

GETTING AHEAD



ALTON

Start to develop skills that are relevant to your course before you join HSDC this September!

Geography – A Level

We are excited to meet you in September, and hope you have enjoyed the Getting Ahead work so far.

This activity prepares you for one of the first units you will be doing called Changing Places. This is a fascinating unit that challenges us to consider the concept of place in a way we may not have done before.

Activity

Read the following work from a leading light in place theory; Doreen Massey

Kilburn High Street by Doreen Massey (2005)

“Take, for instance, a walk down Kilburn High Road, my local shopping centre. It is a pretty ordinary place, north-west of the centre of London. Under the railway bridge the newspaper stand sells papers from every county of what my neighbours, many of whom come from there, still often call the Irish Free State. The postboxes down the High Road, and many an empty space on a wall, are adorned with the letters IRA. Other available spaces are plastered this week with posters for a special meeting in remembrance: Ten Years after the Hunger Strike. At the local theatre Eamon Morrissey has a one-man show; the National Club has the Wolfe Tones on, and at the Black Lion there's Finnegan's Wake. In two shops I notice this week's lottery ticket winners: in one the name is Teresa Gleeson, in the other, Chouman Hassan. Thread your way through the often almost stationary traffic diagonally across the road from the newsstand and there's a shop which, for as long as I can remember, has displayed saris in the window. Four life-sized models of Indian women, and reams of cloth. On the door a notice announces a forthcoming concert at Wembley Arena: Anand Miland presents Rekha, life, with Aamir Khan, Salman Khan, Jahi Chawla and Raveena Tandon. On another ad, for the end of the month, is written, 'All Hindus are cordially invited'. In another newsagents I chat with the man who keeps it, a Muslim unutterably depressed by events in the Gulf, silently chafing at having to sell the Sun. Overhead there is always at least one aeroplane - we seem to

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have on a flight-path to Heathrow and by the time they're over Kilburn you can see clearly enough to tell the airline and wonder as you struggle with your shopping where they're coming from. Below, the reason the traffic is snarled up (another odd effect of time-space compression!) is in part because this is one of the main entrances to and escape routes from London, the road to Staples Corner and the beginning of the M1 to 'the North'. This is just the beginning of a sketch from immediate impressions but a proper analysis could be done of the links between Kilburn and the world. And so it could for almost any place."

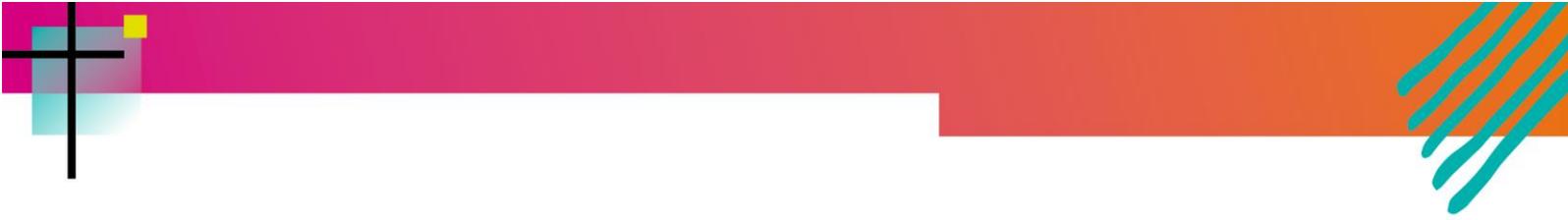


Activities:

1. Highlight the text for the following: a. connections with other places b. flows of people, money, knowledge, culture c. Are some members of the community over-represented? Are others underrepresented?

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2. Visit your local high street and create your own narrative, describe the things you can see, hear and smell. While you are exploring – take plenty of photographs of what you see.

PLEASE BE AWARE OF SOCIAL DISTANCING AND GOVERNMENT ADVICE, YOU COULD DO THE ABOVE USING VIRTUAL RESEARCH IF YOU PREFER

Feel free to be as creative as you wish with your activities and bring to the first lesson in September.

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