

# GCSE Geography –UK Physical Landscapes- Rivers

## Vocabulary List

Abrasion	Type of erosion where particles scrape along river or sea bed.
Afforestation	Planting trees
Attrition	Type of erosion where stones get smaller as they hit each other.
Corrosion	Type of erosion where rocks are dissolved
Cross profile	Diagram showing the shape across a river valley
Dam	Large structure used to block river channels and create a reservoir to supply water, control flooding or generate electricity.
Delta	Mouth of a river where the river splits into many distributaries.
Discharge	volume of water that pass each second (m <sup>3</sup> /sec)
Estuary	Mouth of a river where it meets the sea
Falling limb	Part of a hydrograph where discharge decreases
Flood plain	Flat land that floods next to a river
Flood plain zoning	Land use that is valuable is placed away from flood areas, low value land allowed near them.
Flood relief channel	A bypass used to divert flood water
Flood wall	Barrier placed on side of rivers to hold back flooding
Gorge	Steep sided valley found down stream of waterfalls.
Hydraulic Power	Type of erosion where the force of water wears down rock and soil.
Hydrograph	Graph that shows change in discharge of a river over time
Impermeable	Does not allow water to pass through.
Lag time	Gap between peak rain and peak discharge
Levees	Embankments at the side of a river
Long profile	Diagram showing change in gradient along the course of a river from source to mouth.
Mass movement	When loose material travels downhill e.g. landslide, slumping
Meander	A bend in a river
Oxbow lake	A part of the river that has been cut off from the rest by erosion and deposition.
Permeable	Allows water to pass through
Plunge pool	Wider deeper area underneath waterfalls where erosion is stronger.
Rapids	Area of turbulent water caused by different rock types.
Rising limb	Part of a hydrograph as discharge increases
River cliff	Steep slope found on the outside of a meander
River restoration	Removing hard engineering and allowing rivers to flood again
Saltation	When grains of sand bounce along when carried by wind, rivers or sea.
Slip off slope	Gently sloping area of deposition found on the inside of a meander

Slumping	Type of mass movement where loose material slides downhill in a rotational motion.
Soil creep	Slow type of mass movement where water pass through soil on a slope carrying particles with it and creating wrinkles on the surface called <b>terraces</b> .
Solution	Dissolved material in water
Straightening	Removing bends in a river so it flows faster
Suspension	Material that floats in water and is carried along.
Traction	When large particles roll along river or sea bed.
Tree catcher	Large poles added to rivers to filter debris.
V shaped valley	Erosional feature found in the upper parts of rivers.
Waterfall	Steep drop in a river, found where hard rock sits on top of soft rock.