

21: Relief of the UK

Relief of the UK can be divided into uplands and lowlands. Each have their own characteristics.

Key

- Lowlands
- Uplands

Areas +600m: Peaks and ridges cold, misty and snow common. i.e. Scotland

Areas -200m: Flat or rolling hills. Warmer weather. i.e. Fens

22: Types of Erosion

The break down and transport of rocks – smooth, round and sorted.

Attrition	Rocks that bash together to become smooth/smaller.
Solution	A chemical reaction that dissolves rocks.
Abrasion	Rocks hurled at the base of a cliff to break pieces apart or scraped against the banks and bed of a river.
Hydraulic Action	Water enters cracks in the cliff, or river bank, air compresses, causing the crack to expand.

27: Types of Transportation

A natural process by which eroded material is carried/transported.

Solution	Minerals dissolve in water and are carried along.
Suspension	Sediment is carried along in the flow of the water.
Saltation	Pebbles that bounce along the sea/river bed.
Traction	Boulders that roll along a river/sea bed by the force of the flowing water.

31: Mass Movement

A large movement of soil and rock debris that moves down slopes in response to the pull of gravity in a vertical direction.

Rock slides occur when there is a failure along the bedding plane.

Slumping occurs when there is a downward rotation of sections of cliff. Often occur after heavy rain.

28: Formation of Coastal Spits - Deposition

Example: Spurn Head, Holderness Coast.

Material moved along beach in zig-zag way. Coastline changes direction. Material deposited in shallow, calm water, to form a spit. Spits curved with change of wind direction. Prevailing winds bring waves in at an angle.

26: Types of Weathering

Weathering is the breakdown of rocks where they are.

Biological	Breakdown of rock by plants and animals e.g. roots pushing rocks apart.
Mechanical	Breakdown of rock without changing its chemical composition e.g. freeze thaw

What is Deposition?

When the sea or river loses energy, it drops the sand, rock particles and pebbles it has been carrying. This is called deposition. Heaviest material is deposited first.

Rockfall is the rapid free fall of rock from a steep cliff face because of gravity.

- 1) Swash moves up the beach at the angle of the prevailing wind.
- 2) Backwash moves down the beach at 90° to coastline, due to gravity.
- 3) Zigzag movement (Longshore Drift) transports material along beach.
- 4) Deposition causes beach to extend, until reaching a river estuary.
- 5) Change in prevailing wind direction forms a hook.
- 6) Sheltered area behind spit encourages deposition, salt marsh forms.

Unit 1c Physical Landscapes in the UK

AQA

23: How do waves form?

Waves are created by wind blowing over the surface of the sea. As the wind blows over the sea, friction is created - producing a swell in the water.

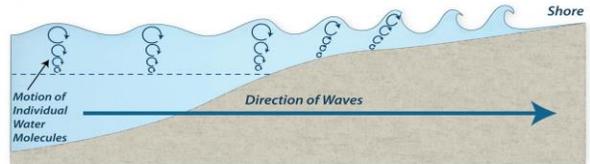
30: Mechanical Weathering Example: Freeze-thaw weathering

Stage One
Water seeps into cracks and fractures in the rock.

Stage Two
When the water freezes, it expands about 9%. This wedges apart the rock.

Stage Three
With repeated freeze-thaw cycles, the rock breaks off.

- ### 24: Why do waves break?
- 1 Waves start out at sea.
 - 2 As waves approaches the shore, friction slows the base.
 - 3 This causes the orbit to become elliptical.
 - 4 Until the top of the wave breaks over.



25: Types of Waves

Size of waves	Constructive Waves	Destructive Waves
Affected by:	This wave has a swash that is stronger than the backwash. This therefore builds up the coast.	This wave has a backwash that is stronger than the swash. This therefore erodes the coast.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fetch how far the wave has travelled • Strength of the wind. • How long the wind has been blowing for. 	<p>Long wavelength. Shallow gradient waves. Strong swash. Weak backwash. Beach built up by deposition of material brought up in swash.</p>	<p>Steep gradient waves. Tall waves with short wavelength. Strong backwash (beach erosion). Weak swash.</p>

29: Formation of Bays and Headlands

Bay
Soft rock

Headland
Hard rock

- 1) Waves attack the coastline.
- 2) Softer rock is eroded by the sea quicker forming a bay, calm area cases deposition.
- 3) More resistant rock is left jutting out into the sea. This is a headland and is now more vulnerable to erosion.

Formation of Coastal Stack

Example: Old Harry Rocks, Dorset

Cave. Wave cut platform. Stack. Collapsed arch.

- 1) Hydraulic action widens cracks in the cliff face over time.
- 2) Abrasion forms a wave cut notch between high tide and low tide.
- 3) Further abrasion widens the wave cut notch to form a cave.
- 4) Caves from both sides of the headland break through to form an arch.
- 5) Weather above/erosion below –arch collapses leaving stack.
- 6) Further weathering and erosion eaves a stump.

44: Coastal Defences

Hard Engineering Defences		
Groynes	Wood barriers prevent longshore drift, so the beach can build up.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Beach still accessible. ✗ No deposition further down coast = erodes faster.
Sea Walls	Concrete walls break up the energy of the wave. Has a lip to stop waves going over.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Long life span ✓ Protects from flooding ✗ Curved shape encourages erosion of beach deposits.
Gabions or Rip Rap	Cages of rocks/boulders absorb the waves energy, protecting the cliff behind.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cheap ✓ Local material can be used to look less strange. ✗ Will need replacing.

Soft Engineering Defences

Beach Nourishment	Beaches built up with sand, so waves have to travel further before eroding cliffs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cheap ✓ Beach for tourists. ✗ Storms = need replacing. ✗ Offshore dredging damages seabed.
Managed Retreat	Low value areas of the coast are left to flood & erode.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reduce flood risk ✓ Creates wildlife habitats. ✗ Compensation for land.

45: Case Study: Lyme Regis, Dorset Coast

Location and Background
Located on the South coast of England, in Dorset. The town is a popular seaside resort.

Geomorphic Processes —The area around Lulworth Cove to Swanage Bay is an area of coastal erosion. The geology of the area is responsible for creating the spectacular coastal land forms such as Lulworth Cove, Durdle Door (sea arch), Stair Hole and Old Harry (sea stack). —From Lulworth Cove to Durlston head the coastline is concordant (alternating bands of hard and soft rock lie parallel to the coast). —Moving northwards from Durlston Head to Studland Bay the coastline is discordant (alternating bands of hard and soft rock meet the coast at right angles).

Management
-The coastline is protected by a number of groynes and a sea wall. 1150 pins to stabilise the cliffs costing £1.1 million

38: Middle Course of a River

Here the gradient get gentler, so the water has less energy and moves more slowly. The river will begin to erode laterally making the river wider.

32: Water Cycle Key Terms

Precipitation	Moisture falling from clouds as rain, snow or hail.
Interception	Vegetation prevents water reaching the ground.
Surface Runoff	Water flowing over the surface of the land into rivers
Infiltration	Water absorbed into the soil from the ground.
Transpiration	Water lost through leaves of plants.

33: Physical and Human Causes of Flooding.

Physical: Prolong & heavy rainfall Long periods of rain causes soil to become saturated leading runoff.	Physical: Geology Impermeable rocks causes surface runoff to increase river discharge.
Physical: Relief Steep-sided valleys channels water to flow quickly into rivers causing greater discharge.	Human: Land Use Tarmac and concrete are impermeable. This prevents infiltration & causes surface runoff.

34: Upper Course of a River

Near the source, the river flows over steep gradient from the hill/mountains. This gives the river a lot of energy, so it will erode the riverbed vertically to form narrow valleys.

35: Formation of a Waterfall

- 1) River flows over alternative types of rocks.
- 2) River erodes soft rock faster creating a step.
- 3) Further hydraulic action and abrasion form a plunge pool beneath.
- 4) Hard rock above is undercut leaving cap rock which collapses providing more material for erosion.
- 5) Waterfall retreats leaving steep sided gorge.

36: Formation of Ox-bow Lakes

Step 1	Erosion of outer bank forms river cliff. Deposition inner bank forms slip off slope.	Step 2	Further hydraulic action and abrasion of outer banks, neck gets smaller.
Step 3	Erosion breaks through neck, so river takes the fastest route, redirecting flow	Step 4	Evaporation and deposition cuts off main channel leaving an oxbow lake.

43: Case Study – Cockermouth flood

A massive downpour of rain (31.4cm), over a 24-hour period triggered the floods that hit Cockermouth and Workington in Cumbria in November 2009.

Physical causes: The long downpour was caused by a lengthy flow of warm, moist air. The warmer the air is, the more moisture it can hold. **HUMAN** causes: Building the town around the confluence Poor ploughing of the fields. Vertical ploughing meant the water sped down to the river very quickly.

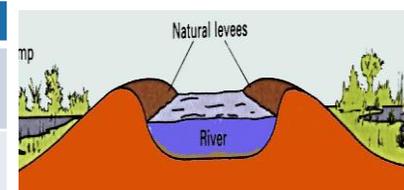
37: Lower Course of a River

Near the river's mouth, the river widens further and becomes flatter. Material transported is deposited.

39: Formation of Floodplains and levees

When a river floods, fine silt/alluvium is deposited on the valley floor. Closer to the river's banks, the heavier materials build up to form natural levees.

- ✓ Nutrient rich soil makes it ideal for farming.
- ✓ Flat land for building houses.



40: River Management Schemes

Soft Engineering

Afforestation – plant trees to soak up rainwater, reduces flood risk.
Demountable Flood Barriers put in place when warning raised.
Managed Flooding – naturally let areas flood, protect settlements.

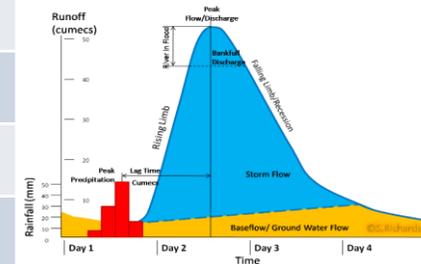
Hard Engineering

Straightening Channel – increases velocity to remove flood water.
Artificial Levees – heightens river so flood water is contained.
Deepening or widening river to increase capacity for a flood.

41: Hydrographs and River Discharge

River discharge is the volume of water that flows in a river. Hydrographs who discharge at a certain point in a river changes over time in relation to rainfall

1. **Peak discharge** is the discharge in a period of time.
2. **Lag time** is the delay between peak rainfall and peak discharge.
3. **Rising limb** is the increase in river discharge.
4. **Falling limb** is the decrease in river discharge to normal level.



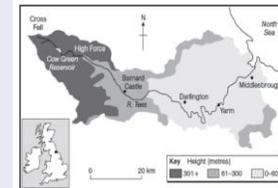
42 Case Study: The River Tees

Location and Background

Located in the North of England and flows 137km from the Pennines to the North Sea at Red Car.

Geomorphic Processes

Upper – Features include V-Shaped valley, rapids and waterfalls. Highforce Waterfall drops 21m and is made from harder Whinstone and softer limestone rocks. Gradually a gorge has been formed.
Middle – Features include meanders and ox-bow lakes. The meander near Yarm encloses the town.
Lower – Greater lateral erosion creates features such as floodplains & levees. Mudflats at the river's estuary.



Effects: Over 1300 homes were flooded and contaminated with sewage. 50 people evacuated by helicopter. The cost of putting right the damage was an average of £28,000 per house. Insurance cost = £100 million. Four bridges collapsed and 12 were closed because of flood damage. 1 death.