**Topic 7: People and the biosphere**

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| **You should know** | **R** | **A** | **G** |
| **Enquiry question: Why is the biosphere so important to human wellbeing and how do humans use and modify it to obtain resources?** |  |  |  |
| How the global distribution and characteristics of major biomes  (tropical, temperate and boreal forests, tropical and temperate  grasslands, deserts and tundra) are influenced by climate  (temperature, precipitation, sunshine hours).. |  |  |  |
| Local factors (altitude, rock and soil type, drainage) can alter  the biome distribution locally and how the biotic (flora, fauna)  and abiotic (soils, rock, water, atmosphere) components of  biomes interact. |  |  |  |
| How the biosphere provides resources for indigenous and local  people (food, medicine, building materials and fuel resources)  but is also increasingly exploited commercially for energy,  water and mineral resources |  |  |  |
| How the biosphere regulates the composition of the  atmosphere, maintains soil health and regulates water within  the hydrological cycle, providing globally important services |  |  |  |
| The global and regional trends increasing demand for food,  energy and water resources (population growth, rising  affluence, urbanisation and industrialisation) and theories on  the relationships between population and resources (Malthus  and Boserup) |  |  |  |