



SWGS KS5 VOCABULARY LIST: GEOGRAPHY

This list consolidates key vocabulary in the subject, making it easier for you to know, understand and use it accurately. This may be provided as a pre-filled glossary or a word list to complete. Your teachers will use this vocabulary frequently, and you will encounter it in reading. You will be expected to learn meanings and spellings.

Paper 1: Physical Systems

Acronym	Meaning
EA	Environment Agency
SMP	Shoreline Management Plan
HTL	Hold The Line
MR	Managed Realignment
NAI	No Active Intervention
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GT	Gigatonne
ELR	Environmental Lapse Rate
DALR	Dry Adiabatic Lapse Rate
SALR	Saturated Adiabatic Lapse Rate
NPP	Net Primary Productivity
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
REDD	Reducing Emissions From Deforestation & Degradation
TNC	Transnational Corporations
CCS	Carbon Capture & Storage
SST	Sea Surface Temperatures
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
EOS	Earth Observing System
NOAA	National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
ESA	European Space Agency
OCO	Orbiting Carbon Observatory
MODIS	Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel On Climate Change
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
UN	United Nations
WB	World Bank
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
ARPA	Amazon Regional Protected Areas
DEFRA	Department For Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

Topic 1.1.1 Landscape Systems Option A: Coastal Landscapes

1. How can coastal landscapes be viewed as systems?

Key Term	Definition
Landscape	
System	
Kinetic Energy	
Potential Energy	
Thermal Energy	
Geomorphic Processes	
Nearshore Zone	
Open System	

Input	
Output	
Deposition	
Weathering	
Mass Movement	
Erosion	
Evaporation	
Longshore Drift	
Equilibrium	
Dynamic Equilibrium	
Negative Feedback	
Sediment Cell	
Closed System	
Fetch	
Transportation	
Aeolian Processes	
Wave Period	
Swell Waves	
Storm Wave	
Swash	
Backwash	
Tidal Range	
Lithology	
Structure	
Concordant Coastline	
Discordant Coastline	
Rip Currents	
Cusps	
Ocean Currents	
Sub-Aerial Processes	
Sediment Budget	

2. How are coastal landforms developed?

Key Term	Definition
Regolith	
Settling Velocity	
Flocculation	
Deflation	
Strata	
Wave Refraction	
Orthogonal	
Cusps	
Turbid Water	
Saltpans	
Flocs	
Distributaries	
Levéés	
Crevasses Splays	

3. How do coastal landforms evolve over time as climate changes?

Key Term	Definition
Eustatic Change	

Cryoturbation	
Threshold (Coastal)	

4. How does human activity cause change within coastal landscape systems?

Key Term	Definition
Hard Engineering	
Soft Engineering	
Rock Groynes	
Beach Recharge	

Topic 1.2: Earth's Life Support Systems

1. How important are water and carbon to life on Earth?

Key Term	Definition
Photosynthesis	
Respiration	
Transpiration	
Atmosphere	
Biosphere	
Precipitation	
Evapotranspiration	
Run-Off	
Groundwater Flow	
Oxidation	
Weathering	
Systems	
Closed Systems	
Open Systems	
Permeable Rocks	
Water Cycle Budget	
Evaporation	
Condensation	
Ablation	
Sublimation	
Infiltration	
Percolation	
Aquifers	
Groundwater	
Sinks	
Carbonate Rocks	
Residence Times	
Subducted	
Upper Mantle	
Tectonic Plate Boundaries	
Chemical Weathering	
Carbonaceous Rocks	
Water Balance	
Dew Point	
Catchments	
River Discharge	
Cumuliform Clouds	
Stratiform	

Advection	
Cirrus	
Dew	
Fog	
Adiabatic Expansion	
Convection	
Stable	
Interception Loss	
Throughfall	
Stemflow	
Throughflow	
Overland Flow	
Infiltration Capacity	
Saturated Overland Flow	
Recharge	
Fluxes	
Carbonation	
Freeze-Thaw	
Biological Weathering	
Chelation	
Canopy	
Biodiversity	
Downwelling	
Food Chain	

2. How do the water and carbon cycles operate in contrasting locations?

Key Term	Definition
Absolute Humidity	
Relative Humidity	
Biomass	
Porous	
Albedo	
Shifting Cultivators	
Monoculture	
Tree Line	
Heat Balance	
Active Layer	
Carbon Sink	
Carbon Source	

3. How much change occurs over time in the water and carbon cycles?

Key Term	Definition
Dynamic Equilibrium	
Negative Feedback Loops	
Lag Times	
Water Table	
Abstraction	
Syncline	
Artesian Pressure	
Artesian Aquifer	
Potentiometric Surface	
Carbon Capture & Storage	

Positive Feedback	
Greenhouse Gas	
Carbon Fertilisation	
Net Primary Productivity	
Photoperiod	
Glacials	
Inter-Glacials	

4. To what extent are the water and carbon cycles linked?

Key Term	Definition
Desertification	
Land Degradation	
Overcultivation	
Overgrazing	
Cap & Trade	
Carbon Credits	
Carbon Offsets	