

# GCE AS/A LEVEL GEOGRAPHY

Guidance on the use of  
AI tools in the  
independent  
Investigation  
(NEA)



# Use of Artificial Intelligence tools in the production of A level Geography NEA

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## ✓ When AI Tools *Can* Be Used

AI tools may be used **with caution and transparency** to support the following aspects of the investigation:

### 1. Planning and Organisation

- Assisting with ideas for investigation topics (as long as the final title is independently chosen).
- Researching geographical theories or appropriate case study material.
- Structuring timelines or project plans.
- Creating checklists for fieldwork preparation.

### 2. Data Presentation

- Assisting in the creation of graphs, charts, or maps from student-collected data (e.g., using spreadsheet tools or GIS software).
- Formatting tables or visual aids for the written report.

### 3. Technical Support

- Clarifying how to use software (e.g., Excel, ArcGIS, Google Earth).
- Explaining statistical techniques or geographical concepts and models (e.g., Spearman's Rank, Chi-squared).

### 4. Proofreading and Grammar

- Checking spelling, grammar, and clarity of expression (as long as the content remains the candidate's own).

Any use of AI tools must be acknowledged and referenced within the final investigation.

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## ✗ When AI Tools *Cannot* Be Used

AI tools **must not** be used in ways that compromise the **independence, originality, or authenticity** of the investigation:

### 1. Title and Question Formulation

- Candidates must devise their own investigation title and research questions. AI must not be used to generate investigation titles.

### 2. Data Collection

- AI must not fabricate or simulate primary data. All data must be collected by the candidate through fieldwork or valid secondary sources.

### 3. Analysis and Interpretation

- AI must not perform the analysis or draw conclusions on behalf of the candidate.
- Candidates must demonstrate their own understanding of geographical processes and data interpretation.

### 4. Writing the Report

- AI must not create or generate **any part** of the investigation report.
- Paraphrasing or summarising content using AI tools is not allowed if it replaces the candidate's own context, analysis, conclusions or evaluation.

### 5. Referencing and Citations

- AI must not generate or insert references. All sources must be properly cited by the candidate using accepted academic conventions.

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## Important Reminders

- **Malpractice** includes any use of AI that undermines the requirement for independent work.
- Teachers and candidates must sign a declaration confirming the work is the candidate's own.
- Any inappropriate use of AI may lead to disqualification or investigation by the awarding body.