

## AS & A2 Level Syllabus Links: Life on the Margins

Geography A-level Exam Board	Unit and topic	Syllabus detail	Links to Gobi Desert Case study
AQA	<u>Unit 1 Physical and Human Geography.</u> The Human options – Food Supply Issues	Managing food supply – strategies to increase production	High tech management – use of irrigation, greenhouses & fertilisers in Minquin County. The Gobi could form one of the ‘Case studies of two contrasting approaches to managing food supply and demand’.
Edexcel	<u>Unit 4 – Geographical Research.</u> Option 3: Life on the Margins: the Food Supply Problem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The environmental issues resulting from food production</li> <li>Why drylands are extremely vulnerable to overexploitation and inappropriate land use</li> <li>Categorising and investigating the human factors causing vulnerability (socio-political and economic).</li> <li>Weighing up the range and role of organisations involved in marginal food supply areas.</li> </ul>	<p>The Gobi case study could be used across the 4 enquiry questions for the life on the margins topic, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intensive farming in Minquin contributing to desertification</li> <li>The settling of nomadic herders in Mongolia &amp; Xilingol. Arable farming being an inappropriate farming technique in both arid locations.</li> <li>Government intervention as a cause of vulnerability in Minquin &amp; Xilingol – encouragement of high tech farming and encouragement of settling nomads.</li> </ul> <p>Lesson 1 can also support students understand the methodology used in academic research.</p>
OCR	<u>Unit 3 - Managing Physical Environments</u> 3.1 Semi Arid environments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Why are semi-arid environments considered to be ‘fragile’?</li> <li>How both physical and human factors make the environment ecologically vulnerable?</li> <li>Semi-arid environments provide opportunities and challenges for development. Development present social, economical and environmental challenges.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government intervention as a factor in causing ecological vulnerability in Minquin &amp; Xilingol – encouragement of high tech farming and encouragement of settling nomads. Combined with physical factors – e.g. the winter dzuds.</li> <li>Mining in Xilingol &amp; Mongolia and farming in all 3 locations.</li> </ul>
WJEC	<u>UNIT G3 - Section A Contemporary Themes and Research in Geography</u> Theme 1 – Deserts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.2 How is human activity causing pressures on the desert environment?</li> <li>1.3 What are the strategies that can be used to manage human activity in deserts?</li> </ul>	<p>The Gobi case study can be used to study both pressures and strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts of high tech farming in the Gobi and impacts of settling nomads. The successes and challenges of high tech farming as a solution.</li> </ul>

## AS & A2 Level Syllabus Links: Life on the Margins

	<p><u>Unit G4 – Sustainability</u> Theme 1 Sustainable Food Supply</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What factors promote or hinder food production?</li> <li>• Can food production be sustainably increased?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Settling of nomadic farming as a factor in hindering food production. The challenges of improving sustainable food production in high tech farming.</li> </ul>
Cambridge International	<p><u>Paper 2 - Advanced Physical Options</u> 4. Arid and semi-arid environments 4.4 Sustainable management of arid and semi-arid environments</p>	<p>A case study illustrating the problems of sustainable management in either an arid or a semi-arid environment and an evaluation of attempted or possible solutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Challenges of high tech farming in Minquin –evaluation of this government project.</li> </ul>