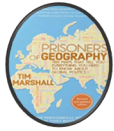




Evidence suggests that students who read for enjoyment not only perform better in tests than those who don't, but also develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. In the Geography Department, we believe it is one of the most valuable things you can do to enhance your academic performance. Remember you can make use of digital books (Kindles/e-Readers) – you don't have to access hard copies. All the titles below are also available in the DC library for your return in September.

4.i Books



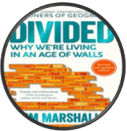
Prisoners of Geography (Tim Marshall)

An insightful book which helps understand how physical geography impacts on political reality and really helps to understand how decisions of world leaders have been shaped by geography – a great introduction to geopolitics.



Factfulness: Ten reasons we're wrong about the world – and why things are better than you think (Hans Rosling)

Hans Rosling has written what is a must-read book from a geography perspective – this takes a more realistic view of the world, presenting issues in fact-based context. It is a rational look at actually how far the world has measurably improved and what's left to be done.



Divided (Tim Marshall)

Author Tim Marshall attempts to explain why we are living in an age of walls by delving into our past and present to reveal the fault lines that will shape our world for years to come. Another Sunday Times Best Seller from the author.



Unruly Places (Alistair Bonnet)

At a time when Google Maps can take you on a virtual tour of most places on the planet, it's hard to imagine there's any uncharted ground left on the planet. Unruly Places goes to some of the most unexpected, offbeat places in the world to re-inspire our geographical imaginations.



Brick Lane (Monica Ali)

A fictional novel which explores the rich cultural heritage of East London's Brick Lane. A less academic approach to key urban issues and cultural tensions in inner-city London.



China's Asian Dream (Tom Miller)

Combining a concise overview of the situation with on-the-ground reportage from over seven

countries, *China's Asian Dream* offers a fresh perspective on one of the most important questions of our time: what does China's rise mean for the future of Asia and of the world?



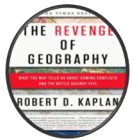
On the Map (Simon Garfield)

Maps fascinate us. They chart our understanding of the world and they log our progress, but above all they tell our stories. From the early sketches of philosophers and explorers through to Google Maps and beyond, Simon Garfield examines how maps both relate and realign our history.



The Power of Place (Harm De Blij)

The world is not as mobile or as interconnected as we like to think. As Harm de Blij argues in *The Power of Place*, in crucial ways--from the uneven distribution of natural resources to the unequal availability of opportunity--geography continues to hold billions of people in its grip. Incorporating a series of persuasive maps, De Blij describes the tremendously varied environments across the planet and shows how migrations between them are comparatively rare. De Blij also looks at the ways we are redefining place so as to make its power even more potent than it has been, with troubling implications.



The Revenge of Geography (Robert D Kaplan)

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • In this provocative, startling book, Robert D. Kaplan, the bestselling author of *Monsoon* and *Balkan Ghosts*, offers a revelatory new prism through which to view global upheavals and to understand what lies ahead for continents and countries around the world.



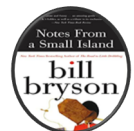
Landmarks (Robert Macfarlane)

Words are grained into our landscapes, and landscapes are grained into our words. *Landmarks* is about the power of language to shape our sense of place. It is a field guide to the literature of nature and a glossary containing thousands of remarkable words used in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales to describe land, nature, and weather.



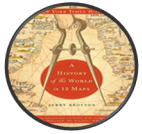
Mountains of the Mind (Robert Macfarlane)

Combining accounts of legendary mountain ascents with vivid descriptions of his own forays into wild, high landscapes, Robert MacFarlane reveals how the mystery of the world's highest places has come to grip the Western imagination—and perennially draws legions of adventurers up the most perilous slopes.



Notes from a Small Island (Bill Bryson)

Featuring an all-new cover, *New York Times* bestseller Bill Bryson's hilarious journey through the beloved island nation he called home for two decades. From Downing Street to Loch Ness, this is a delightful look at the United Kingdom.



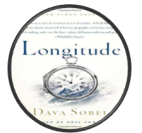
A History of the World in 12 Maps (Jeremy Brotton)

Jerry Brotton examines the significance of 12 maps - from the almost mystical representations of ancient history to the satellite-derived imagery of today. He vividly recreates the environments and circumstances in which each of the maps was made, showing how each conveys a highly individual view of the world. Brotton shows how each of his maps both influenced and reflected contemporary events and how, by considering it in all its nuances and omissions, we can better understand the world that produced it.



The Phantom Atlas (Edward Brooke-Hitching)

The Phantom Atlas is a guide to the world not as it is, but as it was imagined to be. It's a world of ghost islands, invisible mountain ranges, mythical civilizations, ship-wrecking beasts, and other fictitious features introduced on maps and atlases through mistakes, misunderstanding, fantasies, and outright lies.



Longitude (Dava Sobel)

Longitude is the dramatic human story of an epic scientific quest and of Harrison's forty-year obsession with building his perfect timekeeper, known today as the chronometer. Full of heroism and chicanery, it is also a fascinating brief history of astronomy, navigation, and clockmaking, and opens a new window on our world.



The Happy City (Charles Montgomery)

Charles Montgomery's *Happy City* is revolutionizing the way we think about urban life.

After decades of unchecked sprawl, more people than ever are moving back to the city. Dense urban living has been prescribed as a panacea for the environmental and resource crises of our time. But is it better or worse for our happiness? Are subways, sidewalks, and condo towers an improvement on the car dependence of the suburbs?



Map head: Charting the Weird World of Geography Wonks (Ken Jennings)

Ken Jennings takes readers on a world tour of geogeeks from the London Map Fair to the bowels of the Library of Congress, from the prepubescent geniuses at the National Geographic Bee to the computer programmers at Google Earth. Each chapter delves into a different aspect of map culture: highpointing, geocaching, road atlas rallying, even the "unreal estate" charted on the maps of fiction and fantasy. Jennings also considers the ways in which cartography has shaped our history, suggesting that the impulse to make and read maps is as relevant today as it has ever been.



Atlas of Improbable Places (Travis Elborough)

With beautiful maps and stunning photography illustrating each destination, Atlas of Improbable Places is a fascinating voyage to the world's most incredible destinations. As the Island of Dolls and the hauntingly titled Door to Hell — an inextinguishable fire pit - attest, mystery is never far away. The truths and myths behind their creation are as varied as the destinations themselves. Standing as symbols of worship, testaments to kingships or even the strange and wonderful traditions of old and new, these curious places are not just extraordinary sights but reflections on man's own relationship with the world around us.

4.ii Geographical Reading Lists

Alongside the extensive list above, the Geographical Association (The GA) has very recently produced two reading lists; one human and one physical, separated by topics to give you a feel for the people, places and issues you are studying as part of your A Level in Geography. You are not expected to read every title! But you should certainly dip in and out of particular titles which are linked to a topic or case study you will cover next year. A good idea would be to look over the exam specification and cross reference this against the titles on this list.



Human Geography Reading List:

https://www.geography.org.uk/write/MediaUploads/Get%20involved/Reading_List_1_Human_Geography.pdf



Physical Geography Reading List:

[https://www.geography.org.uk/write/MediaUploads/Get%20involved/Reading_List_2_Physical_Geography, Climate Change and Maps.pdf](https://www.geography.org.uk/write/MediaUploads/Get%20involved/Reading_List_2_Physical_Geography,_Climate_Change_and_Maps.pdf)