

Tanworth-in-Arden

7 Geographical Concepts

Below are the 7 Geographical Concepts covered at Tanworth. The concepts are broken down into counter parts but are not limited to this when teaching.

1. Place

The significance of places and what they are like.

- Identification of places
- How places are perceived and understood
- Described as location, shape, boundaries, features and human/physical characteristics
- Tangible and in tangible characteristics e.g. landforms v/s culture
- Places provide for people and enhance lives
- How the environmental characteristics are influenced by humans
- Human characteristics are influenced by environmental characteristics e.g. culture, population, trade
- Places that are managed, controlled and changed by humans
- Places are unique in characteristics so similar problems may require different solutions
- Sustainability of places may be threatened by a range of factors

2. Space

The significance of location and spatial distribution. The ways people manage and organise the spaces what we live in.

- Human and physical characteristics are influenced by location
- Location and distance effects are being reduced by improvements in transport and communication
- Spatial distributions (e.g. wealth, culture, environmental) can be seen and analysed.
- Spatial distributions have environmental, economic, social and political consequences
- Spaces are organised and managed by people often to achieve a certain purpose

3. Environment

Significance of the environment in human life and the interrelationships between humans and the environment

- The environment is the product of physical and human processes
- The environment supports and enriches human life by providing raw materials, food, recycling waste, maintaining a safe habitat and as a source of enjoyment.
- It presents opportunities and constraints on human development
- Understanding the causes and consequences of change will help humans to manage their consequences
- Each type of environment has its own specific hazard

4. Interconnection

No object of geography can be viewed in isolation

- Places are connected with places in a variety of ways
- People and organisations within these places are also connected
- Interconnections of places have influences on the characteristics and changes in a place
- Cause and effect interconnections can operate between and within places. E.g. water cycle, tectonic plates, urbanisation

5. Scale

Geographical concepts and problems can be examined at different spatial levels

- Using higher and lower levels of scale to examine geographical concepts e.g. when looking at vegetation - climate is the main factor at a global scale but drainage may be the main factor at a local scale
- Looking at relationships both locally and globally and understanding that local events can have a global effect e.g. vegetation removal on global climate

6. Sustainability

The capacity for the environment to continue to support our lives and the lives of other humans and creatures in the future

- A goal and a way of thinking
- Progress relies on maintenance and restoration of sustainable functions
- Studying environmental processes producing the degradation of the environment and the human actions which have started this
- Variety of views about how sustainability is achieved

7. Change

Explaining geography by investigating how it has developed over time

- Environmental change can occur over short and long terms which both interrelate with human activities
- Some changes are unequal (e.g. technological) and therefore affects places differently
- The current process of change can be used to predict change in the future and identify what can help achieve sustainability