YEAR 8 Independent Learning Booklet





Independent Learning Booklets (ILBs)

In Year 8, you are expected to spend a minimum of 30 minutes per week on independent study for each subject (45 minutes for Maths and English).

There are 3 unifying concepts which should be evident in the effective independent study of every subject. These are:

- Content
- Skills
- Feedback

Your ILB will provide you with opportunities to use a variety of **Content**, **Skills**, and **Feedback** techniques.

Your teacher will monitor your completion of this ILB and regularly test you on the content and skills included. You must bring your ILB to lessons.

How to use this ILB

The glossary at the back of the ILB and the lesson refreshers before each task are a useful source of information and a good way of checking your work. As the Geography Department, we have also included a number of book and watching recommendations for you to supplement your Geographical knowledge of the Middle East.

However, these resources on their own are not the only tool for learning Geography.. You need to actively study content, just like you would when practising your skills. Wider reading is an excellent way to add extra knowledge. We have included a number of books and publications that may interest you.

Included in this ILB is also a section on exam skills, how to answer Describe, Explain and Assess questions - all of which are common in Geography all the way up to A Level!

Top Tip!

When completing the questions in your ILB, use the Glossary and Exam Skills section to really master how to answer the questions.

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Week One Content: What is a Natural Resource?

In this week we looked at what the different types of resources are. We looked at synthetic, those which are man made using other resources, and natural resources, those which are found in the natural environment.

We then looked at where these resources are distributed and discovered that the Middle East had some of the largest crude oil and natural gas reserves in the world. However, the Middle East does have a high amount of degraded soil and a severe lack of water across most of its land area.

This week you will be looking at the different types of resources and deciding which the Middle East should use, renewable or nonrenewable.



Week One: What is a Natural Resource?

Task 1:

Look at the resources below.

You must categorise them into either Synthetic or Natural You must then categorise them into renewable resources and nonrenewable resources.

Plastic	Trees	Soil
Crude Oil	Cotton	Natural Gas
Synthetic	Synthetic Renewable	
Natural	Nonrene	wable
Task 2: Using what you know about resource distribution and the issues the Middle East face (water scarcity and soil degradation) explain which of the resources above would be best for the Middle East to invest in		
Point: The best reso because	urce to invest in wou	ıld be
Evidence: example		
Explain: This means that		
	 	

Week Two Content: The Enhanced Greenhouse Effect

In this week we looked at the Enhanced Greenhouse Effect and how the Middle East's use of fossil fuels has had a direct impact on global climate change. (Remember, the Middle East isn't the only country who do this, the UK still have a 44% reliance on natural gas in their energy mix!)

The Greenhouse Effect exists naturally, in fact it is the reason many areas have the climate they do. However, as the composition of the atmosphere changes, more solar radiation is trapped, thus heating the Earth and causing climate change to occur.

This is why many countries around the world are experiencing worse drought and higher temperatures.



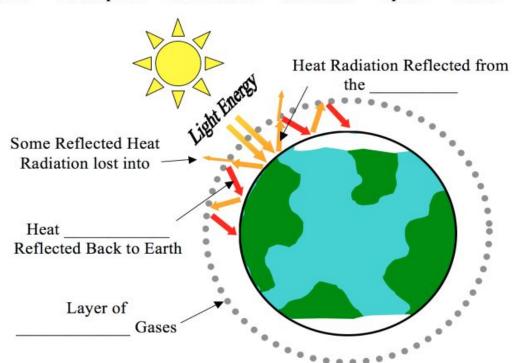


<u>Week Two</u>: The Enhanced Greenhouse Effect

TASK 1: Complete the following table with the information about the Enhanced Greenhouse Effect and label the diagram using the words provided

What are the		
greenhouse gases?		
What do greenhouse gases do?	the atmosphere by trapping	
What is the greenhouse effect?	The of the atmosphere because of insulation by	
How does the greenhouse effect work?	Incoming from the sun the Earth and is by the greenhouse gases, warming and insulating the Earth like a "blanket"	
Is the greenhouse effect a good thing?	!! Because it maintains	
So why is the greenhouse effect considered a bad thing and is linked to global warming?	of the greenhouse effect is a bad thing. Since there are more and more greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, more is trapped which makes the earth This is called	

Fill in the blanks on the diagram below and label it using the following key words
Sun Atmosphere Greenhouse Radiation Space Earth



Week Three Content: Sustainable Energy in the Middle East

This week we looked at the alternatives to fossil fuels. Some countries have made excellent headway in replacing much of their non-renewable sources with renewable energy such as wind, hydroelectric, solar or even geothermal.

The UK for example, currently sources 41.5% of its energy from renewable sources alone!

Due to the Middle East having such immense reserves of oil and natural gas, many countries are nearly entirely reliant on their export for their source of profit. However they may be soon be in trouble as the global trend is moving towards more renewable means of production of electricity. Even in the Middle East, electric vehicle sales are up 177%.

In this week, you will look at the different types of renewable energy sources and create a sustainable plan for Dubai, one of the fastest growing cities in the Middle Fast.



Week Three: Sustainable Energy in the Middle East

<u>TASK 1</u>: Define sustainability - now give three examples of renewable energy sources and explain how they are sustainable.

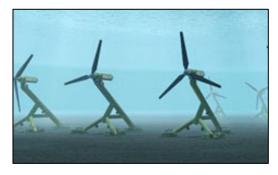
Sustainability is
One example of a renewable energy resource is
This is sustainable because
Another example of a renewable energy resource is
This is sustainable because
A final example of a renewable energy resource is
This is sustainable because

<u>TASK 2</u>: Imagine that you are the Mayor of the Middle Eastern city of Dubai – you have been tasked with making Dubai more sustainable and ensuring that the energy the city uses is sustainable.

Draw and annotate a sustainability plan (on the next page) for Dubai – think about how transport, schools and homes could be more sustainable. Think about where you could put wind farms (possibly offshore?), solar panels, tidal farms, etc.









Week 3: Sustainability Plan for Dubai

Sustainable housing:	In what ways is this sustainable? Explain your sketches!
Sustainable transport:	In what ways is this sustainable? Explain your sketches!
Sustainable schools:	In what ways is this sustainable? Explain your sketches!

Week Four Content: Sustainable Settlements

This week we looked at the settlement os Masdar, in the UAE (United Arab Emirates). Despite it being built in a desert biome it is aiming to become the first carbon neutral (not producing any carbon emissions) settlement in the world. Some of the ways in which it has done this is by using recycled building materials, designing natural wind tunnels and shade with the buildings so that there is no need for air conditioning. Using solar panels to power the energy for technology. Having all electric powered transport including an underground train network.



Week Four: Sustainable Settlements

SKILLS

Masdar City was set up to be built in the desert where there is plenty of space, a hot climate but lack of water. Think back to your lessons on Tibet, what the climate, relief of the land is like there. Explain how if you were building a sustainable city in Tibet, what you could build and use to make it carbon neutral.

For example, solar panels would not be as efficient here as the sun's energy is not as intense in Tibet. Which of the other renewable energy sources could you use? The climate is much colder so your settlement needs to be

The climate and relief (height and shape of the land) cin Tibet is different to
Masdar, for example
Buildings can be built in this way to keep heat in
banangs can be ban in mis way to keep near in
The relief is uneven and steep in places, a sustainable transport method here could be
To be more sustainable, the settlement should use local resources, for food and water
Tibet can use

FEEDBACK:

- ☐ I have described the climate and relief of the Middle East
- I have suggested one way buildings can be built so that they protect from the heat without using too much energy.
- I have described one way transport can be used which is sustainable
- I have described how natural resources in the area can be used to support the population with food and water.

Week 5: Middle East as a region Content

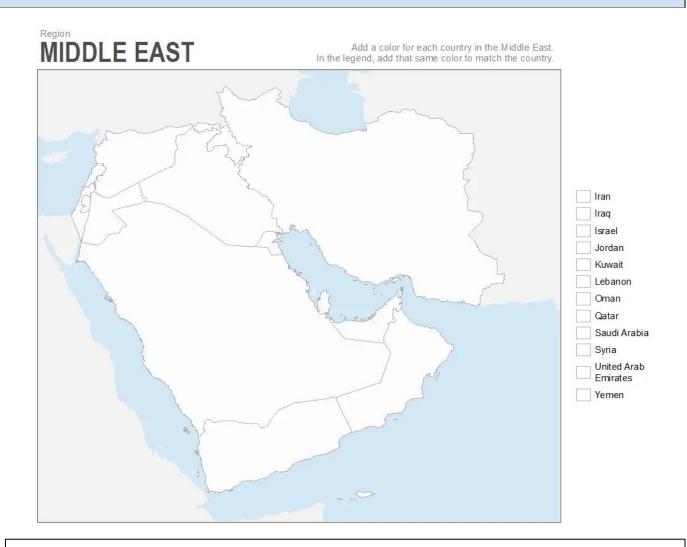
This week we introduced the Middle East as a region and looked at what a region actually is.

The Middle East is a combination of different countries, cultures and histories, transcending continental boundaries.

We looked at some different aspects of the Middle East, including its climate and its population distribution. Remember, the Middle East is a largely arid region, meaning most people either live around a water source such as the River Nile, or at higher elevation such as those in Kurdistan.



Week 5: Middle East as a region



Task 1: Shade in the Middle Eastern countries using the key on the right hand side

Task 2:

Using google maps, add the following on:

- Deserts
- Rivers/lakes/water sources
- Mountains
- Capital Cities

Week Six and Seven Content: How does life survive in the Arabian Desert?

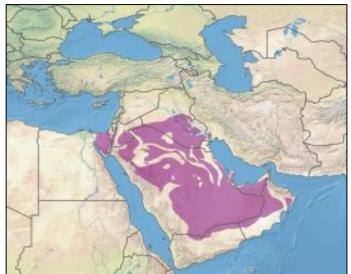
This week we looked at how life has adapted to surviving in the Arabian Desert, an area which makes up a large portion of the Middle Eastern region - a whopping 1.855 million km²!

We looked at how Camels have adapted to life in the Desert - whether its their long eyelashes to prevent sand from getting in their eyes, or their wide hooves which evenly distribute their weight on the sand so they can easily walk.

We also looked at several types of unique plant life such as the Organ Pipe Cactus and the Elephant Tree - both of which are experts at conserving water.

In this week's task you will be practicing your **describe** skills, looking at the Arabian Desert climate.

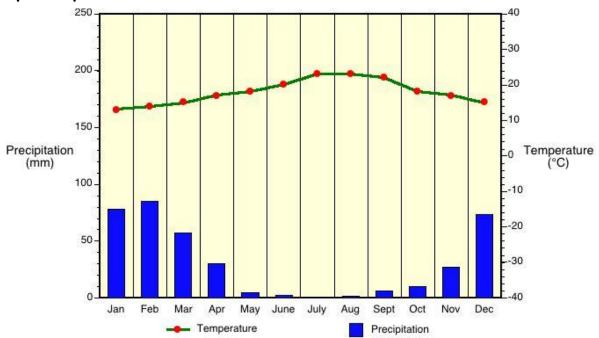
Remember, look for the exam skills section to help you formulate your answer using the **TEA** format.





<u>Week Six</u>: How does life survive in the Arabian Desert?

<u>TASK 1</u>: Describe the climate (temperature and precipitation) of the Arabian Desert.



T -Trend: Overall, the temperature is	and the
precipitation is	
E - Example: For example,	
A - Anomaly: However, this trend is not shown in	·

<u>TASK 2</u>: Explain the challenges for plants, animals and people of living in the Arabian desert - link to climate (temp. and precipitation).

Week Seven: How have organisms adapted to life in the Middle East?

<u>TASK 1</u>: Research a plant or animal that has successfully adapted to life (e.g. the climate) of the Middle East.

Success criteria

- Be as detailed as possible
- Include some colour
- Annotate your adaptations how do the features help it to adapt

Task 2: Choose one adaptation of the plant/ animal you have researched. Explain how this adaptation helps it survive in the arid Desert Environment. P - Point
E - Evidence E - Explain

Week Eight Content: Why is the Middle East so reliant on oil?

In this week's lesson we looked at the Middle East's relationship with oil, its most important export. We discovered that oil is only found where there were prehistoric oceans - where marine organisms and plants have been buried under layers of silt and sand, compressing them over millions of years.

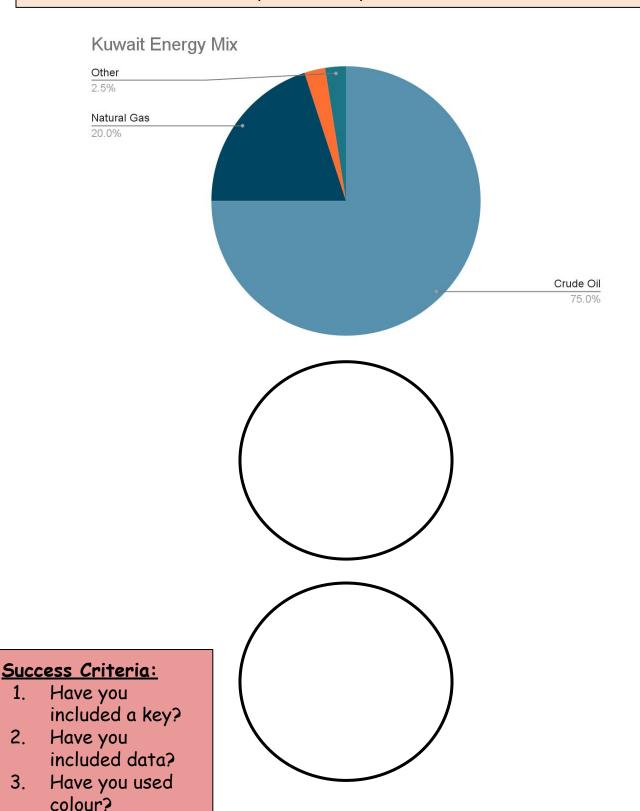
We also looked at where oil is located in the Middle East and some of the impacts it has on people, the economy and the environment. Remember, impacts aren't always negative, in fact Aramco, Saudi Arabia's national oil company, said that net income was \$30.4 billion for the July-to-September period in 2021!

However, we also saw that Saudi Arabia is now trying to invest in a new energy resource, which you will research in this week's task.



Week Eight: Why is the Middle East so reliant on oil?

TASK 1: Using Google, research the 2 different Middle Eastern Countries Energy Mix (how they power their country). You must then create a pie chart in the space below. One has been done for you already!



3.

Exam Skills: How to Describe

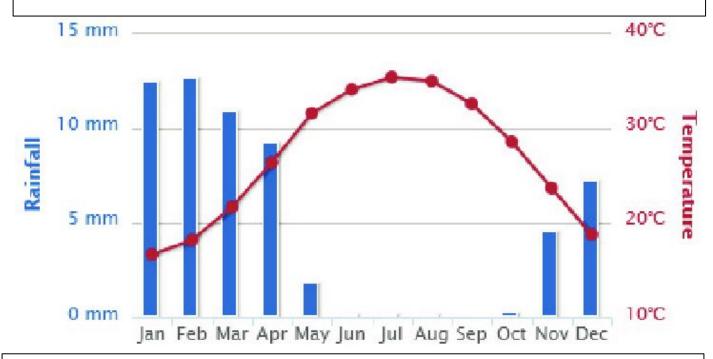
Describe questions do **not** require you to say why! You are just saying what you can see, using any evidence you can see from the source. For example, if you are given a climate graph - use the numbers it shows to backup your point.

Questions asking you describe some form of pattern will use the **TEA** format:

Trend - Say what you can see! Does the climate have seasons? Does the map show there is more oil in the North?

Example - Now use some data from the source to backup your point - here you are proving your point by using the data.

Anomaly - Is there anything that doesn't fit the pattern you've pointed out? State it here.



Example Answer:

Trend - Overall, Qatar has two seasons. One wet and cool, one hot and dry.

Example - For example, In January there is 12mm of rain and an average temperature of 16 Degrees, compared to July which has 0 mm and is 35 Degrees.

Exception - One exception would be May, as it is the hottest month which still has some rainfall

Exam Skills: How to Explain

Explain questions are asking you for reasons why - therefore you must explain why!

To properly answer this question, we use the PEEE format;

Point - Here you make your point, outlining what your argument in the paragraph will be

Evidence - Provide some evidence using your vast knowledge you have obtained from your Geography lessons. Maybe it is a statistic or an example of a project - it just needs to relate to your point.

Explain x2: Here you now say what that evidence means - how does it show that the point you are trying to make is correct.

Look below for an example answer.

Example Answer:

Explain why countries are developing more renewable energy sources (4 marks)

Point - Countries are developing more sustainable energy sources in order to limit the impact on the Enhanced Greenhouse Effect.

Evidence - For example, the UK are now sourcing 41.5% of their energy from renewable sources.

Explain 1: This means that less carbon will be produced and released into the atmosphere, reducing its impact on the Enhanced Greenhouse Effect.

Explain 2: Therefore, the rate of global warming will slow, thus reducing the impact of drought and other severe impacts of the EGC.

Exam Skills: How to Assess

Assess questions are asking you for reasons why, and to come to a conclusion in some form.

To properly answer this question, we use the PEEA format;

Point - Here you make your point, outlining what your argument in the paragraph will be

Evidence - Provide some evidence using your vast knowledge you have obtained from your Geography lessons. Maybe it is a statistic or an example of a project - it just needs to relate to your point.

Explain: Here you now say what that evidence means - how does it show that the point you are trying to make is correct.

Assess: Here you must now provide a counter argument - how is what you've talked about not effective/ how is it not as good as another point you have made.

Example Answer:

Assess the effectiveness of renewable energy sources (4 marks)

Point - Countries are developing more sustainable energy sources in order to limit the impact on the Enhanced Greenhouse Effect.

Evidence - For example, the UK are now sourcing 41.5% of their energy from renewable sources.

Explain: This means that less carbon will be produced and released into the atmosphere, reducing its impact on the Enhanced Greenhouse Effect.

Assess: However, renewable energy sources are expensive to set up, therefore are only available to more developed, richer countries meaning only a small amount can use them.

The Middle East Glossary:

Key Word	Description
Region	An area that has similar features e.g. climate, politics,
	religions and languages.
Biome	A large ecosystem with similar flora (plants) and fauna
	(animals).
Climate graph	A graph that shows the amount of rainfall (bar graph) and
	temperature (line graph) of an area.
Vegetation	Plants found together in a region/area.
Adaptation	When living things, e.g. plants and animals, adapt to their given
	environment so that they can survive.
Sustainability	The ability to meet the needs of today without harming
	future generations' abilities to meet their own needs.
Reliant	Dependent upon something or someone.
Social	Relates directly to people.
Economic	Relates directly to money.
Environmental	Relates directly to the environment.
Terrorist	A group that uses violence to establish their political or
group	religious beliefs.
Islam	The second largest religion in the world. Those that follow
	Islam are known as 'Muslims'.
Islamist	A supporter of Muslim extremism e.g. Islamic terrorism.
Territory	An area of land controlled by a certain country.
Global	An increase in average global temperatures over time.
warming	
Natural	A natural process that warms up the Earth's surface.
greenhouse	
effect	
Enhanced	An enhanced heating of the Earth's surface due to
greenhouse	greenhouse gases in the Earth's atmosphere.
effect	
Greenhouse	A gas that contributes to the enhanced greenhouse effect by
gas	absorbing radiation (heat).
Climate	A change in global or regional climate patterns over time.
change	
Migration	The movement of people from one place to another.

The Middle East Glossary:

Sustainable energy without putting them in danger of being expired of depleted (running out). Energy that can be used over and over again. Emissions Gases released into the atmosphere. Typically these are greenhouse gases released due to human activity. Solar energy Energy produced from solar radiation - heat from the sun. Invest To put money into something with the hopes of making more money back. Eco-tourism Tourism that is sustainable and does not seek to damage the environment. Refugee A person who has been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, persecution or disaster. Economic A person who migrates for a job e.g. for money. migrant Asylum A person who has left their country as a refugee and is seeker seeking asylum (safe living conditions) in another country. European A group of 28 European countries that operate as a cohesive (together) economic and political union. Conflict A serious disagreement or argument, which can often end in war. Israeli Communities inhabited by Israeli citizens (Jews) who mass migrated to the West Bank following WW2. Aquifer An underground store of water. Superpower A very economically and politically powerful nation that has a lot of global influence e.g. in trade deals, conflict. Boycott To refuse to buy, use, or go to, in order to make a protest. Corruption Those in power being dishonest, typically involving bribery (accepting money in return for favours).		
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Israeli Settlements Aquifer An underground store of water. Superpower A very economically and politically powerful nation that has a lot of global influence e.g. in trade deals, conflict. Boycott To refuse to buy, use, or go to, in order to make a protest. Corruption Those in power being dishonest, typically involving bribery (accepting money in return for favours).	Conflict	A serious disagreement or argument, which can often end in
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Aquifer An underground store of water. Superpower A very economically and politically powerful nation that has a lot of global influence e.g. in trade deals, conflict. Boycott To refuse to buy, use, or go to, in order to make a protest. Corruption Those in power being dishonest, typically involving bribery (accepting money in return for favours).	Israeli	Communities inhabited by Israeli citizens (Jews) who mass
Superpower A very economically and politically powerful nation that has a lot of global influence e.g. in trade deals, conflict. Boycott To refuse to buy, use, or go to, in order to make a protest. Corruption Those in power being dishonest, typically involving bribery (accepting money in return for favours).	settlements	migrated to the West Bank following WW2.
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, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Corruption	Those in power being dishonest, typically involving bribery
'Black gold' Refers to oil.		(accepting money in return for favours).
	'Black gold'	Refers to oil.

Practice exam questions

(a) Define the term renewable resource.	(1)
(b) Natural gas is a non-renewable energy resource. State one other non-renewable energy resource.	(1)
Explain one way a named developed country has attempted to manage its energy resources in a sustainable way. Named developed country Dubai	(4)

Curiosity

Wider reading is a very easily accessible resource for Geography as it is always in the news!

- Keep an eye out on the Middle East category on news sites such as the BBC https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world/middle_east
- National Geographic <u>https://www.nationalgeographic.com/</u>
- https://www.coolgeography.co.uk/
- BBC Bitesize
 https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zrw76
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Books:

- Prisoners of Geography by Tim Marshall
- Adventures on Earth by Simon Tyler
- Water in the Middle East: A Geography of Peace: 1 (Peter T. Flawn Series in Natural Resource Management and Conservation)

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Notes

For more information or guidance on completing your Independent Learning Booklet, speak to or email your Geography teacher:

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