

CW  
2/8/21

## Rivers and Waterfall

Major Landforms - The landscape is being continuously torn away by two processes - weathering and erosion.

\* Weathering is the breaking up of the rocks on the earth's surface.

\* Erosion - Erosion is the wearing away of the landscape by different agents like water, wind and ice. The eroded material is carried away by water, wind, etc. and eventually deposited.

→ This process of erosion and deposition creates different landforms on the surface of the earth.

## River Courses

### → Upper course

- Flows with high velocity
- V-Shaped valley
- Vertical erosion dominates rapids, waterfalls, gorges, etc.

### → Middle course

- Flows with moderate velocity
- Vertical and lateral erosion
- Plenty of streams, alluvial fans, meanders, etc.

### → Lower course

- Flows with low velocity.
- Lateral erosion dominates and wide channels, extensive flood plains, braided channels, levees, oxbow lakes, meanders, deltas, etc.

Waterfall - When the river tumbles at steep angle over very hard rocks or down a steep valley

side, it forms a waterfall.

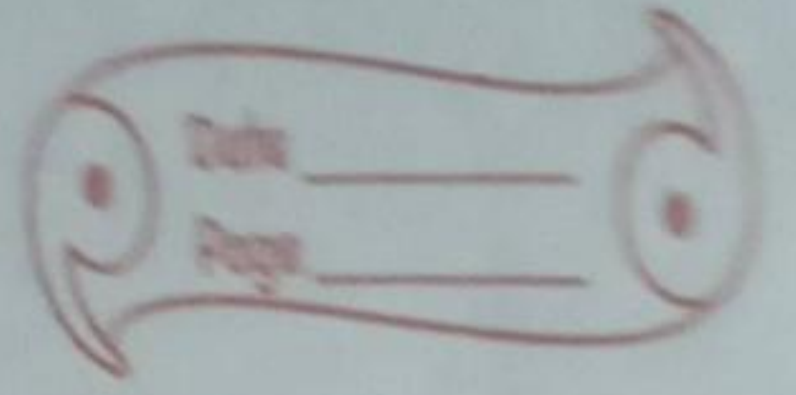
### Deposition

- Meanders - As the river enters the plain it twists and turns forming large bends known as meanders.
- Cut-off lakes - Due to continuous erosion and deposition along the sides of the meander, the ends of the meander loop come closer and closer. In due course of time the meander loop cuts off from the river and forms a cut-off lake also known as ox-bow lake.
- Floodplain - As it floods, the river deposits layers of fine soil and other material called sediments along its banks. This leads to the formation of flat fertile floodplain. The raised banks are called levees.
- Distributaries - When the river approaches the sea, the speed of

flowing water decreases and the river begins to break up into a number of streams called distributaries.

- Delta - ~~This is~~ The river becomes so slow that it begins to deposit its load. Each distributary forms its own mouth. The collection of sediments from all the mouths forms delta.
- Estuary - Sharp-edged mouth of rivers, devoid of any deposits is known as estuary.
- Regions of high tides and rift valleys witness estuaries.
- Estuary does not have fertile lands.
- Narmada and Tapi rivers are forming estuaries.

Hw



## Home Work

- Write UC, MC or LC.
- 1. This is the beginning of a river UC.
- 2. It starts as a source of river and continues until river meets continuous flatter land UC.
- 3. The river empties into sea or lake LC.
- 4. The water flows quickly and the river is smaller UC.
- 5. The river gets bigger and wider LC.
- 6. The mouth of the river is found here LC.
- 7. The river begins to slow down. MC.
- 8. Last stage of a river. LC.
- 9. River becomes even wider and the water flows more slowly. LC.

Write the name of the different stages and parts of the river in the correct place.

Upper course - Middle course - Lower course - Meander - Confluence  
- Tributary - Source - Waterfall - Mouth

