

Key Terms: Physical Landscapes



UK Physical Landscapes

Upland Areas: High-altitude regions with rugged terrain, e.g., Scottish Highlands.

Lowland Areas: Flat or gently rolling landscapes, e.g., The Fens.

River Systems: Networks of rivers and their tributaries, e.g., River Severn.



Glacial Landscapes

Ice Age: A time when large parts of the Earth were covered in ice.

Freeze-Thaw: Water freezes in rock cracks, expands, and breaks the rock.

Abrasion: Glacier scraping rock surfaces.

Plucking: Glaciers pulling rocks from the ground.

Rotational Slip: Ice moves in a circular motion in a corrie.

Bulldozing: Glacier pushing material forward.

Till: Unsorted material left by glaciers.

Outwash: Sorted material deposited by glacial meltwater.

Corrie: Bowl-shaped hollow formed by glacier erosion.

Arête: Sharp ridge between two corries.

Pyramidal Peak: Pointed mountain formed by glacier erosion.

U-Shaped Valley: A valley shaped by glacier movement.

Ribbon Lake: Long, narrow lake in a glacial valley.

Erratic: Large rock moved by a glacier.

Drumlin: Smooth hill of glacial material.

Moraine: Material deposited by glaciers (e.g., terminal, lateral).

Tourism: Visiting glaciated areas for natural attractions.

Farming: Grazing sheep or growing crops in glaciated regions.

Quarrying: Extracting rocks from glaciated areas.

Conflict: Disputes between land uses like farming and tourism.



Coastal Landscapes



Waves: Movement of water caused by wind.

Constructive Waves: Low-energy waves depositing material.

Destructive Waves: High-energy waves causing erosion.

Weathering: Breakdown of rocks by physical or chemical processes.

Mechanical Weathering: Physical breakdown, e.g., freeze-thaw.

Chemical Weathering: Breakdown of rocks by chemical reactions, e.g., acid rain.

Mass Movement: Downhill movement of soil/rock, e.g., sliding, slumping.

Erosion: Breakdown and removal of rock.

Hydraulic Power: Erosion by the force of water.

Abrasion: Erosion caused by material scraping rock surfaces.

Attrition: Rocks breaking into smaller pieces.

Transportation: Movement of sediment.

Longshore Drift: Transport of material along a coastline by waves.

Deposition: Sediment dropped due to loss of energy.

Headland: Resistant rock jutting out into the sea.

Bay: Inward-curving coastline between headlands.

Wave-Cut Platform: Flat area of rock at the base of cliffs.

Caves, Arches, Stacks: Coastal features formed by erosion of headlands.

Beaches: Deposited sediment forming coastal landforms.

Sand Dunes: Hills of sand formed by wind.

Spits and Bars: Depositional features extending along the coast.

Sea Walls: Hard engineering structure to protect coasts.

Rock Armour: Large rocks placed on coasts to absorb wave energy.

Gabions: Wire cages filled with rocks to reduce erosion.

Groynes: Structures to trap sediment and reduce erosion.

Beach Nourishment: Adding sand to beaches.

Dune Regeneration: Restoring sand dunes to act as barriers.

Managed Retreat: Allowing controlled flooding of low-value land

