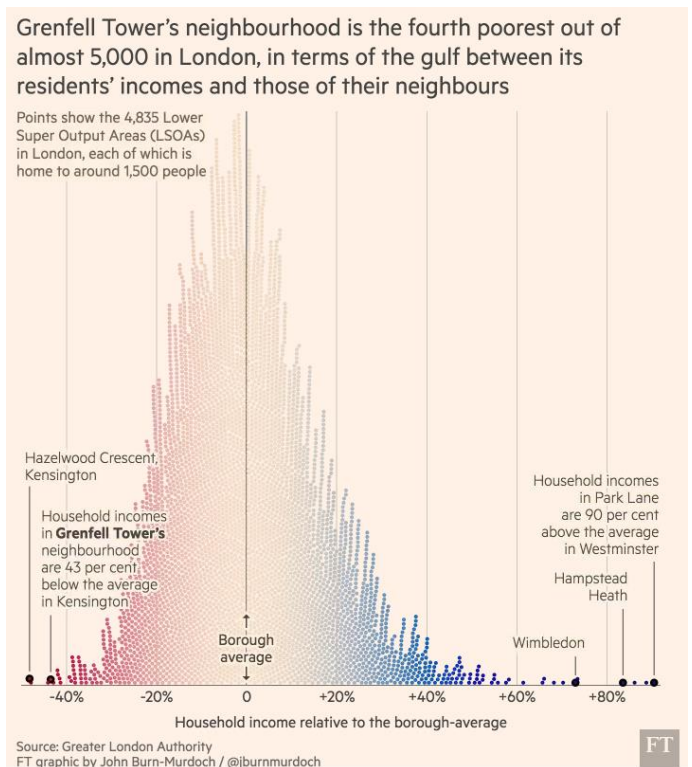
Policies aimed at replacing rundown estates viewed as ‘decanting’ the urban poor

The gradual demolition of the Wornington Green housing estate in North Kensington, London, should be good news for residents such as Nadia. The lift in her 1970s building is often out of order, she complains, and the housing association does not respond to pleas for repairs until at least the third call. What is more, Nadia and other residents have been promised accommodation in the sleek new development already taking shape on its grounds. It has a fashionable name — Portobello Square — and banners and billboards tout its green spaces and stylish amenities. But Nadia, who has lived at Wornington with her husband and children since 1997 — not long after she arrived from Sudan — is wary. She suspects that Portobello and similar “regeneration” schemes under way across London are actually a ploy to expel the poor and make way for the rich. “This neighbourhood is going to change,” she said, as she strolled with her daughter, Mariah, a university student. “It will be less black and ethnic minorities and more empty flats.” The fire in June at the nearby Grenfell Tower, in which at least 80 people died, exposed the neglect suffered by the less well-off residents of London’s wealthiest borough. In the aftermath of that disaster, many complained of lax safety standards and shoddy management. The tragedy in the London tower block highlighted growing social divisions in the UK and raises questions about housing policy. They also fumed about regeneration — a policy that is supposed to improve housing conditions but is increasingly blamed for squeezing the poor out of their own neighbourhoods.

Regeneration sounds like a sensible concept: knocking down old and tired housing estates and replacing them with larger, denser developments that feature a mixture of affordable and luxury flats. The latter carry the cost of the former, which is particularly appealing at a time when government budgets are tight. The idea has been championed in various forms by both Labour and Conservative governments as a way to fund new homes in a city that is desperate for them. It has gained particular momentum in recent years as property prices have surged across the capital and austerity has strained public finances. Last year, David Cameron, then prime minister, pledged to demolish nearly 100 so-called “sink” estates as part of an anti-poverty blitz. But critics say regeneration is misguided. New developments tear the fabric of longstanding communities. After residents are “decanted” — developer-speak for removed — they can spend years in temporary housing, often outside the borough, while they await new accommodation. Older residents may never see it.

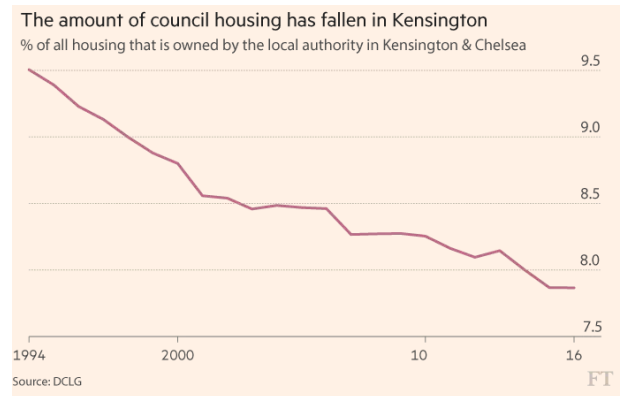
“All over London, tenants have been displaced by regeneration schemes,” said Anne Power, a social policy professor at the London School of Economics, who began working on housing issues in 1968 after her own home was earmarked for demolition. The concept is seductive to councils, she argues, because they can cash in on the property boom by selling land to developers while, at the same time, washing their hands of the responsibility of maintaining ageing estates. But as developers run into higher costs and delays, they often petition to reduce the affordable component of their projects. In 2015, members of the London Assembly found that the regeneration of 50 estates over the preceding 10 years had led to a net loss of 8,000 socially rented homes. This depletion took place even as the total number of homes on the sites almost doubled. “I don’t see how you can make it work,” said Professor Power, who instead advocates more refurbishment and better management of existing estates. “It’s the wrong model.”

Adam Challis, head of UK residential research at JLL, the property agency, was more measured but still critical. “This is one of those areas where there are some brilliant principles and really sensible ideas that are incredibly difficult to implement in practice,” he said. Emma Dent Coad, a Labour councillor before becoming Kensington’s MP in June, has for years railed against regeneration, taking particular aim at Wornington Green and its owner, Catalyst Housing, documenting instances of shoddy construction, bland architecture and insensitivity to residents. “Regeneration is an aim not a process,” she wrote in one blog. In another, she despaired that a cash-hungry council had turned itself into a property developer — the Royal Brokers of Kensington and Chelsea. Catalyst defended the Wornington regeneration, in spite of some early building hiccups. “Portobello Square is a fantastic looking scheme and we are very proud of it,” said Tom Titherington, its executive director of property and growth. Of a thousand planned units, 538 will be available for social rent — the same as the original estate. Catalyst has pledged that tenants’ net rent will not rise — although it acknowledges that service charges may. Such assurances have failed to put Nadia at ease. So far, 97 households have opted to move off the estate permanently. Still, Mr Titherington said: “The feedback is that people are very happy with their new homes.”



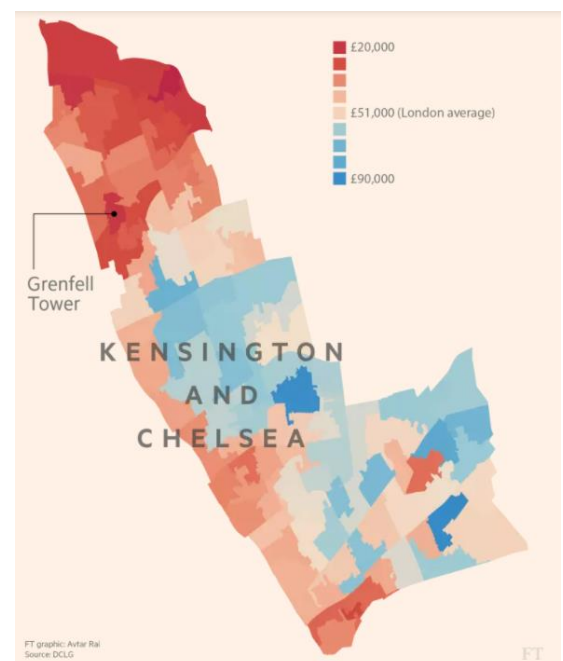
Catalyst is a non-profit housing association. But architects, consultants and construction companies are profiting from regeneration. Countryside, a home builder that specialises in the practice, has seen its shares rise 48 per cent since its 2016 IPO, giving it a market capitalisation of £1.5bn. About half of Countryside's business involves redeveloping public sector land. It said late last year that "estate regeneration opportunities in London [are] expanding significantly as local authorities seek to monetise their assets and improve their housing stock". So many property investors have flooded in that "regen" has become its own asset class. Among them is the insurer Legal & General, which announced a £15bn regeneration fund two years ago.

Bill Hughes, head of the company's property and infrastructure division, promised in April this year: "Sustainable regeneration, not opportunistic gentrification." Part of the suspicion surrounding regeneration stems from the prolonged decline of public housing in Britain. At its peak in 1979, homes rented from local councils in England numbered 5.2m, or 29 per cent of all housing, according to official figures. By 2016 they amounted to 1.6m homes, or 6.8 per cent. Much of it was lost under the right-to-buy policy that was a cornerstone of the Margaret Thatcher era, which allowed tenants to buy their council homes at a discount. New housing was never built to replace what was lost.



Along the way, social housing has increasingly become the refuge of society's poorest and most vulnerable. That tends to make such properties even more of a burden to manage, giving local councils greater incentive to let them run down and then sell them to developers. The temptation is particularly great in Kensington and Chelsea, where an influx of foreign buyers has helped make property among the most expensive on the planet. With a backlog of residents seeking social housing, the Conservative-dominated council has taken to housing them in other, less expensive boroughs on the outskirts of London.

"I don't blame them for thinking they're second-class citizens," said Linda Wade, a Liberal Democrat member of the council. Some of her constituents, she said, have been living in temporary accommodation outside the borough for as long as nine years. Rock Feilding-Mellen, the former Conservative councillor for housing and regeneration, did not respond to a request for comment. But in an interview with the Guardian newspaper in late 2015 he expressed his determination to provide housing for all income levels: "We're very passionate about preserving mixed income neighbourhoods. To achieve that, you have to have housing options all the way through." Mr Feilding-Mellen also defended regeneration, saying: "We need revenue. I think we should be working in partnership with developers and with investors to get the most out of our land, because that money gets re-churned into protecting our frontline services."



On the ground, though, the issue is visceral and complicated. When the borough's plans to bulldoze Wornington leaked in 2007, angry residents of the estate's oldest block of flats, Pepler House, declared their own independent republic. The low-rise building was praised in architectural journals after it was opened in 1965 — with Prince Philip in attendance — replacing a Victorian slum known as "the Ladies". Lawrence Lynch moved into Pepler in 1971 and is fond of it. But he complains the building is still freezing in the winter in spite of efforts to improve the insulation. He is less sentimental about the maze-like and rubbish-strewn blocks just across the street, which came a decade later and whose aesthetics would compare unfavourably with many prisons. "Anyone who wants to stay there should be silly," Mr Lynch said. "They're just an eyesore." Asked if he had any misgivings about private money mingling with public housing, he replied: "Who else will fund it?"

High-rise blocks like Grenfell Tower can be safe. The key issue is management

Residents of the gutted building in west London have been warning for years that a tragedy was inevitable.

Who could not be horrified by the images of the tower block in west London engulfed by a huge fire in the early hours of Wednesday morning, with trapped residents waving frantically for help from the upper floors? The tragic blaze at the 24-storey Grenfell Tower is not the first time one of the capital's tower blocks has hit the headlines in the worst possible way. Almost 50 years ago Ronan Point in Newham, east London, partly collapsed after a gas explosion, killing four people. The incident marked the end of an era for building tower blocks, highlighting the shoddy methods of the mass construction system that was so common at the time, and destroying confidence in high-rise living.

Today tower blocks are becoming popular again, particularly when they achieve listed status, as did the Trellick Tower in west London and Balfron Tower in east London, designed by Ernő Goldfinger, and Berthold Lubetkin's Hallfield Estate in Westminster. Balfron Tower is so popular that there has been a huge row locally over plans to turn it into luxury apartments in place of social housing. The appeal of high-rise living has never been lost on the super rich, with penthouse apartments that command spectacular views of the London skyline changing hands for many millions of pounds. None of these luxury blocks has ever gone up in smoke. While it's too early to point the finger of blame for this tragedy, it does raise the question of whether management was the problem.

There is a huge battle going on in London over the future of social housing estates, and there is no doubt that this appalling incident will feed into what has become a vicious debate. All over the city, high-rise social housing is earmarked for demolition. Up to 100 estates are estimated to have been, or are in the process of being, demolished, with many more in the pipeline. Local authorities claim that repairs and maintenance mean refurbishment is unaffordable. But residents, who do not want their communities broken up, are fighting vocal battles to save their homes.

The question is as much about who looks after social housing as what specifically needs to be repaired and maintained. Many residents have long been unhappy with the Kensington & Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation, a private property company contracted by the council to provide services and repairs. Over the past 20 years, most councils have given up the day-to-day running of social housing and the upkeep of housing estates. In many areas, partnerships such as the one between the KCTMO and the Kensington and Chelsea council are in operation. It's a confusing system where lines of democratic accountability appear to be blurred as the council and the KCTMO claim they represent residents.

The Grenfell Action Group had repeatedly complained that health and safety laws were being breached as a result of what they deemed to be failures on the part of the KCTMO. In a blogpost last year entitled *Playing with Fire*, the action group wrote: "It is a truly terrifying thought but the Grenfell Action Group firmly believe that only a catastrophic event will expose the ineptitude and incompetence of our landlord." They also claimed that the KCTMO narrowly averted a fire disaster at Grenfell Tower in 2013 when residents experienced a period of terrifying power surges that were subsequently found to have been caused by faulty wiring. Board papers for November 2016 reveal that the landlord had placed its fire-safety policy under review last year and ordered multiple changes to the way it handled fire risk in its properties. In a statement yesterday, it said it was aware that concerns had been raised historically by residents, and these would form part of its investigations.

The action group said: "All our warnings fell on deaf ears and we predicted that a catastrophe like this was inevitable and just a matter of time." The warnings issued are part of a bigger picture of continuing discord between the KCTMO, the council and the action group, which have been at loggerheads over plans for the regeneration of the block, which included the addition of external cladding which allegedly melted in the fire.

As the implications of this tragedy sink in, politicians need to reflect on whether or not such opaque partnerships offer adequate protection to residents, and whether they are the best way of looking after housing. KCTMO is responsible for about 10,000 homes in west London, and the criticisms of the action group go far beyond Grenfell Tower.

In 1968 the collapse of Ronan Point marked a turning point for British housing. This fire at Grenfell Tower must do the same.

Task 3: sample marked OCR A-level essay response (15 min)

The 33-mark question only appears in Paper 3 (we move onto this paper in Y13). This is the longest response required in the entire A-level. Students are expected to spend 45 minutes on a 33-mark question.

The essay below is a real answer written and marked for a real OCR A-level exam. Read it carefully to understand the standards required by the time you sit the exam in Y13. This student got 22 out of 33. Also read the examiner's comment which explains the strengths and weaknesses identified by the examiner.

20* To what extent is it possible to manage hazards arising from earthquakes?

[33]

Exemplar 1

22 marks (AO1 5 marks, A02 17 marks)

20		Earthquakes, caused by two tectonic plates becoming stuck on one other and then suddenly releasing this energy as they continue to move, bring many hazards. These hazards include ground shaking, liquefaction, landslides and tsunamis, and have varying effects depending on the country in which they take place. When countries look at the management of earthquakes, the action is often put under the categories of: modify the vulnerability, and modify the loss.
		The ability of a country to manage the hazards of an earthquake are significantly determined by the wealth and development of that particular country.
		An example in which it is clear to see the varying levels of management depending on wealth is in the case of the 2010 Haiti earthquake and the 2011 Japan, Kobe earthquake. In Japan, the high levels of wealth and development meant that they were able to effectively modify their vulnerability. There are strict building laws and regulations and the implementation of seismic buildings. These are buildings designed to withstand the

ground shaking of an earthquake instead of collapsing; they include deep foundations and the use of flexible material and shock absorbers. This meant that when an earthquake hit, fewer buildings collapsed and therefore fewer people were killed, reducing the death toll. This is an example of how Japan has used its wealth to manage the ^{effect of the} hazard of ground shaking, obviously it is impossible to manage the hazard of ground shaking itself. Although the rich areas of Japan did not suffer too significantly, there were poor

areas within it that suffered disproportionately. An example is the Negata ward, where this aseismic technology was not implemented and the buildings were not up to current regulations. This shows how the importance of decision making, as there is no point creating new laws for the construction of buildings when there are areas that predate this.

In contrast, Haiti was much less capable of managing the hazards as a result of its lack of economic means and development. As a result of rural-urban migration, there were high densities of people living in squatter settlements. In these settlements there is extreme overcrowding, and the houses are built from flimsy material, becoming increasingly precarious with height. Haiti did not have

the government structure to implement stricter building codes, and corruption meant that often the existing regulations were not even followed. Also, it was unable to modify its vulnerability to the hazards of ground shaking, as it could not afford aseismic building technology. This meant that when the 2010 earthquake hit, near Port-au-Prince, a huge number

20 continued

of people were killed due to collapsing buildings, significantly increasing the death toll. Overall, these examples show how varying levels of economic development hugely affect a country's ability to manage earthquake hazard risks from ground shaking. It also demonstrates how the hazard itself cannot be managed, no amount of money could stop ground shaking, but the use of technology such as aseismic buildings is crucial in modifying vulnerability and making the impact of this hazard less severe.

Along with ground shaking, another hazard caused by earthquakes is tsunamis. They occur when the movement of plates underwater

shift the body of water above them, causing a huge wave which does not break as it reaches the shore. This is an example of a hazard which can be managed in very few ways. The hazard itself cannot be changed, and even once it reaches the shore it is not like the use of aseismic buildings to manage ground shaking,

as the tsunami will destroy everything in its path. This means that management strategies must instead focus on early warning systems, so people can evacuate the area. As with seismic technology, the ability of a country to ~~also~~ modify their vulnerability will greatly depend on their economic development. This is again seen in the case of Japan and Haiti. In Japan, their access to advanced technology means that they can implement an early warning system. The people will receive a warning on their phones, as well as on their televisions, and the government will be able to ensure that as many people evacuate as possible, lowering the death toll. In contrast, Haiti cannot access this crucial technology and so when the 2010 tsunami hit, they were unprepared, resulting in thousands of deaths.

Another hazard arising from earthquakes is liquefaction. This is when the shaking of soft sediment causes it to lose its structure and begin to behave like a liquid, leading to building collapse and many deaths. This is an example of a hazard which, with the right decision makers in charge, can be managed fairly easily. In Japan, they use land zone planning to ensure that these areas of soft sediment are not built on. However, the demand for housing is poorer

countries such as Haiti and Indonesia mean that people often live in risk zones and decide to rebuild in the event of an earthquake. An anomaly can be seen in the case of the Marina District, USA, where a highly gentrified area of housing was built on soft sediment. This meant that when an earthquake hit, the housing collapsed and people were killed. This is an example of how, even in VC's, poor decision making and management can lead to deaths as vulnerability is not properly managed.

Overall, to some extent, it is possible to manage the impacts of the hazards of

earthquakes, although it is not possible to change the hazard itself. In some cases, such as liquefaction, management strategies are fairly easy with good decision makers in charge, but in the case of tsunamis it is very hard to manage impacts and so the focus must instead be on evacuation and warning. It is also clear that the extent to which a country can manage hazard impacts depends significantly on their level of wealth and development.

Examiner commentary

This candidate was credited Level 3 for both AO1 and AO2; displaying thorough knowledge and understanding, and subsequent application and analysis of this. Throughout their answer, evaluation and analysis is present and an argument surrounding the economic wealth of an area is built. However, at times this could be developed further to reach that comprehensive standard. For example, whilst a spatial element is discussed, the candidate may have exemplified points by looking at change over time and links to development. Furthermore, whilst they display an understanding of the hazards caused by earthquakes (AO1) their exemplars are

often vague and do not therefore display the comprehensive standard required for Level 4. Alongside this, the candidate could have considered other factors that influence the ability to manage this hazard and noted that regardless of economic wealth elements such as magnitude, lack of warning, or the creation of secondary hazards such as tsunamis would develop their argument further.

Task 4 (optional extension): Case study research

Researching, understanding and applying detailed case study is a key skill in A-level Geography.

In exam essays, you are expected to quote specific facts (i.e. numbers, names which are specific to the location you studied) as evidence to support a point you make.

The Nile Delta, Egypt is a case study we will use in Y12 to study a coastal landscape that is used and managed by people.

Task instructions:

Make notes on:

- **Economic development** taking place, reasons for it taking place e.g. trade routes, port, tourist resort development
- **Unintentional impacts on processes & flows of material, processes and/or energy** through coastal system e.g. disturbance to **sediment cell balance**
- **Effect** of these in changing **coastal landforms** e.g. beach profiles
- **Consequences** of these **changes** on the **landscape** e.g. coastal retreat / protection

Resources to read:

- <https://www.e-education.psu.edu/earth111/node/887>
- <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1687428516000108>
- <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/dams-and-sea-deliver-death-blow-to-nile-delta-31155>
- <https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/science-dammed-to-destruction-for-thousands-of-years-the-nile-fertilised-egypt-no-longer-fred-pearce-1490060.html>