Year 9 Geography Unit 3 Overview-Rivers

AQA GCSE Geography Paper 1- Living with the Physical Environment

How do rivers shape the land and how should they be managed?

You will learn about:

- Hydrological cycle and drainage basin
- Processes and landforms of erosion and deposition
- River management and case study

You will be able to:

- Explain processes and landforms
- Analyse a case study
- Use literacy (PEEL, PEAL), numeracy (graph and data skills) and map skills

Lesson Overview

1. Hydrological cycle & drainage basins
2. Long and cross profile of a river
3. River processes: erosion, transportation and deposition
4. Upper course features and landforms (waterfalls and gorges)
5. Middle course features and landforms (meanders and oxbow lakes)
6. Lower course features and landforms (deltas, levees and estuaries)
7. What causes floods?
8. Case study: Boscastle flood 2004
9. How do we manage rivers?
10. Assessment
11. DIT

Key Words

Abrasion: the pebbles wear away the bed and banks of the river channel.
Attrition: The particles are knocked as they are transported, and they become more rounded and reduced in size.
Bedload: the material carried by a river.
Confluence: the point at which rivers meet.
Tributaries: finger-like river channels which branch away from a main river channel.
Drainage Basin: the land that is drained by a river and its tributaries.
Erosion: the wearing away of the bed and banks of the river channel by abrasion, hydraulic action, solution and attrition.
Estuary: the tidal mouth of a river, with large, flat expanses of mud exposed at low tide.
Hydraulic Action: The force of the water eroding material from the bed and banks of the river channel.
Levées: river embankments built by deposition.
Load: the material transported by a river as bedload, suspended load or dissolved load (in solution).
Meander: a bend in a river. The outside of the meander has fastest flow, deepest water.
Mouth: where a river ends, at a lake or the sea.
Saltation: material bounced along the bed of the river.
Slip-Off Slope: forms on the inside of a meander bend as a result of deposition in the slower flowing water.
Solution: some rocks such as limestone are subject to chemical attack and slowly dissolve in the water.
Source: where a river starts, usually in the mountains.
Traction: material rolled along the bed of the river.

Suggested reading

Journey to the River Sea by Eva Ibbotson

Non-fiction articles available on showbie.

Cross curricular

SMSC: using empathy when analysing the impact of flooding on different communities and developing an appreciation of the ways different cultures view and use rivers.
Literacy: to make well justified geographical decisions in terms of managing rivers, using key geographical words accurately.
Numeracy: analysing measurements on height and distance to draw a long profile and analysing rainfall and discharge on hydrographs

Research	Note-making	Group work & discussion	Memorisation	Precision & accuracy	Independence	Reflection