

Year 9 – Geography – Unit 3 – Current Geographical Issues

Climate Change Key Terms		
1	climate change	a long-term change in the earth's climate
2	global warming	unusually rapid increase in the average surface temperature over the past century
3	High Income Country (HIC)	a country with a GNI greater than \$12 376 per person per year
4	Low Income Country (LIC)	a country with a GNI lower than \$1025 per person per year
5	Newly Emerging Economy (NEE)	a country which has begun to experience high rates of economic development and rapid industrialisation
6	fossil fuels	sources of energy formed from organic matter millions of years ago e.g., coal
7	orbital changes	changes in the pathway of the Earth around the Sun
8	greenhouse gases	Refers to a number of chemicals in earth's atmosphere e.g. carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide
9	greenhouse effect	name given to the natural process that causes earth to be warmer than it would without the atmosphere
10	extreme weather	when a weather event is significantly different from the average or usual weather pattern

Plastic Pollution Key Terms		
1	plastic	made of large molecules called polymers
2	single use plastic	used once or for a short period of time before being thrown away
3	pollution	introduction of harmful materials into the atmosphere
4	microplastics	tiny plastic particles, less than 5mm in length
5	nurdles	plastic pellets used in plastic manufacturing
6	biodegradable	will rot away naturally
7	non-biodegradable	will not rot away naturally
8	86kg	the estimated amount of plastic waste each household throws out each year
9	73%	of beach litter is plastic
10	46,000	pieces of plastic are floating on every square mile of ocean

Resources Key Terms		
1	resource	a stock or supply of something that has a value or a purpose
2	environmental effect	the effect of an event on the landscape and ecology of the surrounding area
3	economic effect	the effect of an event on the wealth of an area or community
4	food security	when people have enough nutritious and affordable food to eat
5	food insecurity	when people go hungry or are malnourished
6	sustainable	use of resources today whilst ensuring that there are enough left for future generations
7	resource depletion	exhaustion of raw substances within a region
8	finite resources	also known as non-renewable resources
9	non-renewable	a resource that is unsustainable due to the economic / environmental cost of using these e.g., fossil fuels
10	renewable	a resource that can be used without causing impact on the environment e.g., wind power