

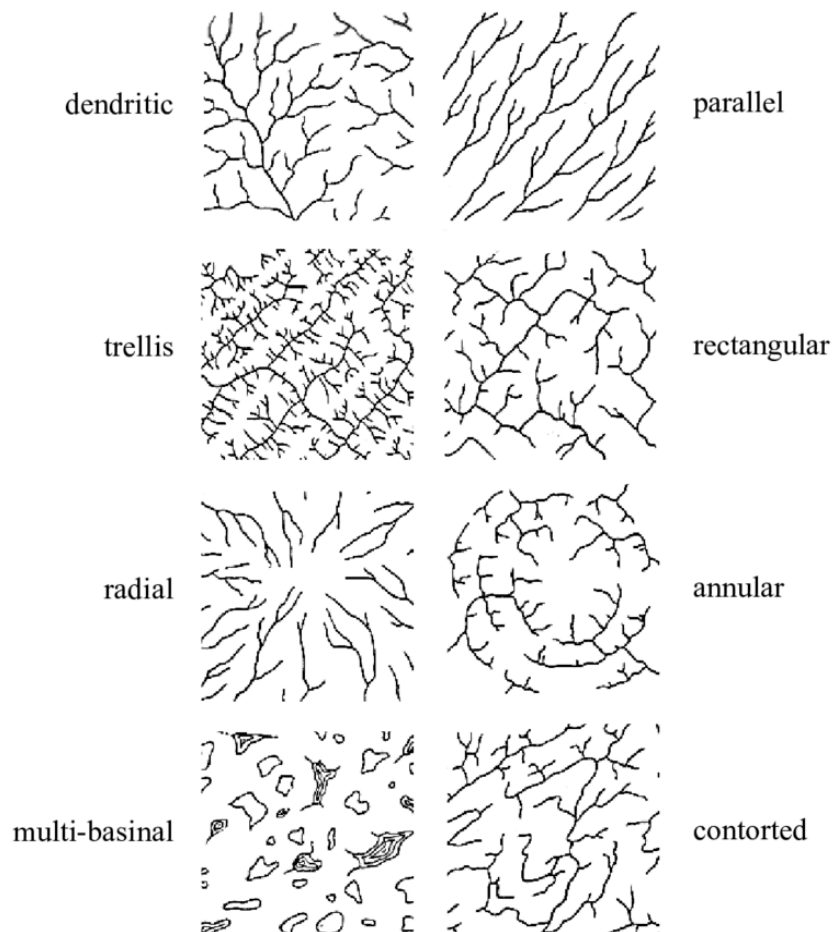
IGCSE Geography - notes for paper 2

these points can be used to answer question 1 of paper 2

To describe relief

- Give the actual height of the land: use contour lines or spot height for exact figures
 - State the highest point (eg. 250m)
 - State the lowest point (eg. 50m)
 - Describe slope of the land: steep / gently sloping / flat
 - State the nature of slope: concave/convex slopes
 - Describe features relating to relief (eg. small valleys / V-shaped valleys; circular hills/knolls; high mountains; spurs/ridges, etc.)
 - Describe if the relief changes across the area you have been asked to look at (eg. height declines towards the east; gentler/flatter slopes towards the east; the east of the area is flat, but the west is steeply sloping, etc.)
- Describe aspect (eg. SE facing slopes)

Drainage patterns



To describe the physical (natural features) of a river and valley (drainage pattern)

River

- State the direction of drainage (eg. overall flow of the river is from west to east)
- State the width of the river: narrow/wide and use the scale to estimate width
- Describe any variations in river width (eg. wider upstream / wider in the west)
- Describe tributaries (eg. many/few tributaries, more tributaries in the east, etc.)
- Describe meanders (eg. many/few meanders, more meanders in the east, etc.)
- Describe other features like waterfalls, springs, ponds/lakes
- Describe the drainage pattern: radial, dendritic, parallel

Valley

- Describe the gradient of the valley (eg. steep (sided) valley, steeper in the east, etc.)
- Describe the valley floor (eg. narrow valley floor, compare width of valley floor along the course of the river, etc.)
- State the type of valley (eg. V-shaped valley)
- Describe features of the valley like interlocking spurs, gorge, cliffs, outcrops
- Describe the vegetation on the valley (eg. trees/woodland, heath/rough grassland)

To describe the human features of a river

- Weirs
- Bridges/footbridge
- Cutting/embankments/levees
- Path
- Straightened
- Jetty/dock/quay

To describe the physical (natural) features of a coastline

- Sandy // sand & shingle beaches
- Wide beach
- Raised beach // low
- Bay/ curved coastline
- Headland
- Cliff/vertical face
- Loose rocks/ boulders/ rock outcrop/ wave-cut platform
- Islands / rocks in sea / offshore rocks / stacks / stumps / craig
- Pools/lakes/lagoon
- River mouth
- Natural harbour
- Dunes/bracken/heath/rough grassland
- Named features

To describe the human features of a coastline

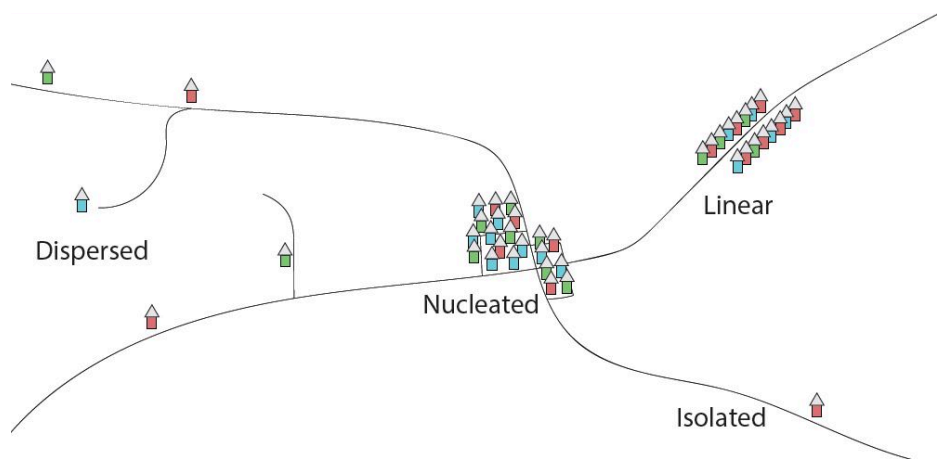
- Ferry/ferry terminal
- Harbour
- Marina
- Groynes
- Breakwater
- Coast path/national trail/recreational route
- (Traffic free) cycle route
- Picnic site
- Nature reserve
- Lighthouse
- Parking
- Public toilets
- Pools (Saltcoats)
- Slipway

To describe the types and distribution of vegetation in a map extract

For each type, state:

- Distribution: uneven distribution/ no pattern
- Direction: eg. found throughout the map // which direction it is found; eg. north/south/east/west
- More/dense/large amount // less/sparse/small amount in (named) direction
- Relief: eg. on steep slopes // at base of slope // along slopes // flatter area
- Height: eg. above/ below 150m
- Along river/ river valley
- Parallel/ close to coast
- Along railway/road // east/west of railway
- Near what landmark/specific area each is found

Settlement patterns



To describe the distribution of a settlement

- Uneven distribution
- Direction (north/south/east/west)
- Dispersed/scattered/spread out/isolated // clustered/nucleated // linear
- Sparsely populated // densely populated
- No settlements along (specific region)
- Settlements __km apart
- Buildings: eg. hamlets, farms/isolated dwellings/isolated buildings
- Height: On higher land/top of hills + stats, eg. more than 50 m above sea level
- Slopes: On gentler slopes
- Along roads/linked by roads

To describe the site of a settlement

- Height: On higher land + stats // low/in valley
- Gradient: On gentler slopes
- Aspect: eg. NW facing
- At meeting point/junction/intersection of roads/route centre
- Near streams/rivers/burns
- (specified distance) from (named landmark/ area)

To describe housing and street pattern

Example:



- detached/separate
- semi-detached/joined/rows/terraced/blocks(of houses)
- dense/compact/clustered/nucleated
- back gardens/yards/large plots
- curved roads/streets/crescents/oval/circular
- cul-de-sac/dead end roads

To state the possible reasons for the location of a settlement

- Relief
 - Gently sloping since easy to build/use of machines
 - On a slope to avoid flooding // above lowest land to avoid flooding
 - Elevated/high for defence/view
 - Sheltered in valley
- Aspect: South-west aspect for growing crops/shelter
- Water body:
 - On a stream/river for water supply(drinking, washing)/ tourism/ fishing/ transport/ wet point site
 - river/floodplain creating fertile land for agriculture
- Accessibility
 - Along a road for access/travel/transport
 - Railway (station) for travel/transport/commuting
- Location: Away from town since less noise/air pollution/peaceful
- Land use: Fields for agriculture
- Vegetation: Woodland for fuel/building/timber
- Defensive site (castle remains)
- Bridging point
- Tourism
 - Skiing/Footpath/Monument/Refuge hut/overnight stop/gite

To state the possible reasons for the location of a leisure facility (eg. golf course)

- Large area of open land/space/not many buildings around
- Flatter/gently sloping relief, which suits golf
- Lowland
- Cheaper land on outskirts/rural-urban fringe
- Close to settlement for customers/market/supplies
- Near a road

To state the reasons for the location of an industrial estate

- large area/room for expansion
- flat/gentle land
- cheaper land on edge of urban area/flooding
- near road junction, access to main road/dual carriageway
- near town/housing/Irvine for labour
- near town/housing/Irvine for market
- industrial estates nearby for components/exchange of ideas
- river for water supply/cleaning or dumping waste