

adapt	<i>find ways to survive in a place (such as using less water in a desert or keeping warm near the North Pole)</i>
aerial photograph	<i>any photograph taken from the air</i>
agriculture	<i>farming. It includes both growing and harvesting crops and raising animals or livestock.</i>
Antarctic circle	<i>a special line of latitude that circles the Earth near the South Pole</i>
Arctic circle	<i>a special line of latitude that circles the Earth near the North Pole</i>
arid environment	<i>hot and dry areas with poor rainfall</i>
biodiversity	<i>the number of different types of plants and animals found in a particular environment</i>
biome	<i>a community of plants and animals that is suited to a particular climate</i>
border	<i>a line that separates two countries. You may need a passport to pass from one country to the other</i>
capital city	<i>the city where a country's government is located such as London or Edinburgh</i>
canopy (trees)	<i>the above-ground portion of vegetation in forests consisting of the tops of trees forming a kind of ceiling</i>
city	<i>a large and permanent human settlement of greater size or importance than a town or village. Cities generally have extensive systems for housing, transportation, sanitation, utilities, land use and communication.</i>
climate	<i>the average daily and seasonal weather patterns over a long period of time</i>
climate zone	<i>a part of the world where places have a similar climate (i.e. arid, Mediterranean, temperate, tropical, polar)</i>
community	<i>a group of people living in a particular area</i>
coast	<i>the area where the sea and land meet known as shores and seashores</i>
confluence (also: conflux)	<i>the meeting of two or more waterways. It usually means the point where a smaller river joins a more major river</i>
congestion	<i>when the amount of traffic exceeds the design capacity</i>
conservation	<i>the act of protecting Earth's natural resources for current and future generations</i>
continent	<i>a very large area of land that consists of several countries</i>

contour	<i>lines drawn on maps that join places of the same height</i>
country	<i>an area of land that has its own government, such as England or France</i>
county	<i>a smaller area of the UK containing lots of towns and villages which has its own local government.</i>
crops	<i>plants that are grown to be used or sold (such as rice, corn or fruit)</i>
culture	<i>how a group of people does things as part of their way of life</i>
deforestation	<i>the clearing, or cutting down, of forests. It normally describes the action of humans in removing forests from the planet, rather than destruction caused by such natural events as hurricanes.</i>
deposition	<i>the laying down of sediment carried by wind, flowing water, the sea or ice</i>
depression	<i>a landform sunken or depressed below the surrounding area</i>
development	<i>how places and communities change</i>
disperse	<i>distribute or spread over a wide area</i>
distribution	<i>the way something is spread out or arranged over a geographic area</i>
dome mountains	<i>mountains formed by magma pushing upwards, but without a volcanic eruption</i>
dormant	<i>a dormant volcano is one, like Kilimanjaro, that has not erupted for a long time</i>
drainage	<i>how water flows away from an area through rivers and streams</i>
earthquake	<i>the sudden shaking of the ground that occurs when masses of rock change position below the Earth's surface</i>
economic activity	<i>the activities which are done to earn income or money</i>
economy	<i>the wealth and resources of a place</i>
ecosystem	<i>a community of plants and animals that affect each other and the area around them</i>
energy	<i>the capacity for, or equivalent of, doing work</i>
environment	<i>all the physical surroundings on Earth including the air, soil, water, plants, and animals make up the environment</i>
epicentre	<i>where an earthquake starts and is felt most strongly</i>

equator	<i>an invisible line that runs around the centre of the Earth, halfway between the North and South Poles. It divides it into two equal halves, the Northern hemisphere and the Southern Hemisphere.</i>
equatorial	<i>the hot, wet climate in areas close to the Equator</i>
erosion	<i>how wind, water and waves break down and remove rock and soil</i>
European Union	<i>a group of countries in Europe that co-operate on trade and many other aspects of life</i>
export	<i>something that is sent to another country to be sold</i>
fair trade	<i>a way of buying and selling products that allows the farmers to be paid a fair price for their produce, and have better working conditions</i>
fault-block mountains	<i>mountains formed by parts of a broken plate being forced upwards</i>
feature	<i>something you would find in a place that is usually there (such as a hill or a house)</i>
fieldwork	<i>when you go outside and find out things about a place (KS1) the process of observing and collecting data about people, cultures, and natural environments (KS2)</i>
fire mountains	<i>mountains formed by volcanic eruptions</i>
flood management	<i>stopping or controlling floods</i>
flood plain	<i>an area of flat land alongside a river or stream</i>
flood prevention	<i>stopping floods</i>
fold mountains	<i>mountains formed by the earth's plates pushing together</i>
glacier	<i>a thick mass of ice that covers a large area of land</i>
grid reference	<i>a set of numbers used to find particular places on a map</i>
habitat	<i>the natural home of an animal or plant</i>
hamlet	<i>a small settlement, generally smaller than a town, that has no central place of worship and no meeting point</i>
hemisphere	<i>half of the globe</i>
hill	<i>a piece of land that rises higher than everything surrounding it (they are less steep, not as high and easier to climb than mountains)</i>
human features	<i>features of a place that are a result of human activity, such as shops, farms, homes and roads</i>

import	<i>when one country buys things from another country</i>
industry	<i>the production of goods (such as cars) or services (such as tourism or entertainment)</i>
interdependent	<i>when countries are dependent on one another in some way</i>
irrigation	<i>the supply of water, especially for growing crops</i>
lake	<i>a body of water that is surrounded by land</i>
land use	<i>what land is used for (such as housing, recreation, farming, etc.)</i>
landmark	<i>an object or a feature of a landscape or town that has importance or makes a place easily recognizable</i>
landscape	<i>what you can see when you look across an area of land</i>
latitude	<i>distance, north or south, of the Equator. It is measured in degrees. (Lines Around the Earth)</i>
legend	<i>explains the meaning of symbols that represent features on a map</i>
location	<i>defining where a certain place is, with reference to some other place</i>
longitude	<i>distance, east or west, from the Prime Meridian (Lines Over the top of the Earth)</i>
magma	<i>molten, or hot liquefied, rock that is found below the Earth's surface</i>
marine	<i>describes oceans and seas where water is salty</i>
manufacturing	<i>making things, for example, in factories</i>
map symbol	<i>a small picture on a map that shows you where different things are (such as a bus station or a school)</i>
meander	<i>a winding curve or bend in a river</i>
migration	<i>any movement of people, either temporary or permanent, from one place to another</i>
mountain	<i>a landform that rises high above the surrounding area (more than 600m from the surrounding land)</i>
mountain range	<i>a series or chain of mountains that are close together</i>
mouth	<i>the place where a river enters a lake, larger river, or the ocean</i>
natural disaster	<i>major negative events that are caused by natural processes on the Earth, for example, floods, earthquakes, tsunamis. Volcano eruptions and hurricanes.</i>

natural resources	<i>everything that is provided for us by nature</i>
non-renewable resources	<i>natural resources that cannot be replaced after they are used such as rock, minerals, metals, uranium and fossil fuels</i>
North Pole	<i>the northernmost place on Earth</i>
Northern hemisphere	<i>the half of Earth that is north of the Equator</i>
ocean	<i>a huge area of open salty water</i>
Ordnance Survey (OS)	<i>the mapping agency for Great Britain</i>
ox bow lake	<i>a small lake located in an abandoned meander loop of a river channel</i>
physical features	<i>natural features of a place, such as mountains, rivers and seas</i>
polar climate	<i>a place where the climate usually has a temperature below freezing, icy, and covered in snow</i>
polar region	<i>area around the North Pole or the South Pole</i>
pollution	<i>the introduction of harmful materials into the environment</i>
population	<i>the number of people living in a place</i>
precipitation	<i>any liquid or frozen water that forms in the atmosphere and falls back to the Earth such as rain, hail, fog, sleet and snow</i>
Prime/Greenwich Meridian	<i>the line of longitude from which time is measured</i>
questionnaire	<i>A research instrument that consists of a set of questions (or other types of prompts) for the purpose of gathering information</i>
rain gauge	<i>a tool you can use to show how much it has rained</i>
rainforests	<i>forests that are home to many different types of plants and animals. They are located close to the Equator in places with a tropical climate, which is warm and wet all year round.</i>
recreation	<i>enjoyable activities, such as swimming or listening to music</i>
region	<i>an area of land that has common features. England is divided into 9 geographical regions. These are London, the North East, North West, Yorkshire, East Midlands, West Midlands, South East, East of England and the South West</i>
renewable resource	<i>a resource which can be used repeatedly because it is replaced naturally such as oxygen, fresh water, solar energy, timber, and biomass</i>

river	<i>a large natural stream of water that flows over land</i>
river basin	<i>the area of land drained by a river and all its tributaries</i>
route	<i>how you get from one place to another (for example, “you walk up the hill and turn towards the school when you get to the top)”</i>
rural	<i>a rural area has fewer people living there. Rural areas include the countryside, villages and hamlets.</i>
scale	<i>the relationship between distance on the map and distance in real life</i>
scale bar	<i>a line that shows how many kilometres there would be in the real world for every centimetre on a map</i>
sea	<i>a body of salty water much smaller than an ocean</i>
season	<i>a time of the year with a particular type of weather</i>
settlement	<i>a place where people live</i>
source	<i>the start of a river; it is the furthest point on the river from its mouth</i>
South Pole	<i>the southernmost place on Earth</i>
Southern hemisphere	<i>the half of Earth that is south of the Equator</i>
spring (water)	<i>a place where water naturally flows from the ground. Many rivers begin as springs, and many people depend on springs for their water supplies.</i>
state	<i>an area of land with its own government. There are 50 states in the USA</i>
sub-continent	<i>a large part of a continent</i>
subterranean	<i>underground structures, both natural (such as caves) and human-made (such as mines)</i>
sustainable development	<i>change that respects the natural environment and doesn’t harm future generations</i>
tectonic plates	<i>pieces of the rocky outer layer of the Earth known as the crust</i>
temperate climate	<i>environments with moderate rainfall spread across the year or portion of the year with sporadic drought, mild to warm summers and cool to cool winters</i>
temperate zone	<i>the area or region between the Tropic of Cancer and the arctic circle or between the Tropic of Capricorn</i>
temperature	<i>how hot or cold it is</i>

terrain	<i>the features of the surface of a piece of land such as hilly terrain or swampy terrain</i>
time zone	<i>a geographic region within which the same standard time is used</i>
topography	<i>the study of shape and features on the surface of the Earth. These features typically include natural formations such as mountains, rivers, lakes and valleys, forests, glaciers etc. Manmade features such as roads, dams, and cities, may also be included.</i>
town	<i>a built-up area with a name, defined boundaries, and local government that is larger than a village but usually smaller than a city</i>
trade	<i>exchanging goods or services, usually for money</i>
transportation	<i>the movement of goods or people from one location to another location</i>
tributary	<i>a stream or river that flows into and joins a main river</i>
tropics	<i>the region of the Earth near to the equator and between the Tropic of Cancer in the northern hemisphere and the Tropic of Capricorn in the southern hemisphere</i>
Tropic of Cancer	<i>an imaginary latitude line located above the equator that runs across the globe at about 23 degrees north</i>
Tropic of Capricorn	<i>an imaginary latitude line located below the equator that runs across the globe at about 23 degrees south</i>
tropical climate	<i>the hottest climates of the world featuring hot temperatures year-round such as rainforest climate, tropical monsoon climate, and tropical wet and dry climate</i>
tropical zone	<i>the part of the Earth's surface between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn: characterized by a hot climate</i>
tsunami	<i>a huge, powerful wave caused by an earthquake</i>
urban	<i>an urban area has lots of people living there. Towns, cities and suburbs are all urban areas.</i>
valley	<i>a lower part in the land, (a depression or ditch) between two higher parts which might be hills or mountains</i>
vegetation	<i>plant life or cover (as of an area)</i>
vegetation belt	<i>an area with distinct plant types, determined by climate, soil, drainage and elevation</i>

Geography glossary of terms

village	<i>a small settlement usually found in a rural setting (larger than a hamlet but smaller than a town)</i>
volcano	<i>a landform (usually a mountain) that opens downward to a pool of molten rock (magma) below the surface of the Earth</i>
water cycle	<i>the path that all water follows as it moves around Earth in different states</i>
weather	<i>the way the air and the atmosphere feels day to day (it includes the outside temperature, strength of the wind, and whether it is raining, sunny, hailing, snowing, sleeting, foggy or cloudy)</i>
wildlife	<i>the wild animals and plants in an area</i>