



# Canarygeog Worksheet

## Rock Landscapes – Case Studies

### Answers

1. Describe the physical features of a granite landscape you have studied.

Example : Dartmoor (UK)

In this area we can find many tors which are large blocks of bare resistant rock that stands up above the area that surrounds them. There are approximately 150 tors in this area. Tors have very little or no vegetation on them. The tors are actually the exposed top of a batholiths formed from volcanic magma which cooled below the crust and later had the top area eroded away leaving it exposed. Tors have large cracks which run down and across them. The total area covered by tors is approximately 675 square kilometers this landscape is hilly and mostly covered by grass with practically no trees, we can see various river valleys which divide the hills.

Not many settlements are found in this area as the soil is not very fertile although there is a lot of grass which is ideal for sheep farming. This area is also a National Park so tourism is a very important type of industry here with nearly 10 million people visiting the area every year.

2. Prepare a detailed case study about the Yorkshire Dales.

Area : Yorkshire Dales (UK)

This area which is located on the east side of the Pennines in northern England is mostly formed of limestone. The most important economic activities in this area are : tourism, farming and also quarrying.

Tourism is important because the limestone scenery attracts people from all over the country, the numerous footpaths and beautiful villages also attract large numbers of visitors.

Farming is mostly sheep farming because the soil is so thin that only grass manages to grow, the landscape is also quite hilly which makes it difficult for arable farming and it's also quite cold in winter. Farming in this area is also traditional to preserve the environment.

Quarrying is a very important economic activity in the area due to the large amount of limestone that exists in the area, there are 8 quarries extracting nearly 6 million pounds worth of limestone are extracted every year.

3. Describe the physical landscape of a chalk area you have studied.

Area Chosen: North Downs, UK.

The landscape in this area is full of gentle hills with mostly rounded tops, some of these hills have one side steeper sloping than the other. Deep and steep valleys are found among the hills but most of these valleys don't have water flows. The vegetation of the area is basically grass with a very reduced number of trees. The chalk is not usually exposed, only on coastal areas can it be seen as it has been eroded by the sea. In some coastal areas it can form very high, steep cliffs. Springs can be found at the foot of these chalk hills because they meet an area of impermeable rock.

4. Describe the physical landscape of a clay area you have studied.

Area Chosen : East Anglia, U.K.

This area of East Anglia is called the Fens, it is a low-lying and flat area because it is made basically of clay which is quite soft it won't form steep sides as the clay collapses under its own weight. The land is usually quite wet because clay is impermeable and doesn't allow water to filter through it so it is quite common for boggy or swampy areas to form. There are many rivers in the area and many artificial channels which allow the water to drain away from certain areas. The soil here is high in nutrients because they are not washed away by the water so the area is very good for arable farming, specially for market gardens (fruit and vegetables) although there are some areas like the Broads which are natural wildlife reserves. Some grain is also planted in the drier areas like wheat or barley. There aren't many industries but clay is used by some industries for the fabrication of bricks.