Year 11 Geography Vocabulary List (Tier 2 and Tier 3)



Aeroponics – growing plants in n air or mist environment without the use of soil

Appropriate technology – technology suited t the needs, skills, knowledge and wealth of local people and their environment

Biotechnology – the genetic engineering of living organisms to produce useful commercial products

Birth rate – the number of births a year per 1000 of the total population

Business park – an area of land occupied by a number of businesses

Climate change – a long-term change in the earth's climate, specially a change due to an increase in the average atmospheric temperature

Conservative plate margin – two plates sliding alongside each other

Constructive plate margin – tectonic plate margin where rising magma adds new material to plates that are diverging or moving apart

Death rate – the number of deaths in a year per 1000 of the total population

Debt relief – cancellation of debts to a country by a global organisation such as the World Bank

De-industrialisation – the decline of a country's traditional manufacturing industry due to the exhaustion of raw materials, loss of markets and overseas competition

Destructive plate margin – plate tectonic margin where two plates are converging and oceanic plate is subducted

Development – the progress of a country in terms of economic growth, the use of technology and human welfare

Development gap – difference in standards of living and wellbeing between the world's richest and poorest countries

Earthquake – a sudden or violent movement within the Earth's crust followed by a serious of shocks

Energy mix – range of energy sources of a region or country, both renewable and non-renewable

Energy security – uninterrupted availability of energy sources at an affordable price

Extreme weather – when a weather event is significantly different from the average or usual weather pattern, and is especially severe or unseasonal

Fair trade – producers in LICs given a better price for their goods such as cocoa, coffee and cotton

Famine – widespread, serious, often fatal shortage of food

Food insecurity – being without reliable access to enough affordable, nutritious food

Food miles – the distance covered supplying food to consumers

Fossil fuels – a natural fuel such as coal or gas

Globalisation – process creating a more connected world, with increases in the global movement of goods and people

Green revolution – an increase in crop production, especially in poorer countries, using high-yielding varieties, artificial fertilisers and pesticides

Gross National Income (GNI) per capita - measurement of economic activity calculated by dividing the gross (total) national income by the size of the population

Hazard risk – probability or chance that a natural hazard may take place

Human Development Index – a method of measuring development where GDP, Life expectancy and adult literacy are combined to give an overview

Hydroponics – growing plants in water using nutrient solutions, without soil

Immediate responses – reaction of people as the disaster happens and in the immediate aftermath

Industrial structure – relative proportion of the workforce employed in different sectors of the economy

Infant mortality – number of babies that die under one year of age, per 1000 live births

International aid – money, goods and services given by single governments or an organisation like the World Bank to help the quality of life and economy of another country

Irrigation – artificial application of water to the land or soil

Life expectancy – the average number of years a person is expected to live

Literacy rate - % of people in a country who have basic reading and writing skills

Long-term responses – later reactions that occur in the weeks, months and years after the event

Microfinance loans – very small loans which are given to people in the LICs to help them start a small business

Mitigation – action taken to reduce the long-term risk from natural hazards

Natural increase – birth rate minus the death rate

North-South divide (UK) – real or perceived economic and cultural differences between southern England and northern England

Orbital change – changes in the pathway of the earth around the sun

Organic produce – food produced without the use of chemicals such as fertilisers and pesticides

Post-industrial economy – the shift of some HICs economies from producing goods to providing services

Science park – a collection of scientific and knowledge-based businesses located on a single site

Sustainable food supply – food production that avoids damaging natural resources, providing good quality produce and social and economic benefits to local communities

Tectonic hazards – natural hazards caused by the movement of tectonic plates

Transnational corporation (TNC) – a company that has operations in more than one country (e.g. Shell)

Tropical storm (hurricane, cyclone, typhoon) – an area of low pressure with winds moving in a spiral around a calm central point called the eye of the storm

Undernutrition – when people do not eat enough nutrients to cover their needs for energy and growth, or to maintain a healthy immune system

Urban farming – growing food and raising animals in towns and cities

Waterborne diseases – diseases like cholera and typhoid caused by micro-organisms in contaminated water

Water deficit – when demand for water is greater than supply

Water stress – when the demand for water exceeds supply in a certain period

Water surplus – when water supply is greater than demand

Water transfer – matching supply with demand by moving water from an area with water surplus to another with water deficit