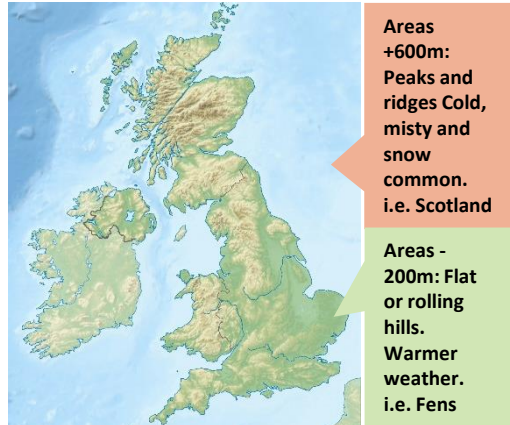


What is a landscape?		Relief of the UK	
A landscape has visible features that make up the surface of the land. Landscapes can be broken down into four 'elements'.		Relief of the UK can be divided into uplands and lowlands. Each has their own characteristics.	
Landscape Elements			
Physical		Biological	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mountains Coastlines Rivers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetation Habitats Wildlife 		
Human		Variable	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buildings Infrastructure Structures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather Smells Sounds/Sights 		

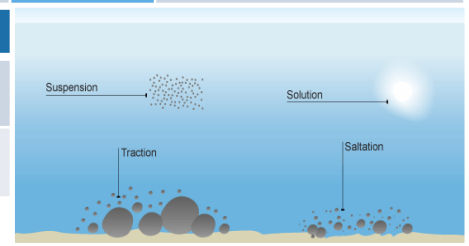


Erosion	
The break down and transport of rocks – smooth, round and sorted.	
Attrition	Rocks that bash together to become smooth/smaller.
Solution	A chemical reaction that dissolved rocks.
Abrasion	Rocks hurled at the base of a cliff to break pieces apart.
Hydraulic Action	Water enters cracks in the cliff, air compresses, causing the crack to expand.

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.

Glaciation in the UK	
Over many thousands of years, glaciation has made an impression on the UK's landscape. Today, much of upland Britain is covered in u-shaped valleys and eroded steep mountain peaks.	
During the ice age	
Ice covered areas eroded and weathered landscapes to create dramatic mountain scenery.	
After the ice age	
Deep valleys and deposition of sediment revealed	

Human activity on Landscape		
Farming has changed the vegetation which grows there.	Much of the rural landscape has been replaced by urban sprawls.	Infrastructure such as roads and pylons cover most of the UK.
Over thousands of years, much of the UK's woodlands have gone.	Increasing population of the UK means more houses are needed.	UK's marshes and moorlands are heavily managed by people.



Topic 3 Distinctive Landscapes

Geology of the UK

The UK is made from a variation of different rock types. The varied resistance of these rocks influences the landscape above.

Igneous Rock

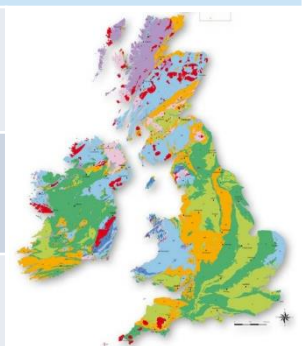
Volcanic/molten rock brought up to the Earth's surface and cooled into solid rock.

Sedimentary Rock

Made from broken fragments of rock worn down by weathering on Earth's surface.

Metamorphic Rock

Rock that is folded and distorted by heat and pressure.

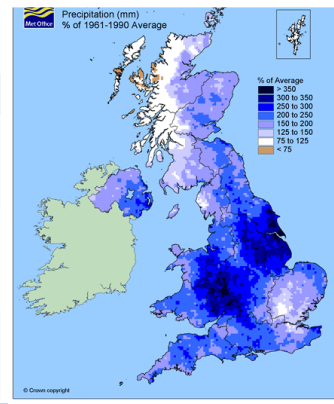


Climate and Weather in the UK

The variations of climate and weather means there are different influences on the UK's landscape.

Climate	Weathering
<p>The rainfall map of the UK shows variations in average rain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less precipitation occurs in low land areas. East England Most precipitation occurs in upland areas. Scotland. <p><i>These differences mean...</i> Uplands experience more weathering, erosion and mass movement.</p>	<p>Mechanical Caused by the physical action of rain, frost and wind.</p> <p>Chemical Action of chemicals within rain dissolving the rock.</p> <p>Biological Rocks that have been broken down by living organisms.</p>

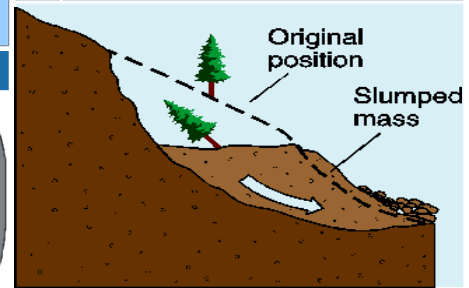
Average rainfall in the UK



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.

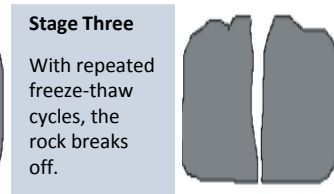
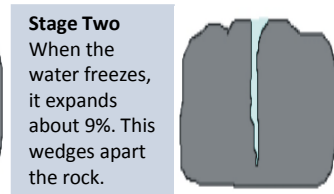
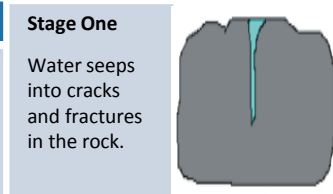
- Rain saturates the permeable rock above the impermeable rock making it heavy.
- Waves or a river will erode the base of the slope making it unstable.
- Eventually the weight of the permeable rock above the impermeable rock weakens and collapses.
- The debris at the base of the cliff is then removed and transported by waves or river.



Soil & Landscape

- Soils are created from weathered rocks, organic material and water. Rock types have influence over fertility of soil.
- Low-laying areas such as the Cambridgeshire Fens have deep soil whereas uplands have thin soil.
- Deep soil is more often associated with deciduous woodland rather than coniferous woodlands.

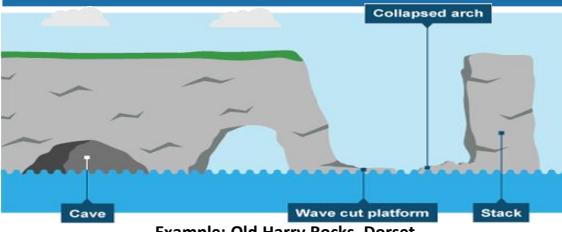
Freeze-thaw weathering



Deposition

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

Formation of Coastal Stack



Example: Old Harry Rocks, Dorset

- 1) Hydraulic action widens cracks in the cliff face over time.
- 2) Abrasion forms a wave cut notch between HT and LT.
- 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 leaves a stump.

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, protection 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

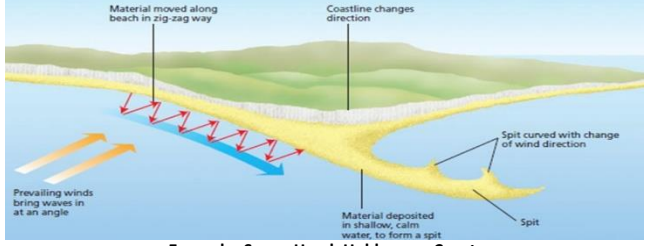
Beach Nourishment	Beaches built up with sand, so waves have to travel further before eroding cliffs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cheap ✓ Beach for tourists. ✗ Storms = need replacing. ✗ Offshore dredging damages seabed.
Managed Retreat	Low value areas of the coast are left to flood and erode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

Formation of Bays and Headlands



- 1) Waves attack the coastline.
- 2) Softer rock is eroded by the sea quicker forming a bay, calm area causes 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 Spits - Deposition



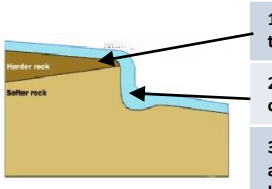
Example: Spurn Head, Holderness Coast

- 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.

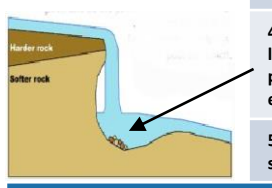
Upper Course of a River

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.

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.

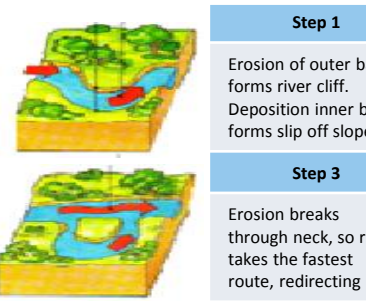


- 4) Hard rock above is undercut leaving cap rock which collapses providing more material for erosion.
- 5) Waterfall retreats leaving steep sided gorge.

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.

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. |

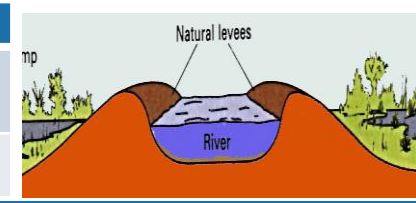
Lower Course of a River

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

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 builds up to form natural levees.

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



River Management Schemes

Soft Engineering

- Afforestation** – plant trees sock 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.

Case Study: The Holderness Coast

Location and Background
Located along the North-East coast in the county of Yorkshire. The coast extends 50km from Flamborough Head to Spurn Head.

Geomorphonic Processes
-Flamborough Head is made from more resistant chalk. Features: wave-cut platforms, caves and stacks
-South from Flamborough Head the less resistant boulder clay is dominate. This coasts erodes 1.8m per year and is the fastest in Europe. Cliff slumping can be evident.
-Further south, Spurn Head is a coastal spit created by continual deposition from LSD that extends out to sea.

Management
-Rapid erosion means there are a number of different management schemes from soft to hard engineering.
-High population centres such as Withersea and Horsea are protected by 'hold the line' defence measures such as sea walls, groynes & heavy beach nourishment.
-Underpopulated & economic centres, such as farmland, are under 'managed retreat' schemes.

Case Study: The River Tees

Location and Background
Located in North-West England, between the mountains of the Lake District and the Pennines.

Geomorphonic Processes
Upper – Features include V-Shaped valley, rapids and waterfalls. Hell Gill waterfall has formed as resistant limestone changes to less resistant sandstone. Weathering, transportation and erosion are common.
Middle – Features include meanders and ox-bow lakes, such as the area of Salkeld.
Lower – Greater lateral erosion creates features such as floodplains & levees in Carlisle.

Management

- 10km of flood walls have been build to keep the water contained.
- Carlisle Carrock Beck has been dammed to create a reservoir, limiting water flow down stream.
- 1000 trees have been planted near Dalston (south of Carlisle) to reduce flooding and prevent erosion.
- Channel straightening to reduce flooding.