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**Knowledge Rich Curriculum Plan**

Geography Y13 (Human)



| **Unit: Superpowers** | | | |
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| **Lesson/Learning Sequence** | **Intended Knowledge:**  *Students will know that…* | **Tiered Vocabulary** | **Prior Knowledge:**  *In order to know this students, need to already know that…* |
| **Enquiry question 1: What are superpowers and how have they changed over time?**  Geopolitical power stems from a range of human and physical characteristics of superpowers. | * Superpowers, emerging and regional powers can be defined using contrasting characteristics (economic, political, military, cultural, demographic, and access to natural resources). * Mechanisms of maintaining power sit on a spectrum from ‘hard’ to ‘soft’ power, which vary in their effectiveness. * The relative importance of these characteristics and mechanisms for maintaining power has changed over time (Mackinder’s geostrategic location theory). | Superpower  Mechanism | * Different world countries have different levels of influence. This module builds on basic principles of world powers. |
| Patterns of power change over time and can be uni-, bi- or multi-polar. | * The maintenance of power during the imperial era was by direct colonial control (British Empire, multi-polar world 1919–1939). This is looked back on Historically with extreme prejudice. During this period, the UK acted as global policeman. * Multi-faceted, indirect control (political, economic, military, cultural) including neo-colonial mechanisms, has become more important (Cold War era; emergence of China as a potential rival to the USA’s hegemony). * Different patterns of power bring varying degrees of geopolitical stability and risk. | Neo-colonial  Multi-Polar | * Superpowers, emerging and regional powers can be defined using contrasting characteristics (economic, political, military, cultural, demographic, and access to natural resources). * Mechanisms of maintaining power sit on a spectrum from ‘hard’ to ‘soft’ power, which vary in their effectiveness. * The relative importance of these characteristics and mechanisms for maintaining power has changed over time (Mackinder’s geostrategic location theory). |
| Emerging powers vary in their influence on people and the physical environment, which can change rapidly over time. | * A number of emerging countries, including Brazil, Russia, India and China (BRIC) and other G20 members, are considered increasingly important to global economic and political systems, as well as a global environment governance (UN Climate Change Conference). * Each has evolving strengths and weaknesses (economic, political, military, cultural, demographic and environmental) that might inhibit or advance their economic and geopolitical role in the future. * Development theory (world systems theory, dependency theory, modernisation theory) can be used to help explain changing patterns of power. | Emerging Countries | * Multi-faceted, indirect control (political, economic, military, cultural) including neo-colonial mechanisms, has become more important (Cold War era; emergence of China as a potential rival to the USA’s hegemony). * Different patterns of power bring varying degrees of geopolitical stability and risk. |
| **Enquiry question 2: What are the impacts of superpowers on the global economy, political systems and the global environment?**  Superpowers have a significant influence over the global economic system. | * Superpowers influence the global economy (promoting free trade and capitalism) through a variety of IGOs (World Bank, IMF, WTO, World Economic Forum (WEF)). * TNCs (public and state-led) are dominant economic forces in the global economy and economic and cultural globalisation in terms of technology (patents) and trade patterns. * Global cultural influence (the arts, food the media) and ‘westernisation’ are important aspects of power, linked to economic influence and technology. | Westernisation | * Superpowers, emerging and regional powers can be defined using contrasting characteristics (economic, political, military, cultural, demographic, and access to natural resources). * TNC’s are trans-national corporations. These drive globalisation. |
| Superpowers and emerging nations play a key role in international decision making concerning people and the physical environment. | * Superpowers and emerging nations play a key role in global action (crisis response, conflict, climate change). * Alliances, both military (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO), The Australia, New Zealand and United States Security Treaty (ANZUS) and economic (EU, North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), ASEAN) and environmental (IPCC) increase interdependence and are important in geostrategy and global influence. * The UN (Security Council, International Court of Justice, and peacekeeping missions and climate change conferences) are important to global geopolitical stability. | Geopolitical  Geostrategy  Interdependence | * Superpowers influence the global economy (promoting free trade and capitalism) through a variety of IGOs (World Bank, IMF, WTO, World Economic Forum (WEF)). |
| **Global concerns about the physical environment are disproportionately influenced by superpower actions.** | * Superpower resource demands (food, fossil fuels, and minerals) can cause environmental degradation and their carbon emissions contribute disproportionately to global warming * There are differences in the willingness to act (USA, EU, China and Russia) to reduce carbon emissions and reach global agreements on environmental issues. * Future growth in middle-class consumption in emerging superpowers has implications for the availability and cost of key resources (rare earths, oil, staple grains and water), as well as for the physical environment. | Disproportionately | * Canada is extracting energy from Tar sands as a radical energy choice. * Climate change is impacted by nations having differing attitudes to climate change e.g. USA vs China |
| **Enquiry question 3: What spheres of influence are contested by superpowers and what are the implications of this?**  Global influence is contested in a number of different economic, environmental and political spheres. | * Tensions can arise over the acquisition of physical resources (Arctic oil and gas) where ownership is disputed and disagreement exists over exploitation * The global system of intellectual property rights can be undermined by counterfeiting, which strains trade relations and TNC investment. * Political spheres of influence can be contested leading to tensions over territory and physical resources (South and East China Seas) and in some cases resulting in open conflict (Western Russia/Eastern Europe) with implications for people and physical environments. | Disputed  Contested | * Mechanisms of maintaining power sit on a spectrum from ‘hard’ to ‘soft’ power, which vary in their effectiveness. * The relative importance of these characteristics and mechanisms for maintaining power has changed over time (Mackinder’s geostrategic location theory). |
| Developing nations have changing relationships with superpowers with consequences for people and the physical environment. | * Developing economic ties between emerging powers and the developing world (China and African nations) increase interdependence, generate environmental impacts and bring opportunities and challenges. * The rising economic importance of certain Asian countries (China, India) on the global stage increases the geopolitical influence of the region but also creates political and economic tensions within the region. * Cultural, political, economic and environmental tensions in the Middle East represent an ongoing challenge to superpowers and emerging powers due to complex geopolitical relations combined with the supply of vital energy resources. | Tension | * Tensions can arise over the acquisition of physical resources (Arctic oil and gas) where ownership is disputed and disagreement exists over exploitation * The global system of intellectual property rights can be undermined by counterfeiting, which strains trade relations and TNC investment. * Political spheres of influence can be contested leading to tensions over territory and physical resources (South and East China Seas) and in some cases resulting in open conflict (Western Russia/Eastern Europe) with implications for people and physical environments. |
| Existing superpowers face ongoing economic restructuring, which challenges their power. | * Economic problems (debt, unemployment, economic restructuring, social costs) represent an ongoing challenge to the USA and EU. * The economic costs of maintaining global military power (naval, nuclear, air power, intelligence services) and space exploration are questioned in some existing powers. * The future balance of global power in 2030 and 2050 is uncertain and there are a range of possible outcomes (continued USA dominance, bi-polar and multi-polar structures). | Economic Cost | * Mechanisms of maintaining power sit on a spectrum from ‘hard’ to ‘soft’ power, which vary in their effectiveness. * The relative importance of these characteristics and mechanisms for maintaining power has changed over time (Mackinder’s geostrategic location theory). * Political spheres of influence can be contested leading to tensions over territory and physical resources (South and East China Seas) and in some cases resulting in open conflict (Western Russia/Eastern Europe) with implications for people and physical environments. |

| **Unit: Migration, Identify and Sovereignty** | | | |
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| **Lesson/Learning Sequence** | **Intended Knowledge:**  *Students will know that…* | **Tiered Vocabulary** | **Prior Knowledge:**  *In order to know this students, need to already know that…* |
| **Enquiry question 1: What are the impacts of globalisation on international migration?**  Globalisation has led to an increase in migration both within countries and among them. | * Globalisation has caused extremely significant changes in the global economic system, changing the pattern of demand for labour; this has encouraged both rural-urban migration within countries (China) and international migration between countries (EU, Schengen). * Between 3–4% of the global population live outside their country of birth, but this proportion varies greatly between countries because of different policies relating to international migration and levels of engagement with the global economy (Singapore, Japan, Australia). * The pattern of international migration is changing and will continue to change because environmental, economic and political events affect both the source areas of many migrants and their destinations; this results in flows of voluntary economic migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. | Migration  Globalisation | * Globalisation is the increasing connections between places and people across the planet, established through trade, politics and cultural exchanges, and helped by technology and transport. * Migration refers to the movement of people. |
| The causes of migration are varied, complex and subject to change. | * Most migrants move for work or to re-join family members; there are other significant causes, including displacement of refugees due to conflict and poverty in their regions of origin (migrants crossing the Mediterranean). * Economic theory suggests that economic efficiency is maximised when goods (free trade), capital (deregulated financial markets) and labour (open borders) can move freely across international borders but this poses serious challenges for national identity and sovereignty. * The movement of labour is unrestricted within many nation states to ensure efficient allocation of resources (regional movements in the UK) and the same logic applies for some global regions (EU) but does not yet apply at a global level. | Displacement  Unrestricted | * Between 3–4% of the global population live outside their country of birth, but this proportion varies greatly between countries because of different policies relating to international migration and levels of engagement with the global economy (Singapore, Japan, Australia). * The pattern of international migration is changing and will continue to change because environmental, economic and political events affect both the source areas of many migrants and their destinations; this results in flows of voluntary economic migrants, refugees and asylum seekers. |
| The consequences of international migration are varied and disputed. | * Migration changes the cultural and ethnic composition of nation states but the rate of assimilation of migrants varies from nation to nation especially when there are distinctive ethnic differences. * Migration causes political tensions because of differences in perceptions of the social, economic, cultural and demographic impacts of migration (labour flows across the Mexico-US border and between EU states). * There are variations in the ability of people to migrate across national borders according to levels of skill and income; and opportunities, including the presence or absence of controls and international borders. | Ethnic Composition  Nation State | * Economic theory suggests that economic efficiency is maximised when goods (free trade), capital (deregulated financial markets) and labour (open borders) can move freely across international borders but this poses serious challenges for national identity and sovereignty. * The movement of labour is unrestricted within many nation states to ensure efficient allocation of resources (regional movements in the UK) and the same logic applies for some global regions (EU) but does not yet apply at a global level. |
| **Enquiry question 2: How are nation states defined and how have they evolved in a globalising world?**  Nation states are highly varied and have very different histories. | * National sovereign states vary greatly in their ethnic, cultural and linguistic unity (Iceland compared to Singapore); this results from their history of population growth, their isolation and the role of migration. * Many national borders are a consequence of physical geography and historical development; other borders are a result of colonial history and might not take account of different ethnic or religious groups (Iraq, Rwanda), which can lead to problems of sovereignty and legitimacy. * There are many contested borders (Ukraine, Russia) and not all nation states are universally recognised as such (Taiwan), which can lead to both conflict and population movements. | Sovereignty | * Migration changes the cultural and ethnic composition of nation states but the rate of assimilation of migrants varies from nation to nation especially when there are distinctive ethnic differences. * Migration causes political tensions because of differences in perceptions of the social, economic, cultural and demographic impacts of migration (labour flows across the Mexico-US border and between EU states). |
| Nationalism has played a role in the development of the modern world. | * 19th-century nationalism was important in the development of empires and a source of conflict in Europe and beyond as other nations became part of larger empires (British Raj in India). * Since 1945, many new nation states have emerged as empires disintegrated (1960s ‘winds of change’ in Africa); this has caused conflicts that were costly in environmental, economic and in human terms (Vietnam, Sudan). | Nationalism | * Many national borders are a consequence of physical geography and historical development; other borders are a result of colonial history and might not take account of different ethnic or religious groups (Iraq, Rwanda), which can lead to problems of sovereignty and legitimacy. |
|  | * Patterns of migration between former colonies and the imperial core country are still evident and important in changing the ethnic composition and cultural heterogeneity of those countries. |  |  |
| Globalisation has led to the deregulation of capital markets and the emergence of new states. | * Globalisation has encouraged the growth of states that have low-tax regimes which provide havens for the profits for TNCs and homes for wealthy expatriates. * Most governments and IGOs have accepted the emergence of tax havens although many NGOs have raised objections. * Growing global inequalities have been recognised as a major threat to the sustainability of the global economic system and some governments have promoted alternative models (Bolivia, Ecuador). | Tax Haven | * Globalisation is the increasing connections between places and people across the planet, established through trade, politics and cultural exchanges, and helped by technology and transport. |
| **Enquiry question 3: What are the impacts of global organisations on managing global issues and conflicts?**  Global organisations are not new but have been important in the post-1945 world. | * The United Nations was the first post-war IGO to be established and has grown in importance; its role in global governance is affected by the different geopolitical visons of members of the Security Council and its multiple functions in managing global environmental, socio-economic and political problems. * Interventions by the UN through the use of economic sanctions and direct military intervention have been made in defence of human rights but have a mixed record of success (Trade embargo Iran, UN forces in Congo). * Some member states (US, UK, Russia) have operated independently of the UN in intervening in ‘failed states’ or to conduct a ‘war on terror’ with profound impacts on geopolitical relations and global stability. | IGO  Sanctions | * Globalisation has encouraged the growth of states that have low-tax regimes which provide havens for the profits for TNCs and homes for wealthy expatriates. * Most governments and IGOs have accepted the emergence of tax havens although many NGOs have raised objections. * Growing global inequalities have been recognised as a major threat to the sustainability of the global economic system and some governments have promoted alternative models (Bolivia, Ecuador). |
| IGOs established after the Second World War have controlled the rules of world trade and financial flows. | * The IMF, WB and WTO were established by the WWII allied nations and have been important in maintaining the dominance of ‘western’ capitalism, global economic management and trade policy (free trade). * Global borrowing rules and trade policies have been especially effective in delivering growth to the developed world, but the impact of Structural Adjustment and HIPC policies on the developing world’s economies and economic sovereignty is disputed (Jamaica’s structural adjustment programme). * Membership of global trade and financial IGOs is almost universal, as a result of the dominance of these organisations, but regional groupings have emerged in the form of trading blocs (NAFTA/SEATO) and in some cases (EU) there has been a movement to closer political unity. | Disputed | * The United Nations was the first post-war IGO to be established and has grown in importance; its role in global governance is affected by the different geopolitical visons of members of the Security Council and its multiple functions in managing global environmental, socio-economic and political problems. * Interventions by the UN through the use of economic sanctions and direct military intervention have been made in defence of human rights but have a mixed record of success (Trade embargo Iran, UN forces in Congo). * Some member states (US, UK, Russia) have operated independently of the UN in intervening in ‘failed states’ or to conduct a ‘war on terror’ with profound impacts on geopolitical relations and global stability. |
| IGOs have been formed to manage the environmental problems facing the world, with varying success. | * These include global environmental issues concerning the quality of the atmosphere (Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer) and biosphere (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora CITES). * IGOs have been involved in developing laws for managing oceans (UN Convention on the Law of the Sea) and international rivers (Water Convention, Helsinki) as well as monitoring the state of the environment (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment). * IGO management also includes responsibility for Antarctica as a continent of peace and science (Antarctic Treaty System). | Biosphere | * Tensions can arise over the acquisition of physical resources (Arctic oil and gas) where ownership is disputed and disagreement exists over exploitation * Superpower resource demands (food, fossil fuels, and minerals) can cause environmental degradation and their carbon emissions contribute disproportionately to global warming * There are differences in the willingness to act (USA, EU, China and Russia) to reduce carbon emissions and reach global agreements on environmental issues. * Future growth in middle-class consumption in emerging superpowers has implications for the availability and cost of key resources (rare earths, oil, staple grains and water), as well as for the physical environment. |
| **Enquiry question 4: What are the threats to national sovereignty in a more globalised**  National identity is an elusive and contested concept. | * Nationalism remains a powerful force; it is reinforced through education, sport and by political parties stressing loyalty to both the institutions and the ideals of nation states. * Identity and loyalty might be tied to distinctive legal systems, methods of governance, national ‘character’ or even a landscape (the English countryside). * Most countries are multi-national with many contrasting ethnic groups; questions of national identity and loyalty are therefore complex, especially in an era of globalisation. * Most countries are multi-national with many contrasting ethnic groups; questions of national identity and loyalty are therefore complex, especially in an era of globalisation. | Nationalism | * 19th-century nationalism was important in the development of empires and a source of conflict in Europe and beyond as other nations became part of larger empires (British Raj in India). |
| There are challenges to national identity | * Many UK-based companies are foreign-owned (EDF, Jaguar Land Rover), making ‘Made in Britain’ an increasingly complex idea. * Westernisation’ is often dominated by US cultural values through the operation of large corporations in both retailing and entertainment; this, in turn, promotes a distinctive view of the benefits the dominant capitalist model. * Ownership of property, land and businesses in countries is increasingly non-national (Qatari and Russian property in London, US and Indian ownership of TNCs), which impacts on national identity. | Westernisation | * Global cultural influence (the arts, food the media) and ‘westernisation’ are important aspects of power, linked to economic influence and technology. * The USA often uses westernisation as a ‘soft power’ |
| There are consequences of disunity within nations. | * There are strong nationalist movements seeking to create independent, smaller states whilst remaining within larger trading groups (Catalonia and Scotland in the EU). * There are significant political tensions in the BRIC and other emerging nations resulting from the uneven pattern of the costs and benefits of globalisation. * The role of the state is variable and national identity is not always strong, especially in ‘failed states’ where there are stark differences between the politically and economically powerful elite, foreign investment groups and the wider population. | Failed State  Nationalist Movement | * Nationalism remains a powerful force; it is reinforced through education, sport and by political parties stressing loyalty to both the institutions and the ideals of nation states. * Identity and loyalty might be tied to distinctive legal systems, methods of governance, national ‘character’ or even a landscape (the English countryside). |