

Tier 2 vocab

Tier 3 vocab

Abrasion (glaciers) = is a process where rock fragments in the ice grind against the rock over which the ice is moving—like rough sandpaper—wearing away the land.

Arête = two neighbouring corries mean glacial erosion narrows and steepens the wall between them, forming a knife-edged ridge.

Attrition (rivers) = where rocks being transported are eroded. The sediment particles knock against the bed or each other and break apart, becoming smaller and more rounded.

Channel flow = the flow of water in a river, stream etc.

Condensation = changing from a gas into a liquid.

Confluence = where two rivers join.

Corrie = Through plucking and abrasion the ice makes a deep and steep hollow.

Deposition = dropping the eroded material.

Discharge = amount of water that flows in the river per second.

Drainage basin = the land area from which a river and its tributaries collect the rainwater passing through the soil, rock and through runoff.

Erosion = the wearing away of rock.

Erratics = these are large solid loads the glaciers have carried down their course and then deposited as the glaciers have melted.

Estuary = where the mouth is low enough to allow the sea to come into it at high tide.

Evaporation = sea, lakes, oceans etc are heated and the water (liquid) is turned into water vapour (gas).

Freeze-thaw = water settles in cracks in the rock surface, freezes and expands, pressurising surrounding rock. Then it thaws and contracts, releasing the pressure. Repeating this process loosens the surface and provides rock fragments.

Geology = type of rock.

GIS = A geographic information system is where geographic data, combined with software can analyse and visualise those data spatially.

Glacier = a river of ice.

Gorge = a narrow valley between hills or mountains, typically with steep rocky walls and a stream running through it.

Groundwater flow = when percolated water moves deep underground to the river.

Hydraulic action (rivers) = when the force of water wears away at softer rocks such as clay. It can also weaken rocks that are strong but have weaknesses/ cracks in them.

Hydrological cycle (water cycle) = the movement of a constant amount of water between the sea, the land and the atmosphere.

Ice age = a time when the Earth's average temperature was lower than usual, and glaciers spread.

Ice sheet = a layer of ice covering a large area for a long period of time.

Ice shelf = a floating piece of ice attached to the land, typically the edge of an ice sheet.

Iceberg = a huge floating mass of ice detached from the glacier/ ice sheet.

Infiltration = water filters into the spaces in the surface of the soil.

Interception = water collects on plant leaves.

Load = material, such as sand and stones, carried by the river.

Meanders = Large bends in a rivers.

Moraine = The deposited till from a glacier.

Mouth = where the river flows into the sea.

Overhang = Hard rock that extends or hangs over a void from where the soft rock has been eroded.

Ox-bow lake = U-shaped lake or pool that forms when a wide meander of a river is cut off, creating a free-standing body of water.

Percolation = water filters down through the rock under the soil and into the water table.

Plucking (glaciers) = occurs when melt water at the base of the glacier freezes on the rock surface. As the glacier moves forward it extracts pieces from the rock surface.

Plunge pool = a deep basin excavated at the foot of a waterfall by the action of the falling water.

Point bar/slip off slope = a depositional landform that occurs on the inside convex bank of a meandering river.

Pyramidal Peak = when there are three or four corries around the mountain cutting into the mountain, a peak will form at the top.

Resistant = harder rock, can withstand erosion, erodes at a slower rate.

Ribbon Lake = this creates a dip in the landscape. When the glacier melts water is trapped in the dip where the soft rock eroded faster.

River cliffs = A cut bank, also known as a river cliff or river-cut cliff, is the outside bank of a curve or meander in a water channel.

Source = the start of a river.

Striations = these deep scratches are a result of abrasion.

Surface runoff = when water flows over ground.

Tarn = when the glacier melts, the corrie is revealed and a lake may form called a tarn.

Terminal moraine = till builds up in a ridge at the end of a glacier.

Transportation = the movement of eroded material.

Through flow = when infiltrated water moves through the soil to a river.

Till = when the front reaches a place where it melts, everything eroded falls to the ground as till.

Transpiration = when plants lose moisture when heated.

Tributaries = the smaller branches of the river that join the main channel.

Velocity = the speed of the flow in one direction.

Watershed = high ground (usually mountains) separating two neighbouring drainage basins. On one side of it, the water drains in one direction to one river and on the other side it drains in the opposite direction to another river.