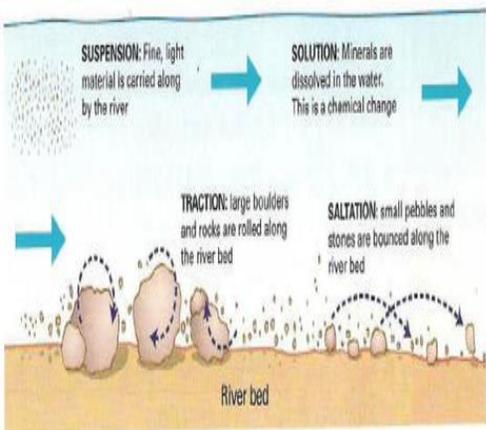


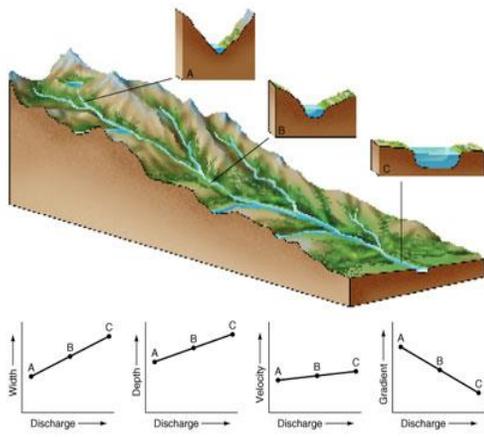
Transportation

How the rivers load is moved by solution, saltation, traction and suspension.



Cross profile

The side to side cross-section of a river channel and/or valley.



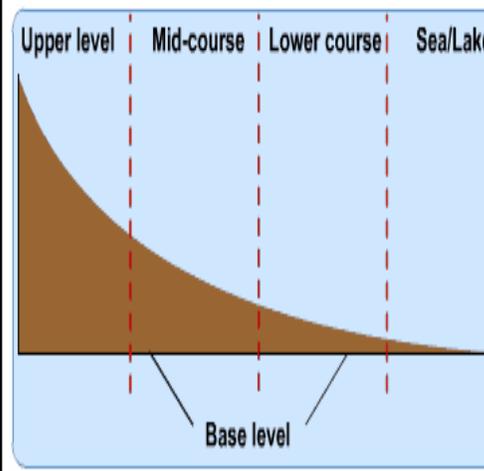
Estuary

The tidal mouth of a river where it meets the sea; wide banks of deposited mud are exposed at low tide.



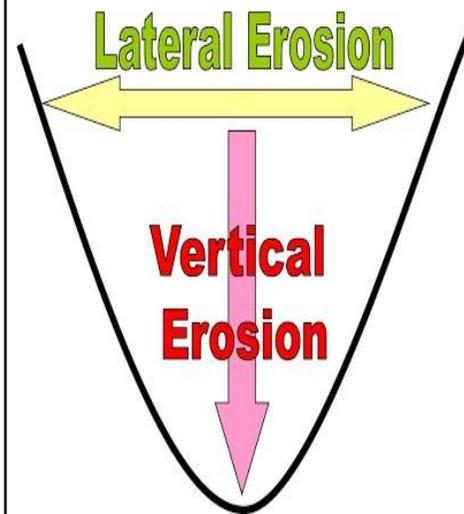
Long profile

The gradient of a river, from its source to its mouth.



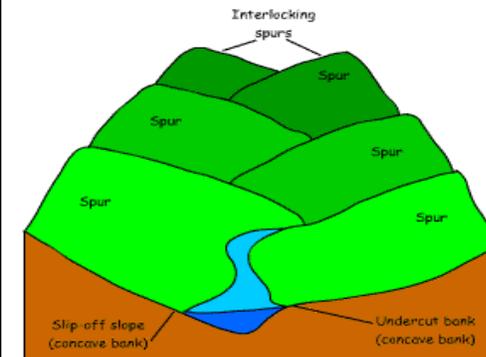
Vertical erosion

Downward erosion of a river bed.



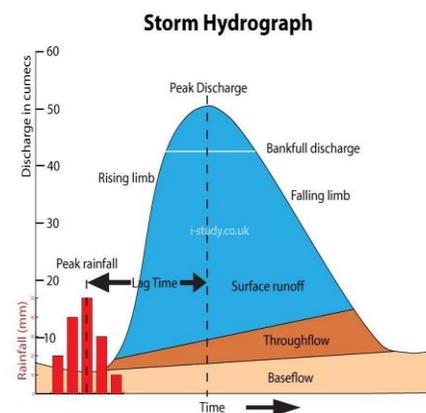
Interlocking spurs

A series of ridges projecting out on alternate sides of a valley and around which a river winds its course.



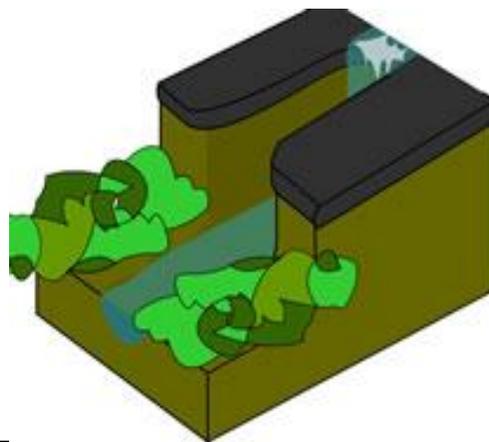
Hydrograph

A graph which shows the discharge of a river, related to rainfall, over a period of time.



Gorge

A narrow, steep sided valley, often formed as a waterfall retreats upstream.



Fluvial processes

Processes relating to erosion, transport and deposition by a river.

FLUVIAL PROCESSES

- **Fluvial processes:** The set of mechanisms that operate as a result of water flow within a stream channel, bringing about the erosion, transfer, and deposition of sediment.
- Fluvial process is Exogenetic processes which includes
 - River Erosion
 - River Transportation
 - River Deposition

Lateral erosion

Sideways erosion by a river on the outside of a meander channel. It eventually leads to the widening of the valley and contributes to the formation of the flood plain.

Flood plain

The flat area forming the valley floor on either side of a river channel, which is sometimes flooded.

Discharge

The quantity of water that passes a given point on a stream or river-bank within a given period of time.

Flood plain zoning

This attempts to organise the flood defences in such a way that land that is near the river and often floods is not built on.

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Precipitation

Moisture falling from the atmosphere - as rain, hail, sleet or snow.

TYPES OF PRECIPITATION

Soft engineering

The use of the natural environment surrounding a river. It is usually much cheaper and offers a more sustainable option as it does not interfere directly with the river's flow.

Afforestation

Trees planted to INTERCEPT rainfall upstream so reduce river levels

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Levees

Embankment of sediment along the bank of a river. It may be formed naturally by regular flooding or be built up by people to protect the area against flooding.

FEATURES OF A FLOODPLAIN

Embankments

Raised banks constructed along the river; they effectively make the river deeper so it can hold more water.

River straightening

Removing meanders from a river to make the river straighter. Allows it to carry more water quickly downstream, so it is less likely to flood.

Straightening rivers

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Shortens distance & speeds water away from vulnerable areas such as cities

Flood relief channels

Artificial channels which are used when a river is close to maximum discharge therefore reducing flood risk.

Hard engineering

The building of artificial structures using various materials such as rock, concrete to reduce river flooding.