Financial Times in the News: Storm Bert

Royal Geographical Society with IBG

Advancing geography and geographical learning



Theme and Specification link

This edition of *Financial Times in the News* looks at how we can mitigate the impacts of flooding and extreme weather events using Storm Bert as an example.

The link to the article can be found here: <u>https://bit.ly/3ZiV2C8</u> or use the QR code in the top right corner of this page.

This article underpins many aspects of the water cycle, extreme weather and drainage basin systems within the A Level Specifications specifically:

AQA

3.1.1.2c Drainage basins as open systems

3.1.1.2e Changes in the water cycle over time to include natural variation including storm events, seasonal changes and human impact including farming practices, land use change and water abstraction.

3.1.1.6b Case study of a river catchment(s) at a local scale...consider the impact of precipitation upon drainage basin stores and transfers and implications for sustainable water supply and/or flooding.

3.1.5.5 Storm hazards.

3.1.2.2f Sources of water: exogenous, endoreic and ephemeral; the episodic role of water; sheet flooding, channel flash flooding.

Edexcel

2B.9.b. Storm surge events can lead to severe coastal flooding with dramatic short-term impacts (depressions, tropical cyclones).

2B.10.b. Coastal flooding and storm surge events can have serious economic and social consequences for coastal communities in both developing and developed countries.

5.5 Surpluses within the hydrological cycle can lead to flooding, with significant impacts for people.

OCR

3.a. Human factors can disturb and enhance the natural processes and stores in the water and carbon cycles.

3.b.i. How climate change is leading to increasing frequency of extreme weather events such as wild-fire, El-Nino, floods, and drought which can affect food production.

4.b. The impacts of climate change are global and dynamic.

(EDUQAS) & WJEC

2.1.2 Catchment hydrology – the drainage basin as a system.

(2)3.1.3 Temporal variations in river discharge.

(2)3.1.4 Precipitation and excess runoff within the water cycle.



Use the article and your own knowledge to define the key terms below:

Department for environment, food and rural affairs (DEFRA)

Environment Agency

Flood Defences

Public Accounts Committee

Location 📀

Look up the location of Tenbury Wells on a map. Write a description below detailing its location as well as the human and physical factors which affect the potential for flooding in the town.

Where	is	Tenbury	Wells?
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Human factors

Physical factors

Summary in numbers

Find the related statistic in the article and develop it to add context and summarise the report.

2020	Wider issues
2007	Write a question here to help think about other issues which might influence the points in the
6 years	article.
5,500	
2022	
£10mn	
£2.4bn	
£4.9mn	
£17mn	
£2.3mn	
2020	

Flood defences



Use the table below to evaluate the pros and cons of flood defences. Use the article and your own knowledge to help you.

Once you have finished, classify these into social, economic and environmental reasons.

Pros	Cons

Synoptic links



Note down any synoptic links using your specification to help you. A Mind map might be helpful here.



5 examination style questions

Using evidence from the article and your wider geographical knowledge. To what extent do you agree that flood defences should prioritise areas of high population density over historic or rural towns?

Discuss the role of government policy and funding in managing flood risks in the UK, with reference to Storm Bert and other recent flood events.

Using the article and your knowledge, assess the role of local leadership and community involvement in flood risk management.

Examine the factors that contributed to the delays in implementing the Tenbury Wells flood defence scheme.

Describe the impacts of flooding on local communities, using Tenbury Wells as an example.