

## Year 8 Geography: Global Superpowers Knowledge Organiser (HT3 and 4)

### What does a country need to become a global superpower?

A superpower is a **country** that has the ability to project dominating power and influence anywhere in the world.

#### What gives a country such power?

- Strong and stable economy (lots of money)
- Large, well-equipped military
- Allies around the world
- Large reserves of natural resources
- Large landmass
- Large, well-educated population
- Good healthcare system
- High levels of employment
- Advanced technologies

### How have global superpowers changed over time?

Superpower geography does not stay static.

Historically, different countries have had significant influence and control over other countries meaning they were once considered 'Superpowers'.

#### The British Empire reasons for decline:

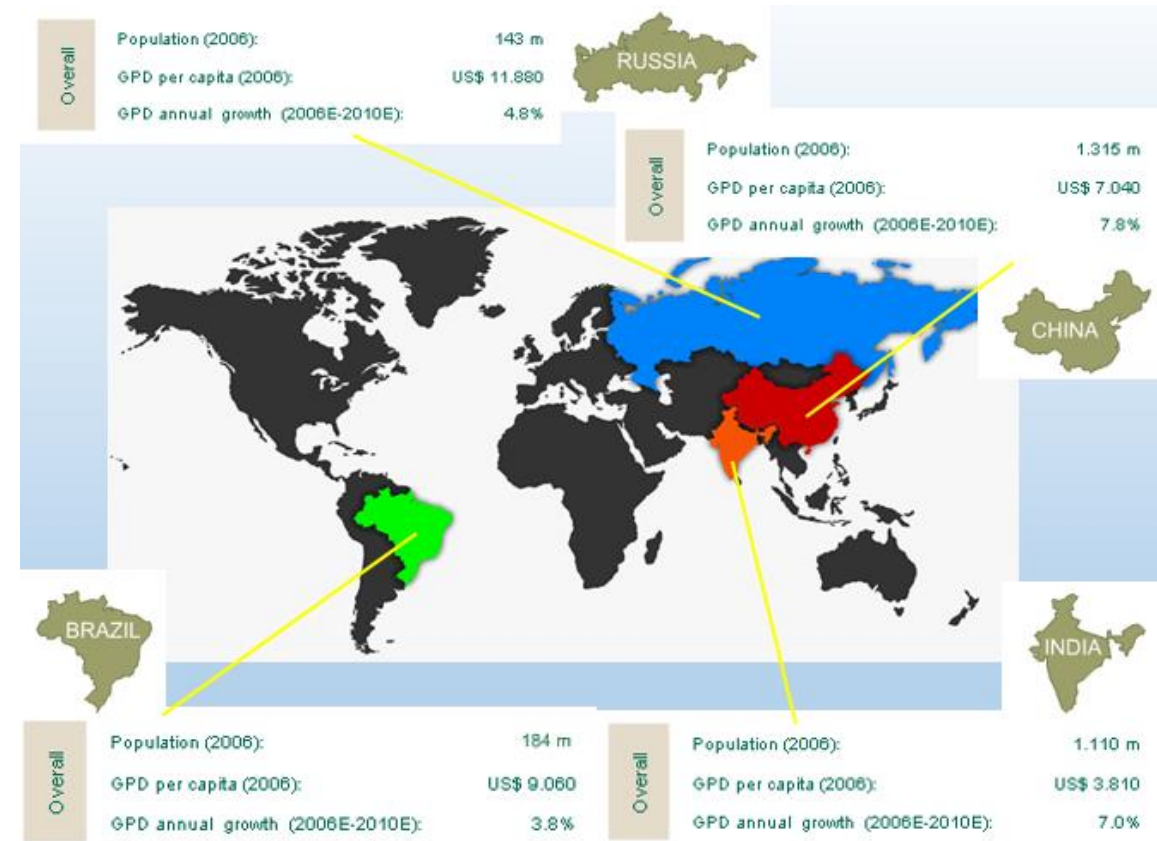
- World War II left the British Empire **essentially bankrupt**.
- Britain started to give back the colonies, known as **decolonisation**.

#### The USSR reasons for decline:

- The **USSR lost the Cold War**.
- Soviet states **demand independence** from Moscow and the USSR broke up.

### BRICS: Are they likely to become global superpowers?

In the last 20 years new global powers have emerged. The 'newcomers' are Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa - collectively known as the BRICs.



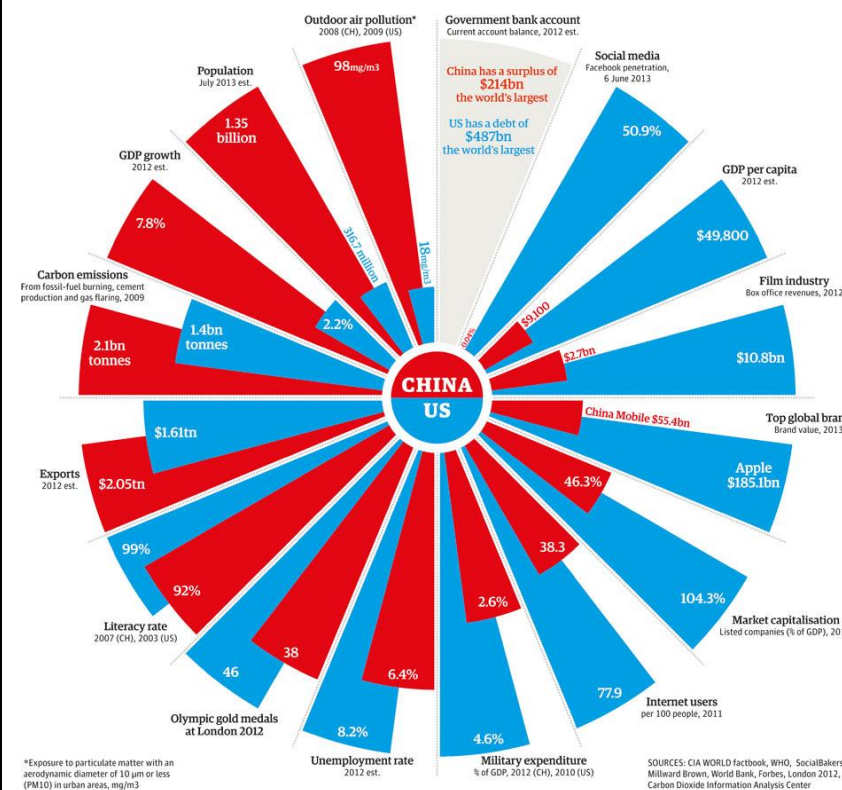
### Opportunities of being a global superpower

Factor	Associated Opportunities
Powerful military	Security - Nobody will mess with you! Threaten - Get other countries to do what you want Training and technology
Trade	Gives you more choice from around the world Lets you buy raw materials you need to make things

### Challenges of being a global superpower

Factor	Associated Challenges
Powerful military	Costs a fortune which is money you could spend on health or education. You are less likely to look for a peaceful answer to a problem.
Trade	Damage to the environment What if you start importing more than you export? Trade deficit!

### China vs. The USA: Who is more powerful?



#### USA Statistics

GDP per capita: \$49,800  
Top brand: Apple \$185.1 billion  
Population: 317 million  
Exports: \$1.61 trillion  
Unemployment: 8.2%

#### China Statistics

GDP per capita: \$9,100  
Top brand: China Mobile \$55.4 billion  
Population: 1.35 billion  
Exports: \$2.05 trillion  
Unemployment: 6.4%

Will North Korea ever be a Superpower?

*Despite its size, what are the main weaknesses of the North Korean military?*

Oddly enough - its size IS one of its main weaknesses! While North Korea has one of the world's largest armies, over a Million strong in regular service, (and roughly 8 in reserves, mainly under-trained civilians with weapons) the reality is that the North Korean government, which does a poor job at feeding its overall population, also cannot adequately provide for its 1.2 million military active service personnel. Therefore scenes like the above, of soldiers trading labour for food or money, are quite common.

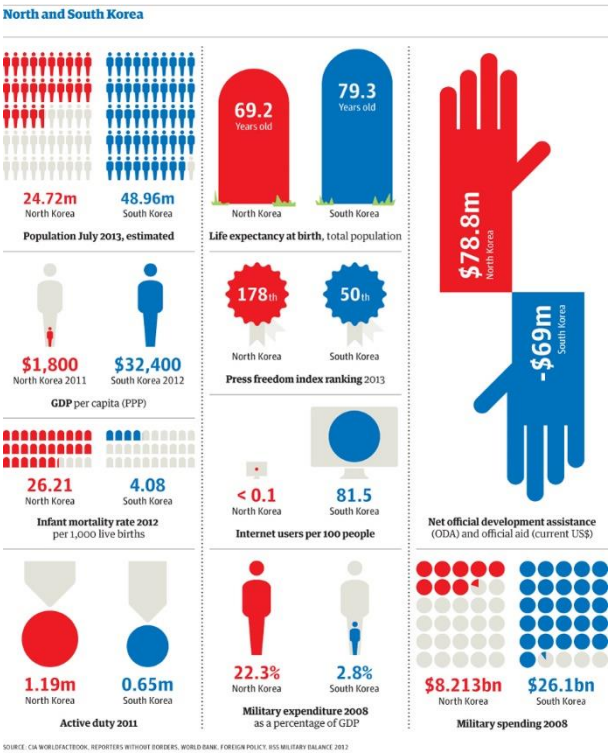
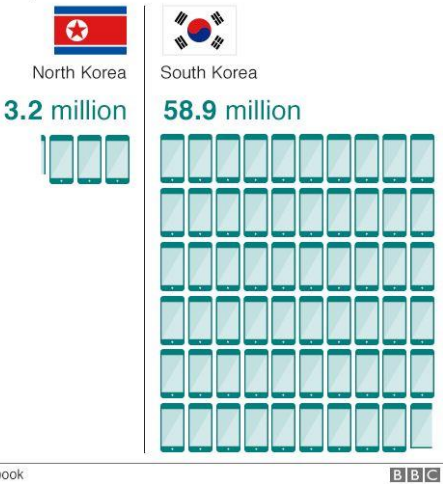


Another weakness is the outdated gear. Others could probably supply more insight on this, but the main elements of this downside is a large yet outdated, out of shape air force, which, large as it may be, a huge part of - according to South Korean analysts - isn't capable of flying at all, nor is North Korea capable of fuelling it all. Ground forces are the same - outdated personal gear, Tanks and APCs, not enough spare parts to maintain those old wagons, and - again: Fuel!

North Korea vs South Korea

**Hardly anyone has a mobile**

Mobile phone subscriptions, 2015



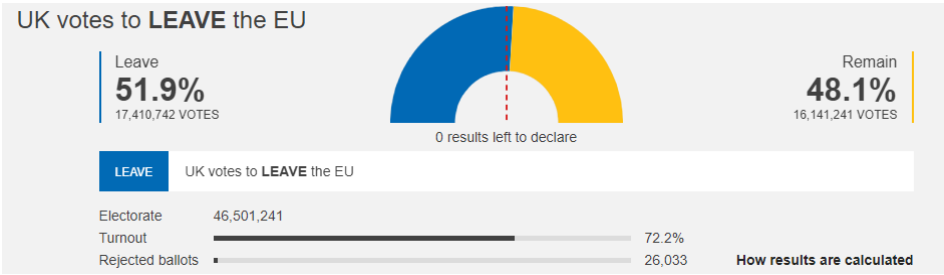


8 things Donald Trump has done for the USA since becoming President

- 1. He has secured the release of 19 people, including 16 Americans, from foreign captivity.
- 2. He worked with Democrats and Republicans to pass important legislation.
- 3. He has ushered in a golden age for women in the CIA.
- 4. His push to expand domestic energy production has meant the USA has surpass Russia and Saudi Arabia as the world's top oil producer.
- 5. In the six months after the Singapore summit with North Korea, he has made no concessions to Pyongyang.
- 6. He struck Syria again and eliminated the last strongholds of the Islamic State's physical caliphate.
- 7. He's continued his tough line with Moscow.
- 8. He pulled out of Obama's disastrous Iran deal and re-imposed crippling sanctions on Tehran.



Brexit



Advantages and Disadvantages of a membership in the EU for the UK

Advantages	Disadvantages
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The EU is one of the world's largest markets, accounting for 25 per cent of global profits.</li><li>• It's estimated that around three million UK jobs are reliant on the EU - although it's not known exactly how many would be in jeopardy if we left.</li><li>• Thank the EU for time off: At least four weeks of guaranteed annual leave, and four months paid parental leave and extra protections for pregnant workers.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some estimates suggest the total economic cost of EU membership is something like £200billion.</li><li>• The UK has no control over immigration from other EU member states. Therefore we cannot stop them entering and working in the UK.</li><li>• EU laws over-rule British Laws. This means that Britain cannot pass laws that the EU do not agree with.</li></ul>