**My Revision Notes WJEC B GCSE Geography**

**Glossary**

**Abrasion** – the wearing away of rock surfaces by pieces of rock held in the water. Also known as corrasion

**Accessibility (services)** – the ease with which, in this case, a person is able to reach and use a service

**Aquifers** – a large store of underground water usually contained in porous rocks

**Asylum seekers** – a form of refugee with a well-founded fear of persecution in their country of origin for reasons of political opinion, religion, ethnicity, race/nationality, or membership of a particular social group

**Attrition** – the wearing down of rock material by fragments rubbing together during transport

**Backwash** – the flow of water back into the sea after a wave has broken on a beach

**Bedload** – the material carried by a river being bounced or rolled along its bed.

**Bilateral aid** – aid given by the government of one country to the government of another

**Biomes** – very large ecosystems, e.g. tropical rainforests or deserts

**Brownfield site** – an area for redevelopment that has already been built upon

**Catchment area** – the area from which a shop attracts its customers

**Circular migration** – people who move for a short time and then return

**Climate** – average weather conditions over a period of usually at least 30 years

**Climate change** – a long term change in global atmospheric conditions

**Conurbations** – a large densely populated urban sprawl formed by the growth and unification of individual towns and cities

**Corrosion** – the dissolving in water of soluble roc, material, like limestone. Also known as solution

**Cost benefit analysis** – deciding whether the costs of doing something are greater than the advantages gained in doing it

**Counter-urbanisation** – the growth of rural populations in areas that are accessible to the towns and cities by commuters

**Deforestation** – the cutting down or burning of trees

**Desertification** – the process by which previously fertile land is changed into land too barren to farm

**Development gap** – the difference in development between the world’s richest and poorest countries

**Discharge** – the volume of water flowing through a section of river at a given time. It is measured in cubic metres per second (cumecs)

**Development indicators** – indicators that can be used to compare the development of one region against another

**Drought** – an extended period during which an area receives less rain than would normally be the case

**Economic development** – progress in an economy which improves standard of living

**Economic migrants** – people who move from one place to another out of choice, in order to improve their standard of living

**Ecosystem** – a system of links between plants and animals and the habitats in which they live

**Ecosystem management** – regulating the use of ecosystems so that human needs and those of the ecosystem are met

**Emergency aid** – Help given to affected areas immediately following a disaster. It concentrates on providing the basic necessities like food, shelter and medical help.

**Evapo-transpiration** – the combined loss of water from plants by both evaporation and transpiration

**Export** – goods that a country sells to other countries

**Fair trade** – where the producer of goods, such as foodstuffs and clothing, gets a fair price for their goods

**Flood prevention ­­–** methods concerned with stopping areas of land flooding

**Flood protection** – actions taken to protect an area from the effects of flooding

**Flooding** – when water covers or submerges a place or area that is normally dry

**Flows (water cycle)** – the transfer of water between stores. This could be in the same state or involve a change of state

**Footloose industries** – industries that can locate anywhere

**Formal employment** – work that receives a regular wage that is taxed and workers are assured certain rights e.g. paid holiday, sick leave etc

**Formal settlements** – homes where the householders have legal rights to the land

**Gentrification** – the conversion and upgrading of existing buildings as an alternative to demolishing and replacing them with new properties

**Globalisation** – the way individual people, countries and industries are connected to each other on a global scale

**Green belt land** – an area of land surrounding an urban area that is protected from development due to government policy used to prevent the spread of cities into the countryside

**Greenfield site** – an area of land that has not been used before for building

**Groundwater** – water in the ground below the water table

**Groynes** – these are a type of coastal defence system consisting of low walls built into the sea

**Hard engineering** – artificial structures such as sea walls or concrete river embankments

**Hold the line** – a coastal management strategy to prevent erosion

**Honeypot site** – a place of special interest that attracts many tourists and is often congested at peak times

**Housing tenure** – the legal and financial arrangements by which people live in their housing

**Hydraulic action** – the breaking up of rock material caused by water compressing air in cracks within rock surfaces, before releasing it explosively

**Hydrograph** – a line graph showing the discharge of a river over time

**Import duty** – a tax or tariff that must be paid by a company when exporting its goods to a country

**Imports** – goods that a country buys in from other countries

**Informal employment** – work that does not receive a regular wage and is not monitored by the government

**Informal settlements** – homes where the householders have no legal rights to the land, i.e. they do not have legal housing tenure. Informal settlements are commonly known as shanty towns and squatter settlements.

**Inner city** – the central, and usually older, part of a city

**Interdependence** – the complex patterns of trade, communication and aid that link different countries together

**Managed retreat** – a coastal management strategy in which holes are made in existing sea defences so that a new coastline is established further inland

**Migration** – the movement of people from one place to another in order to live

**Multilateral aid** – aid given by governments to large international organisations which then decide how the aid should be distributed

**Multinational companies (MNCs)** – large businesses, such as Sony, Microsoft and McDonalds, that have branches in several countries

**Multiplier effect** – the knock-on effect of an activity causing spending in other areas

**Newly industrialised countries (NICs)** – newly industrialised countries such as India, Thailand or Indonesia that have a large percentage of the workplace working in the secondary (manufacturing) sector

**Non-government aid** – aid given by independent organisations, often charities, which collect donations to use in countries and groups that need help

**Pressure system** – a large mass of air having similar air pressure characteristics

**Primary sector** – growing or extracting raw materials

**Private sector** – people who are either self-employed or work for a larger company or organisation that is not controlled by the government

**Public sector** – people employed by the national, regional or local government

**Pull factors** – features of an area that attract people to that area

**Push factors** – features of an area that encourage people to move away from that area

**Quality of life** – the happiness, well-being and satisfaction of a person

**Quaternary sector** – providing information services

**Quota** – a limit placed on the quantity of goods that a country may export to another

**Range (services)** – the furthest distance a customer is willing to travel to shop at a particular store

**Refugees** – people who move from one place to another because they are forced away from where they live because their lives are in danger

**Retail services** – services in which goods are sold to the public

**Re-urbanisation** – a move of people inwards, towards city centres

**Rotational slumping** – a process of cliff erosion whereby large amounts of till slip down the cliff face

**Rural** – an area of countryside

**Saltation** – material is bounced along by the moving water

**Secondary sector** – manufacturing and processing goods

**Site** – the land on which a building is to be built

**Situation** – the land surrounding a site

**Soft engineering** – alternative method of reducing floods by planting trees or allowing areas to flood naturally

**Solution** – rock material dissolves in the water. It may eventually become solid again if this water evaporates

**Stakeholders** – people or groups of people who have either a direct or indirect interest in any planning issue

**Standard of living** – influences on the lives of people that can be measured

**Stores (water cycle)** – where water remains in one place or state

**Subsidy** – a payment a country makes to its own producers to make them more competitive against imported goods

**Suburbs** – the area at the edge of the city, especially a smaller residential community

**Suspension** – material ‘floats’ in the water as it moves

**Sustainable communities** – communities designed to have a minimum impact on the environment

**Swash** – the flow of water up the beach as a wave breaks on the shore

**Tertiary sector** – providing a service

**Threshold population** – the number of customers below which a shop will not make a big enough profit to stay open

**Throughflow** – the downhill flow of water through soil

**Traction** – material is rolled or dragged along. It does not leave the surface as it is carried

**Trading bloc** – partnerships formed between groups of countries to make trade easier between them

**Urban** – a built up area like a town or city

**Urban areas** – built up areas like towns or cities

**Urbanisation** – the growth of population and the physical size of larger towns and cities

**Water table** – the level below which the ground is saturated with water

**Wave cut platform** – a flat area often found at the base of a cliff created by wave erosion

**Weather** – day-to-day changes in the atmosphere