



Mountains

A mountain is usually defined as a part of the landscape with steep slopes that rise over 300m. Some mountains are found in **groups called ranges**, others are isolated summits. Mountains occur more often in oceans than on land; some islands are the peaks of mountains coming out of the water.

Longest above-water mountain ranges:

The Andes – South America

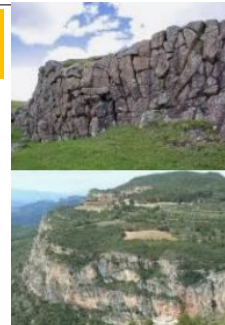
Rocky Mountains – North America

Transantarctic Mountains – Antarctica

The highest mountain on the world is **Mt Everest (8850m)** in the **Himalayas** in Asia.

Highest Mountains in the UK

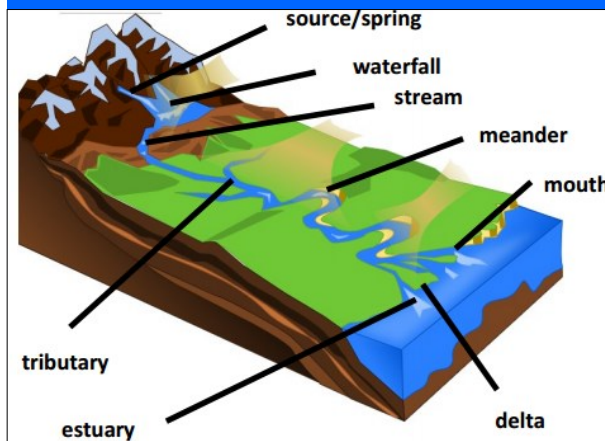
Mountain range	Tallest peak	Height	County
Pennines	Cross Fell	893m	Durham
Grampian Mountains	Ben Nevis	1344m	Highlands (Scotland)
Snowdonia	Snowdon	1085m	Gwynedd (Wales)
Dartmoor	High Willhays	619m	Devon
Cumbrian Mountains	Scafell Pike	978m	Cumbria



Key Vocabulary

Face	The 'side' of a mountain
Foot	The bottom of a mountain
Outcrop	A rock formation visible from the surface
Plateau	An area of flat, high ground
Ridge	A long, narrow, high section of land
Slope	An area of ground increasing in height
Summit	The top of a mountain
Valley	The area of low land between mountains
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Deposition	When a river drops sand, mud or small stones as it flows
Erosion	The wearing away by water and rocks constantly rubbing
Floodplain	Flat land of the river valley close to the river banks. Fertile land used for growing crops.
Gorge	Steep-sided river valley which is very narrow
Rapids	Fast-flowing stretches of water formed where the river surface breaks up into waves because rocks are near to the surface.

Rivers Features



Longest Rivers

Longest Rivers in the World

Nile, Amazon, Yangtze, Yellow, Congo, Parana

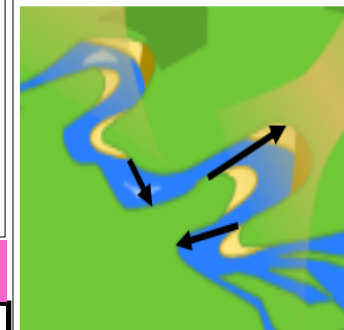
Longest Rivers in the UK

Severn, Thames, Trent, Great Ouse, Wye, Tye, Clyde

Recommended websites

- <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/rivers.html>
- <http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/mountains.htm>

Erosion and Deposition



The arrows show the direction of the **river current** which causes **erosion** over time.

Sometimes, two **meanders** can join together to form a 'shortcut'. Water will flow down the shorter route, **deposition** will block off the old route and this will create an **oxbow lake**.