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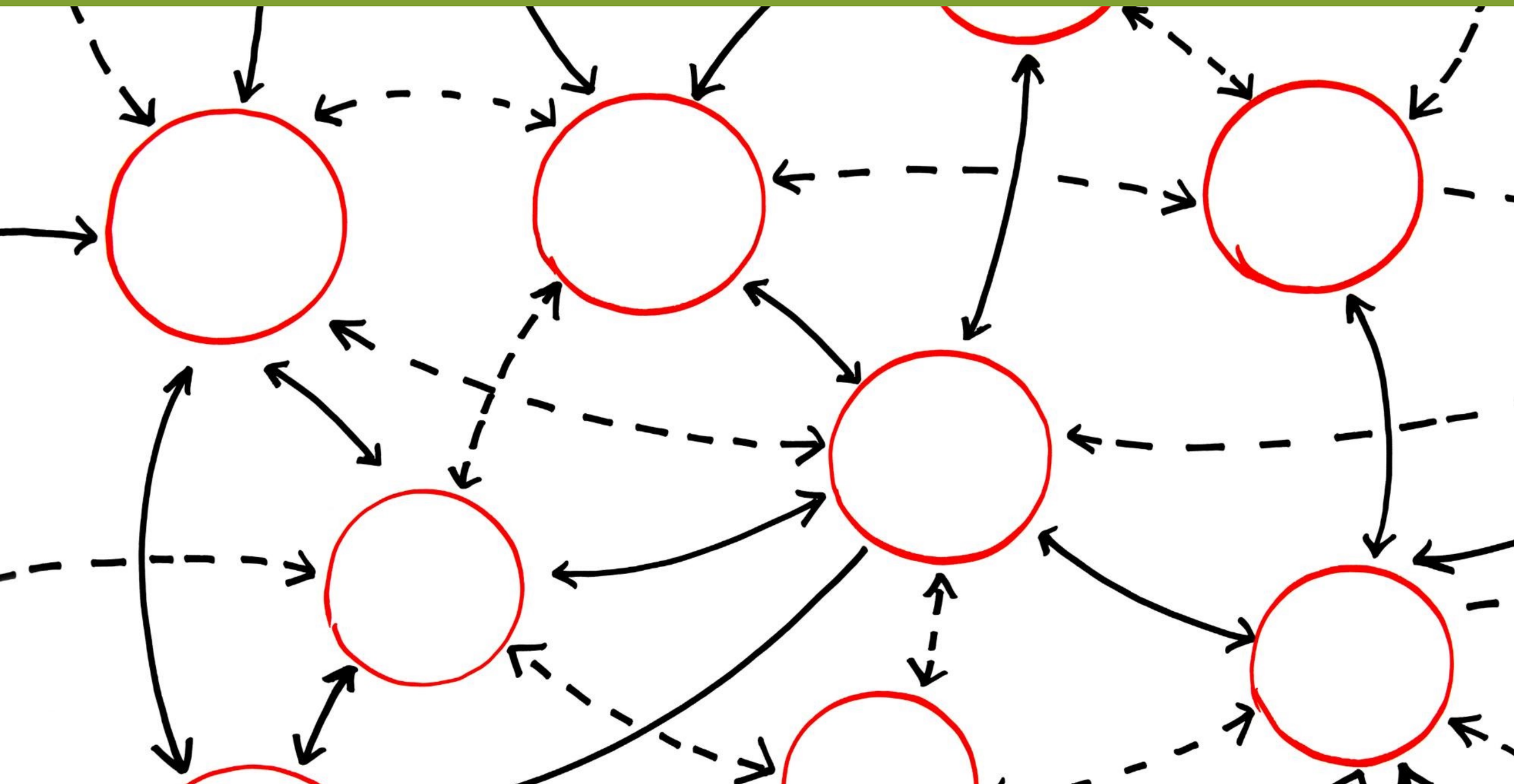
AQA GCSE Geography

Paper 1 Overview Mind maps



AQA GCSE Geography - Paper 1 - The Challenge of Natural Hazards

1. Natural Hazards

- Definition of a natural hazard
- Types of natural hazards
- Factors affecting hazard risk

2. Tectonic Hazards

- Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are the result of physical processes
  - Plate tectonics theory
  - Global distribution of earthquakes & volcanoes
  - Plate margins: Constructive, Destructive, Conservative
  - Physical processes leading to hazards
- Effects and Responses
  - Primary and secondary effects
  - Immediate and long-term responses
  - Named examples: Compare effects and responses in HICs and LICs
- Management of Tectonic Hazards
  - Reasons for living in hazardous areas
  - Reducing risk: Monitoring, Prediction, Protection, Planning

3. Climate Change

- Causes
  - Natural Factors: Orbital changes, volcanic activity, solar output
  - Human Factors: Fossil fuels, agriculture, deforestation
- Effects
  - Impacts on people and the environment
- Managing Climate Change
  - Mitigation: Alternative energy, carbon capture, tree planting, international agreements
  - Adaptation: Changing agricultural systems, managing water supply, coastal defences

4. Weather Hazards

- Global atmospheric circulation affects weather and climate
  - General atmospheric circulation model (pressure belts and surface winds)
- Tropical Storms
  - Distribution (hurricanes, cyclones, typhoons)
  - Link to atmospheric circulation
  - Causes and formation sequence
  - Structure and features
  - Impact of climate change on distribution, frequency, and intensity
- Effects and Responses
  - Primary and secondary effects
  - Immediate and long-term responses
  - Named example: Case study of a tropical storm
  - Reducing risk: Monitoring, Prediction, Protection, Planning
- UK Weather Hazards
  - Overview of UK weather hazards
  - Example of a recent event
    - Causes
    - Social, economic, environmental impacts
    - Management strategies
  - Evidence of increasing weather extremes

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AQA GCSE Geography - Paper 1 - The Living World

1. Ecosystems

- Ecosystems exist at different scales and involve interactions between biotic and abiotic components.
- Small-scale UK ecosystem example: interrelationships, producers, consumers, decomposers, food chains, food webs, nutrient cycling.
- The balance between ecosystem components and impact of changing one component.
- Distribution and characteristics of large-scale global ecosystems.

2. Tropical Rainforests

- Physical characteristics of tropical rainforests.
- Interdependence of climate, water, soils, plants, animals, and people.
- Plant and animal adaptations to physical conditions.
- Issues related to biodiversity.
- Changing rates of deforestation.
- Case study
  - Causes of deforestation - subsistence/commercial farming, logging, road building, mineral extraction, energy development, settlement, population growth.
  - Impacts of deforestation - economic development, soil erosion, contribution to climate change.
- Sustainable management strategies: selective logging and replanting, conservation and education, ecotourism, international agreements, debt reduction.
- Value of tropical rainforests to people and the environment.

3. Hot Deserts

- Hot desert ecosystems have distinctive characteristics.
- Physical characteristics of hot deserts.
- Interdependence of climate, water, soils, plants, animals, and people.
- Plant and animal adaptations to desert conditions.
- Issues related to biodiversity.
- Case study: Development opportunities - mineral extraction, energy, farming, tourism.
- Case study: Challenges - extreme temperatures, water supply, inaccessibility.
- Causes of desertification: climate change, population growth, removal of fuel wood, overgrazing, over-cultivation, soil erosion.
- Strategies to reduce desertification: water and soil management, tree planting, appropriate technology.

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3. Cold Environments

- Cold environments (polar and tundra) have distinctive characteristics.
- Physical characteristics of cold environments.
- Interdependence of climate, permafrost, soils, plants, animals, and people.
- Plant and animal adaptations to cold conditions.
- Issues related to biodiversity.
- Case study: Development opportunities - mineral extraction, energy, fishing, tourism.
- Case study: Challenges - extreme temperatures, inaccessibility, provision of buildings and infrastructure.
- Risks from economic development.
- Value of cold environments as wilderness areas and the need for protection.
- Strategies for balancing development and conservation: technology, government roles, international agreements, conservation groups.

AQA GCSE Geography - Paper 1 - Coastal Landscapes in the UK

1. Coastal Processes

- Wave types and characteristics.
  - Destructive waves
  - Constructive waves
- Weathering processes
  - Mechanical
  - Chemical
- Mass movement processes
  - Sliding
  - Slumping
  - Rockfalls
- Erosion processes
  - Hydraulic action
  - Abrasion
  - Attrition
- Transportation
  - Traction
  - Saltation
  - Suspension
  - Solution
  - Longshore drift
- Deposition: why sediment is deposited in coastal areas.

2. Coastal Landforms

- Geological structure and rock type influence coastal forms.
- Landforms from erosion: headlands and bays, cliffs, wave cut platforms, caves, arches, stacks.
- Landforms from deposition: beaches, sand dunes, spits, bars.
- Example of a UK coastline to identify major landforms of erosion and deposition

3. Coastal Management

- Coasts and benefits of management strategies to protect coastlines from physical processes.
  - Hard engineering strategies
    - sea walls
    - rock armour
    - gabions
    - groynes
  - Soft engineering strategies
    - beach nourishment
    - reprofiling
    - dune regeneration
  - Managed retreat: coastal realignment.
- Example of a coastal management scheme in the UK
  - Reasons for management
  - Strategy used
  - Resulting effects and conflicts

AQA GCSE Geography - Paper 1
River Landscapes in the UK

1. River Processes and Valley Profiles

- The long profile and changing cross profile of a river and its valley.
- Fluvial processes:
  - Erosion: hydraulic action, abrasion, attrition, solution, vertical and lateral erosion.
  - Transportation: traction, saltation, suspension, solution.
  - Deposition: why rivers deposit sediment.

2. River Landforms

- Landforms from erosion: interlocking spurs, waterfalls, gorges.
- Landforms from erosion and deposition: meanders, ox-bow lakes.
- Landforms from deposition: levees, flood plains, estuaries.
- Example of a UK river valley to identify major landforms of erosion and deposition.

3. River Management

- Factors affecting flood risk: precipitation, geology, relief, land use.
- Using hydrographs to show the relationship between precipitation and discharge.
- Costs and benefits of each strategy.
  - Hard engineering strategies: dams and reservoirs, straightening, embankments, flood relief channels.
  - Soft engineering strategies: flood warnings and preparation, flood plain zoning, planting trees, river restoration.
- Example of a flood management scheme in the UK
  - Why the scheme was required.
  - The management strategy used.
  - The social, economic, and environmental issues.

AQA GCSE Geography - Paper 1
Glacial Landscapes in the UK

1. Glacial Processes and Ice Coverage

- Maximum extent of ice cover across the UK during the last ice age.
- Glacial processes:
  - Freeze-thaw weathering
  - Erosion
    - Abrasion
    - Plucking
  - Movement and transportation
    - Rotational slip
    - Bulldozing
- Deposition: why glaciers deposit sediment (till and outwash).

2. Glacial Landforms

- Landforms from erosion: corries, arêtes, pyramidal peaks, truncated spurs, glacial troughs, ribbon lakes, hanging valleys.
- Landforms from transportation and deposition: erratics, drumlins, types of moraine.
- Example of a UK upland area affected by glaciation to identify major landforms of erosion and deposition.

3. Glaciated Upland Areas – Economic Activities and Management

- Overview of economic activities in glaciated upland areas: tourism, farming, forestry, quarrying.
- Conflicts between different land uses and between development and conservation.
- Example of a UK glaciated upland area used for tourism.
  - Attractions for tourists.
  - Social, economic, and environmental impacts of tourism strategies.
  - Strategies to manage tourism impacts.