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

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<td>AQA</td>
<td>Unit 1 Physical and Human Geography, The Human options – Food Supply Issues</td>
<td>Managing food supply – strategies to increase production</td>
<td>High tech management – use of irrigation, greenhouses &amp; fertilisers in Minquin County. The Gobi could form one of the ‘Case studies of two contrasting approaches to managing food supply and demand’.</td>
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| Edexcel                     | Unit 4 – Geographical Research, Option 3: Life on the Margins: the Food Supply Problem | • The environmental issues resulting from food production  
• Why drylands are extremely vulnerable to overexploitation and inappropriate land use  
• Categorising and investigating the human factors causing vulnerability (socio-political and economic).  
• Weighing up the range and role of organisations involved in marginal food supply areas. | The Gobi case study could be used across the 4 enquiry questions for the life on the margins topic, including:  
• Intensive farming in Minquin contributing to desertification  
• The settling of nomadic herders in Mongolia & Xilingol. Arable farming being an inappropriate farming technique in both arid locations.  
• Government intervention as a cause of vulnerability in Minquin & Xilingol – encouragement of high tech farming and encouragement of settling nomads.  
Lesson 1 can also support students understand the methodology used in academic research. |
| OCR                         | Unit 3 - Managing Physical Environments  
3.1 Semi Arid environments | • Why are semi-arid environments considered to be ‘fragile’?  
• How both physical and human factors make the environment ecologically vulnerable?  
• Semi-arid environments provide opportunities and challenges for development. Development present social, economical and environmental challenges. | Government intervention as a factor in causing ecological vulnerability in Minquin & Xilingol – encouragement of high tech farming and encouragement of settling nomads. Combined with physical factors – e.g. the winter dzuds.  
• Mining in Xilingol & Mongolia and farming in all 3 locations. |
| WJEC                        | UNIT G3 - Section A Contemporary Themes and Research in Geography  
Theme 1 – Deserts | • 1.2 How is human activity causing pressures on the desert environment?  
• 1.3 What are the strategies that can be used to manage human activity in deserts? | The Gobi case study can be used to study both pressures and strategies.  
• Impacts of high tech farming in the Gobi and impacts of settling nomads. The successes and challenges of high tech farming as a solution. |
| Cambridge International | Paper 2 - Advanced Physical Options 4. Arid and semi-arid environments 4.4 Sustainable management of arid and semi-arid environments | 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 | Challenges of high tech farming in Minquin — evaluation of this government project. | | Unit G4 – Sustainability Theme 1 Sustainable Food Supply | What factors promote or hinder food production? Can food production be sustainably increased? | Settling of nomadic farming as a factor in hindering food production. The challenges of improving sustainable food production in high tech farming. |