Financial Times in the News: Chinese mines

Royal Geographical Society

with IBG

Advancing geography and geographical learning



Theme and Specification link

This edition of *Financial Times in the News* looks at how mines in China are still a major part of the economy.

The link to the article can be found here: https://bit.ly/3zJN1gL or use the QR code in the top right corner of this page.

This article underpins many aspects of resource security within the A Level Specifications specifically:

AQA

- 3.2.5.2 Natural resource issues.
- 3.2.5.5 Mineral security.
- 3.2.5.6 Resource futures.
- 3.2.5.7 Case studies Case study of either water or energy or mineral ore resource issues in a global or specified regional setting, their implications for the setting including the relationship between resource security and human welfare and attempts to manage the resource.

Case study of a specified place to illustrate and analyse how aspects of its physical environment affects the availability and cost of mineral ore and the way in which mineral ore is used.

Edexcel

- 7.1.a. Superpowers, emerging and regional powers can be defined using contrasting characteristics (economic, political, military, cultural, demographic and access to natural resources).
- 7.6.a. Superpower resource demands (food, fossil fuels, and minerals) can cause environmental degradation and their carbon emissions contribute disproportionately to global warming.
- 7.6.c. Future growth in middle-class consumption in emerging superpowers has implications for the availability and cost of key resources (rare earths, oil, staple grains and water), as well as for the physical environment.

(Edugas) and WJEC

- (3) 4.3.3 Opportunities and constraints of India or China's physical environment.
- (3) 4.3.9 The influence of physical factors on the development of selected countries.
- (3) 4.3.10 The influence of economic factors on the development of selected countries.

Key terms			
Use the article and your own knowledge to define the key terms below:			
Battery metals			
Future facing commodities			
Raw materials			
Supercycle			
Article summary			
Summarise the article using 10 short bullet points. Can you classify them?			
1.	Wider issues		
2.	Write a question here to help		
3.	think about other issues which might influence the points in the		
4.	article.		
5.			
6.			
7.			

8.

9.

10.

Stakeholders 🕌

Research some more details about the 'Big 4' mining industries and complete the table below with your findings.

Stakeholder	Country(ies) of ownership	Most recent profit figures in £ (add date)	What raw materials do they mine?
BHP (Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited)			•
Rio Tinto			
Anglo American			
Glencoe			

What does this information tell you about the role of mining companies in global economics?

Potential futures -



	Use this space to identify solutions and their implications.		
I			

Synoptic links



Note down any synoptic links using your specification to help you. A Mind map might be helpful here.

> Chinese mines



Analyse the graph showing the share prices of the 'Big 5' and account for the changes.

Discuss the factors which contribute to fluctuations in the global supply of raw materials.

Evaluate the impacts mining has on people and the environment.

"The global mining industry remains closely tied to China's economy." To what extent do you agree with this statement?

Examine the role of China in shaping global patterns of trade in iron ore and other commodities.