# **CORE GEOGRAPHY**

# **KEY TERMS**

Geography: the study of people and their interaction with places and the natural environment.

Physical geography: the study of the Earth's features and the processes that have shaped our planet e.g. tropical rainforests, glaciation and tropical storms. Physical feature e.g. coastline, beach, river.

Human geography: the study of the world, its people and their communities, cultures, economies and interaction with the environment e.g. development, population and settlements

Environmental geography: the study of human interactions with the environment e.g. climate change and resource extraction

# **DESCRIBING MAPS**

Distribution is the location of a feature and how it is spread. Use the following: GENE

<u>General Pattern</u>: State the overall pattern of the feature you are describing (linear or radial)? Overall location?

**Examples**: Use the key to give different examples or give specific locations

<u>Numbers</u>: Use numbers where you can or the key to provide further location detail

**Exceptions**: Is the feature found in any areas where it is not normally? Outliers?

# **DESCRIBING GRAPHS**

When describing graphs use the following:  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{GCSE}}$ 

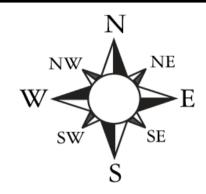
**General Pattern**: State the overall patterns (increase, decrease, fluctuation, steady, steep)

<u>Calculations</u>: Give the differences or changes over a specific period of time (include units)

**Specifics**: Describe specific changes that have taken place or have occurred

**Exceptions / Anomalies**: Does any of the data stand out?

# **COMPASS DIRECTIONS**



## **UK TOPOGRAPHY**

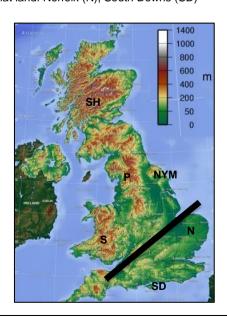
Brown / White = high elevation; Green = low elevation

#### UK North:

Mountainous: Scottish Highlands (SH), Pennines (P), Snowdonia (S), North Yorkshire Moors (NYM)

#### UK South:

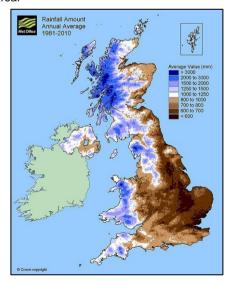
Flat land: Norfolk (N), South Downs (SD)



# **UK RAINFALL**

Brown = Low Rainfall; Blue = High Rainfall

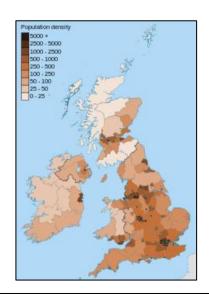
<u>General Pattern:</u> The west of Scotland is the wettest, whilst the south of England is the driest in the UK. <u>Examples</u>: London is one of the driest areas in the UK with between 600 and 780 mm of rainfall per year. <u>Numbers:</u> The west of the UK is the wettest with areas receiving more than 2,000 mm of rainfall in Scotland. <u>Exceptions</u>: The east is mostly dry, except the North Yorkshire Moors which receives more rainfall than the surrounding area.



## **UK POPULATION DENSITY**

Choropleth Map: The darker the colour the higher the population density (people per 1 km²).

<u>General Pattern</u>: England has the highest population density and Scotland has the lowest. <u>Examples</u>: The south east of England is the most densely population. <u>Numbers</u>: For example London has between 2,500 and 5,000 people per 1 km. This is in comparison to the Highlands with less than 25 people per 1 km. An <u>exception</u> is the south east of Scotland (Edinburgh).



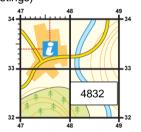
# **GRID REFERENCES**

Read along the corridor (northings)

Read up the stairs (eastings)

Report the 4 figure

For 6 figure: Do exactly the same but divide the square into 10 and report the northing as the 3<sup>rd</sup> digit and easting as the 6<sup>th</sup>.



## OS MAP SCALE

Map scale refers to the relationship (or ratio) between **distance** on a map and the **corresponding distance** on the ground.

For example, on a **1:100,000** scale map, 1cm on the map equals 1km on the ground.

A 1:25,000 scale map would mean 1 cm on the map would be 250m and 4cm is 1km in real life.

## **OS MAP HEIGHT**

Represented using an isoline map with **contours** representing continuous height. Height changes can be seen by an increase or decrease in contour heights.

An increase in values would be an increase in height above sea level.



## **UK COUNTRIES**

British Isles = Great Britain + Ireland

Great Britain = England, Scotland and Wales

UK = Northern Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales. OR Northern Ireland and Great Britain

UK capital cities:

Northern Ireland = Belfast

England = London

Scotland = Edinburgh

Wales = Cardiff

Sea to east of England = North Sea; west of England = Irish Sea; West of Scotland = Atlantic Ocean



# **CONTINENTS AND OCEANS**

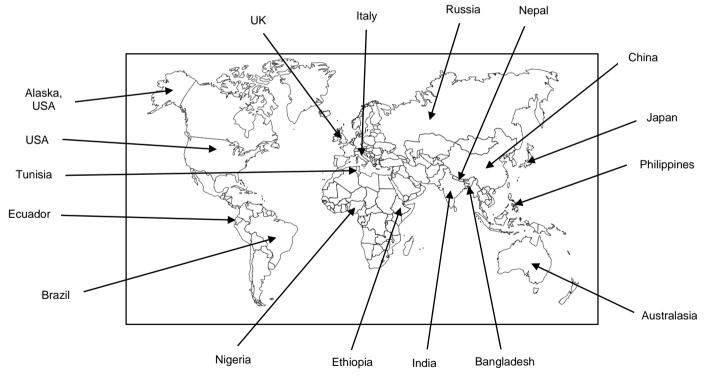
#### Continents:

Europe, Asia, Austrialasia, Africa, Antarctica, South America, North America

#### Oceans:

Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Arctic Ocean, Southern Ocean

Scan the QR code to test your knowlegde of European countries. Once again, this will give you a sense of place when describing maps.



## **GEOGRAPHY CASE STUDIES**

Throughout your study of geography at DTA you will learn a number of case studies; you need to know their locations: UK (Europe), Italy (Europe), Russia (Europe), Nepal (Asia), China (Asia), Japan (Asia), Philippines (Asia), Bangladesh (Asia), India (Asia), Australia (Australasia), Ethiopia (Africa), Nigeria (Africa), Brazil and Ecuador (S. America), Tunisia (Africa) and USA and Alaska (N. America).