



A-Level Geography, Geology and Environmental Science

September 2021 Entry

Why study Geography?

There are many reasons why people decide to study geography at A Level. Some of the following may apply to you:

- ✓ You enjoy learning about people and their societies, economies, cultures and the environment.
- ✓ You are keen to learn and develop a wide range of transferable skills.
- ✓ You are seeking a broad based academic subject, offering above average graduate employability.

Geography has been defined amongst the key "facilitating" or "hard" subjects in a guide compiled by the Russell Group (20 leading UK universities). Choosing "soft" subjects at A Level can reduce the degree options available to you at universities

Going Places with Geography

Studying geography will help you better understand the world's people, places and environments from the local to the global scales.

The skills and knowledge you gain from this subject, at GCSE, A Level or university, are relevant to almost all jobs and workplaces.

With rising numbers of students studying this subject, and geography graduates experiencing some of the lowest levels of graduate unemployment, there has never been a better time to study geography.

A-Level Geography (Eduqas)

Component 1: Changing Landscapes and Changing Places **Written examination: 1 hour 45 minutes** **20.5% of qualification**

Section A: Changing Landscapes

Choice between two themes, **either** Coastal **or** Glaciated Landscapes: two compulsory structured, data response questions and one compulsory extended response question

Section B: Changing Places

Two compulsory structured, data response questions and one compulsory extended response question

Component 2: Global Systems and Global Governance **Written examination: 2 hours** **27.5% of qualification**

Section A: Global Systems

Water and Carbon Cycles: two compulsory structured, data response questions and one compulsory extended response question

Section B: Global Governance: Change and Challenges

Processes and patterns of global migration and global governance of the Earth's oceans: two compulsory structured, data response questions and one compulsory extended response question

Section C: 21st Century Challenges

One compulsory extended response question drawing on both Components 1 and 2 with resource material

Component 3: Contemporary Themes in Geography

Written examination: 2 hours 15 minutes

32% of qualification

Section A: Tectonic Hazards

One compulsory extended response question

Section B: Contemporary Themes in Geography

Four optional themes:

- Ecosystems
- Economic Growth and Challenge: India or China or Development in an African Context
- Energy Challenges and Dilemmas
- Weather and Climate

Two essay questions chosen from these four optional themes

Component 4: Independent Investigation

Non-exam assessment: 3000 to 4000 words

20% of qualification

One written independent investigation, based on the collection of both field data and secondary information

Fantastic A-Level Results

100% PASS RATE

60% High Grades



Entry Requirement

Geography 5

& Maths 5



Dedicated Teaching Facilities



Chromebooks and Google Classroom

≡ Geography - Year 1 - Column A

Stream

Classwork

People

Marks



A

Geography - Year 1 - Column A

Class code 7lo4ob

Select theme
Upload photo

Upcoming

No work due in soon

View all



Share something with your class...



Andrew Barker
3 Oct



Sand dunes & salt marshes



119 Costal Sand Dunes.pdf
PDF



Sand dunes and Saltmars...
PowerPoint

High five for five years
of Google Classroom!



Fieldwork



Fieldwork



International Visits - Iceland



Where could geography take you?

Geographers are employed in a wide range of sectors, including the public sector, education, commerce, industry, transport and tourism. It is a myth that geographers can only do certain types of jobs.

Geography students have excellent transferable skills, which also attract employers from the business, law and finance sectors.

Employers include:

- Meteorologist
- Geologist
- Mineral surveyor
- Oceanographer
- Ordnance Survey
- Environmental consultant
- Ranger
- Forestry
- National Trust
- Charity worker
- Urban development
- Local council
- Radio and television broadcaster
- Reporter
- Aviation & air traffic control
- Police Service
- Ministry of Defence
- Royal Navy
- RAF
- Airplane pilot
- Lawyer
- Politician
- Investment banker
- Estate agent

A-Level Geology

Geology is the study of the Earth, the materials of which it is made, the structure of those materials, and the processes acting upon them. It includes the study of organisms that have inhabited our planet. An important part of geology is the study of how Earth's materials, structures, processes and organisms have changed over time.

Content Overview

Content is split into seven teaching modules:

- Module 1 – Development of practical skills in geology
- Module 2 – Foundations in geology
- Module 3 – Global tectonics
- Module 4 – Interpreting the past
- Module 5 – Petrology and economic geology
- Module 6 – Geohazards
- Module 7 – Basin analysis

Components 01–03 assess content from all seven modules.

Assessment Overview

Fundamentals of
geology*
(01)

110 marks

2 hour 15 minutes
written paper

41%
of total
A Level

Scientific literacy**
in geology*
(02)

100 marks

2 hour 15 minutes
written paper

37%
of total
A Level

Practical skills
in geology*
(03)

60 marks

1 hour 30 minutes
written paper

22%
of total
A Level

Practical
endorsement
in geology
(04)

(non-exam
assessment)

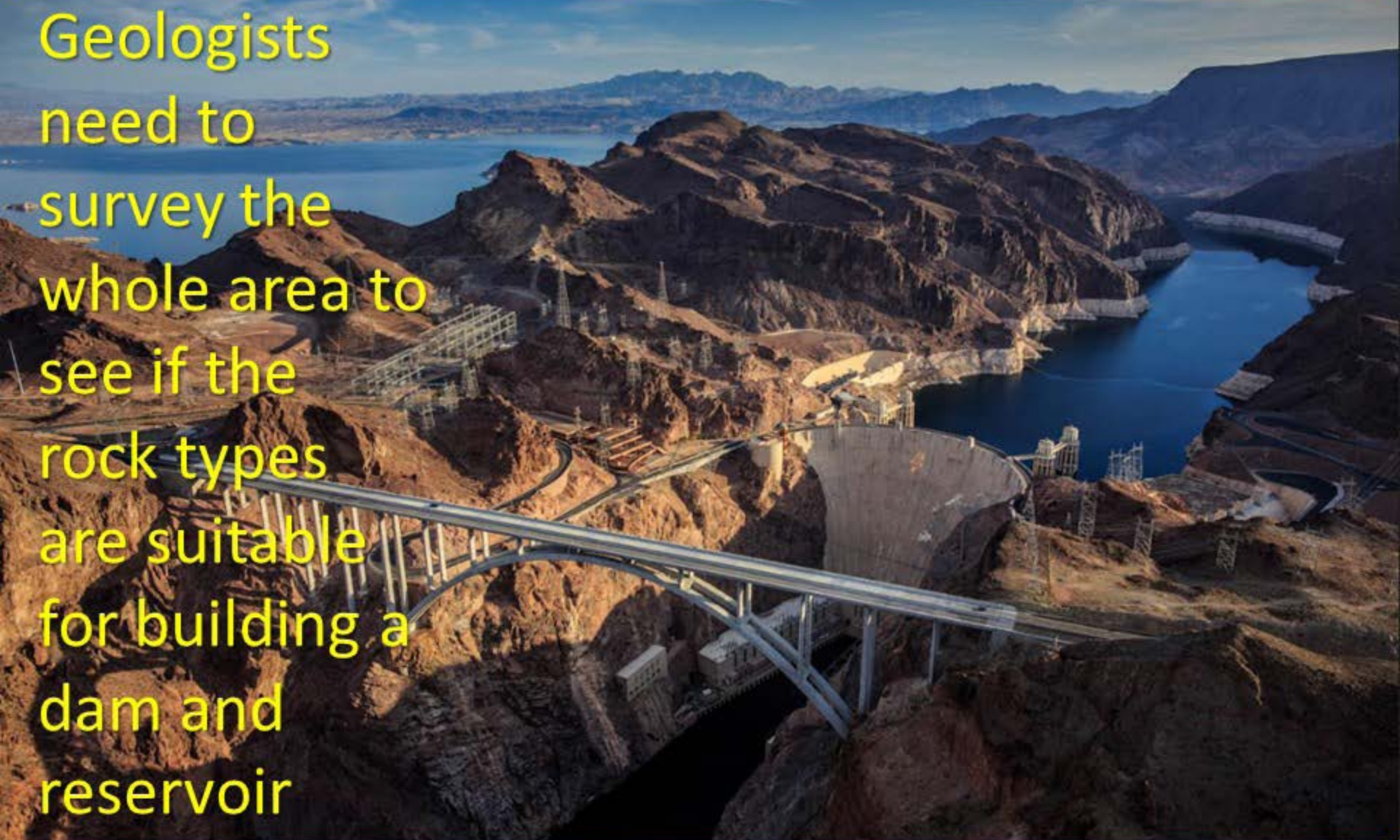
**Reported
separately**

(see
Section 5g)

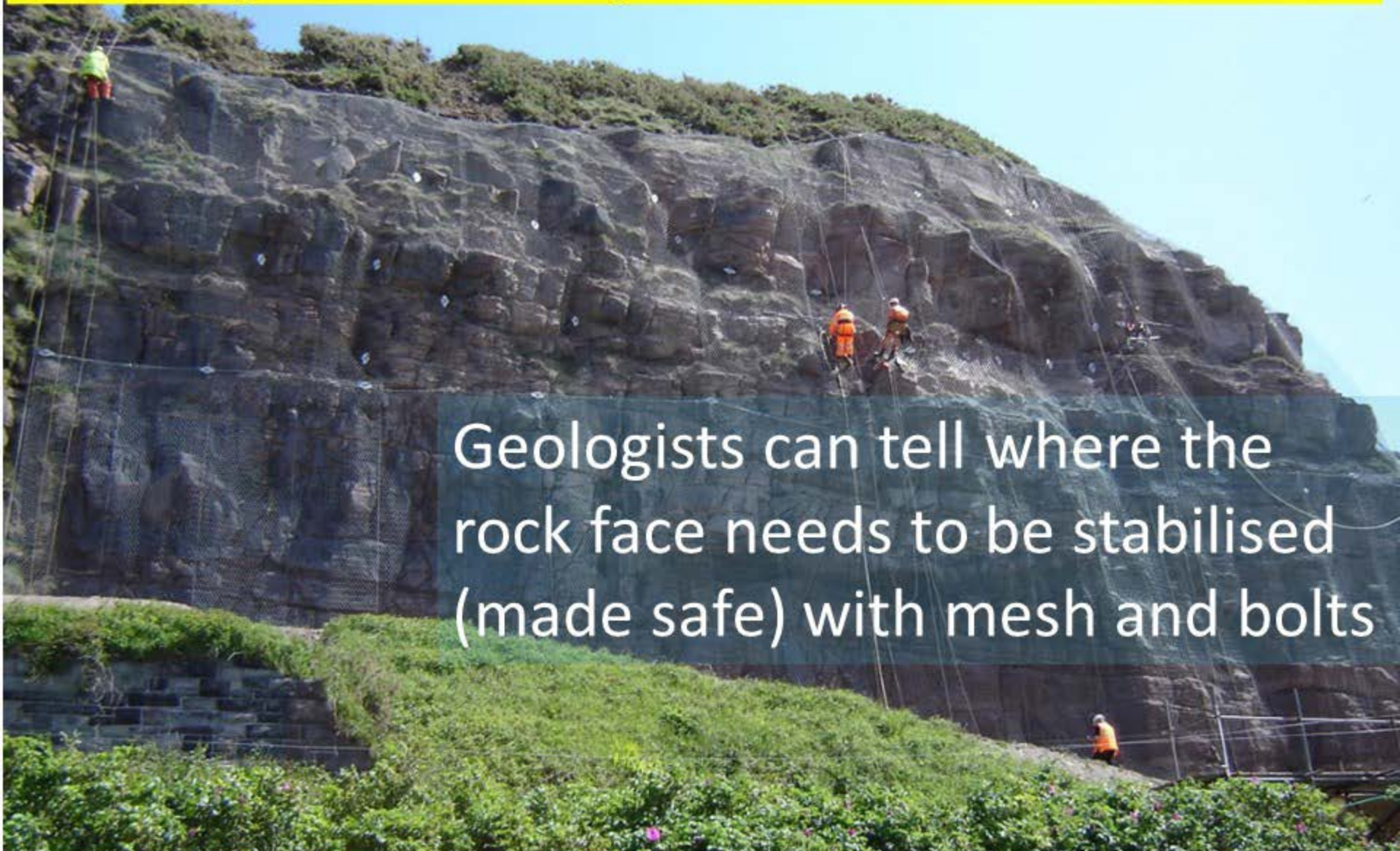
Geologists don't just work in labs

Geologists
need to
survey the
whole area to
see if the
rock types
are suitable
for building a
dam and
reservoir

Study A level Geology to find out more



Geologists don't just work in labs



Geologists can tell where the rock face needs to be stabilised (made safe) with mesh and bolts

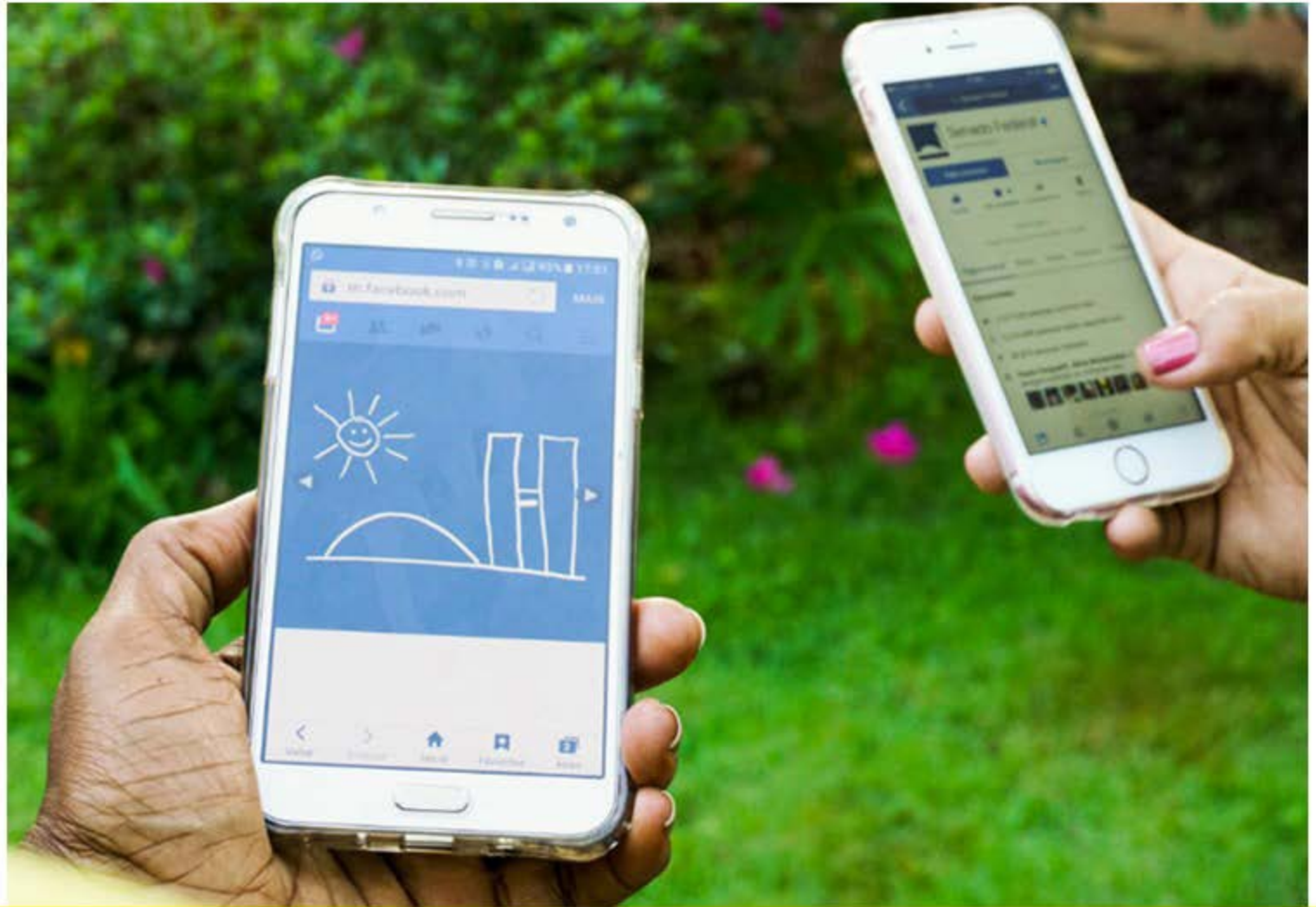
Study A level Geology to find out more

How are mountains formed?



Study A level Geology to find out more

Where and how do geologists find the metals that are used in your smart phone?



Study A level Geology to find out more

Want to store
radioactive waste
safely?

You need to understand
the geology.



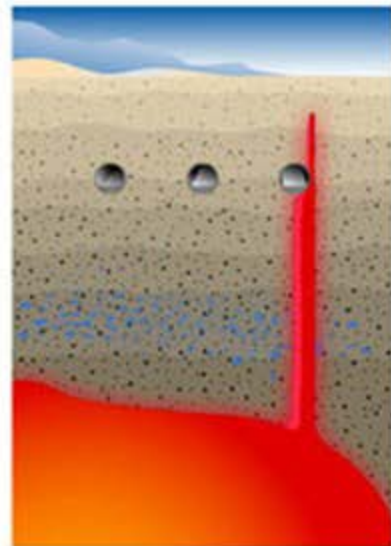
Study A level Geology to find out more

Why do civil engineers have to understand the geology of the area they are developing?



Study A level Geology to find out more

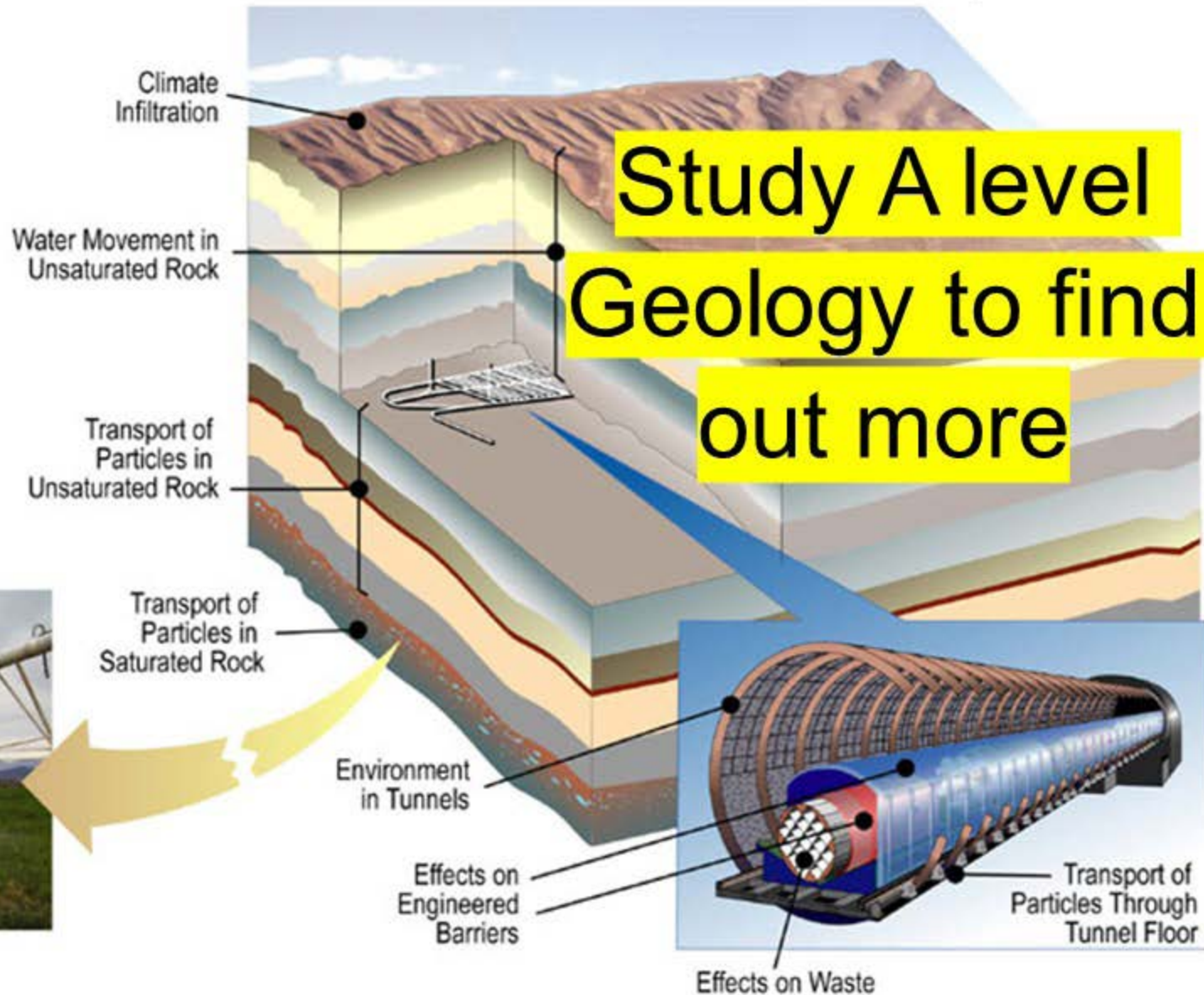
Want to store radioactive waste safely?



Disruptive Events



Effects on People and the Environment



You need to understand the geology.

What can
this tell us
about
ancient
volcanic
activity?



Study A level Geology to find out more

Geology
can affect
how fast
this tunnel
boring
machine
wears out



Study A level Geology to find out more



Geology
can
provide
water
supply and
power
from HEP

Study A level Geology to find out more

Fantastic A-Level Results

50% High Grades



Fieldtrips



Dedicated Teaching Facilities





Image: US Geological Survey

RESEARCH, TEACHING AND
COMMUNICATION



Image: en:User:Blasstube
Wikimedia

MINING & QUARRYING



Image credit: Ott247, Wikimedia Commons

ENERGY

Going Places

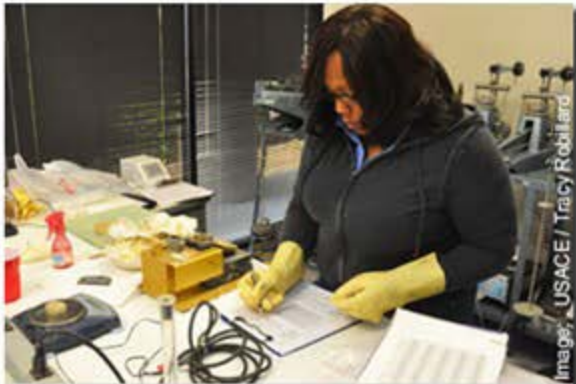


Image: USACE / Tracy Robillard

ENGINEERING GEOLOGY



Image: UUSC / Flickr

ENVIRONMENTAL GEOLOGY &
CONTAMINATED LAND



Image credit: USGS

HYDROGEOLOGY

**NEW
FOR
2020**



A LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Assessed: Exam – 100%

Topics Include:

- Pollution
- The Living Environment
- Energy Resources
- Biological Resources

Awarding Body: AQA

Duration: 2 years

Career Progression: Degree level environmental science enables students to tackle many of the world's major environmental problems, including climate change and pollution. Graduates work in agriculture, law, pollution control, ecology and more.

Year 1

The Living Environment

- Conditions for life on Earth
- Conservation of biodiversity
- Life processes in the biosphere and conservation planning



Year 1

The Physical Environment

The atmosphere

The hydrosphere

Mineral resources

Biogeochemical cycles

Soils



Year 1

Research methods

The methods used to investigate a wide range of environmental issues.

These will be tied into what you have covered in the other two sections and will involve field investigations and trips.



Assessment

- 2 written exam papers
- You will need to use your knowledge and understanding from the whole course, living, physical and research.
- 3 hours per paper
- 120 marks per paper
- Multiple choice, short data response and extended writing. 10% of marks will be mathematical and 15% related to practical work

Field Work

- Environmental Science is an applied field science.
- Many of the techniques you will be asked about in your exam can't really be taught in the classroom.
- Field trips to Ainsdale sand dunes, Staffs University nature reserve, Ecton etc.
- Environmental Science is a huge and varied field so we can't be specialists at everything.
- Attendance on Field courses is compulsory and will advance your learning.



Find out more.....

- **Course guides**
- **Prospectus**
- **Open Evenings**
- **College website – www.stokesfc.ac.uk**
- **Twitter - @SOT6FCGeography @SOT6FCGeology**
- **Email: andrew.barker@stokesfc.ac.uk**