

Enquiry question for this unit. Why do borders exist?

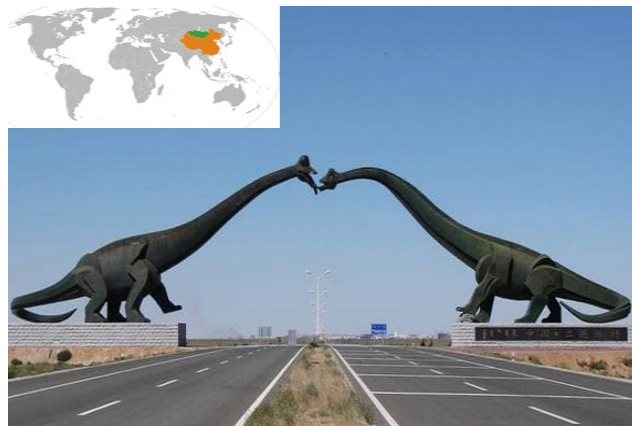
How do borders cause conflict?

What conflict is there in the UK?

Key Words	Definitions
Border	A real or artificial line that separates geographic areas.
Physical features	The earth's natural features such as rivers, oceans, ecosystems and mountains.
Human geography	How and where people live, such as population, development and settlement.
Conflict	To disagree with someone or something. This can lead to arguments or fighting.
Resource	A resource is something that humans attach value to due to its usefulness.
Territory	A geographical area/space that belongs to a particular group.
Physical map	A map that shows landforms and natural features in an area.
Religion	A set of beliefs or ideals that a group follow.
Language	The words used and understood by a group of people.
Culture	Culture is a pattern of behaviour shared by a society, or group of people. Many different things make up a society's culture. These things include food, language, clothing, tools, music, arts, customs, beliefs, and religion.
River	Continually flowing fresh water which is drained from the land.
Dam	A dam is a structure built across a river to hold water back. Dams can be used to store water, control flooding, and generate electricity.
Reservoir	A reservoir is an artificial lake where water is stored. Most reservoirs are formed by constructing dams across rivers.
Hydroelectric power	A form of energy generated from flowing water. Water flows through turbines in a dam and creates electricity.
Surplus	Having more of something than is needed.
Deficit	Not having enough of something to meet demand.
Stakeholders	People who have an interest in a project.
HS2	High speed railway – a fast train service which will, once completed, run from London to northern parts of the UK

Borders

Borders can be formed from physical features or can be man-made. Sometimes borders are not marked with anything!



How the borders on the continent of Europe have changed over time





The Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam

When complete, the Grand Renaissance Dam, which Ethiopia is building, will be Africa's biggest hydroelectric power plant.

Its construction began in 2011 on the Blue Nile tributary in the northern Ethiopia highlands, from where 85% of the Nile's waters flow.

However, the mega dam has caused a row between Egypt and Ethiopia, with Sudan caught in between, which some fear could lead to war.



Hydroelectric power stations do not consume water, but the speed with which Ethiopia fills up the dam's reservoir will affect the flow downstream.

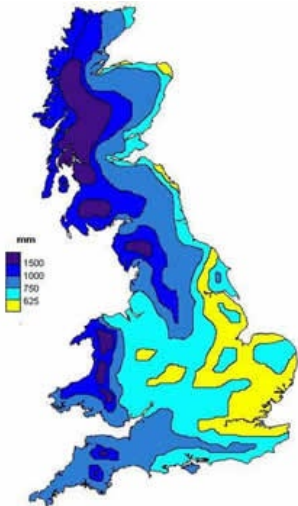
The longer it takes to fill the reservoir, which is going to be bigger than Greater London with a total capacity of 74 billion cubic metres, the less impact there will be on the level of the river.

Ethiopia wants to do it in six years.

Egypt relies on the Nile for 90% of its water. It has historically asserted that having a stable flow of the Nile waters is a matter of survival in a country where water is scarce.

A 1929 treaty (and a subsequent one in 1959) gave Egypt and Sudan rights to nearly all of the Nile waters. The colonial-era document also gave Egypt veto powers over any projects by upstream countries that would affect its share of the waters.

Water issues in the UK



This map shows that the west of the UK receives more rainfall than the east of the UK. Most people live in the south and east of the UK. This leads to water surplus in the west and water deficit in the east. One way to solve this is to transfer water from areas of surplus to areas of deficit. This can lead to conflict as people worry about their own water security and the impact it will have on the environment of the area the water is being taken from.

Reservoir advantages and disadvantages

Advantages	Disadvantages
Can store large amounts of water to be used at times when rainfall is less.	Land is flooded to make the reservoir which can mean people lose their homes and businesses.
Can be used for recreational activities such as sailing and can attract people to use an areas therefore creating long term jobs.	Reservoirs take a long time to construct and fill and are expensive.

Zhenbao Island



Zhenbao Island is in the river which forms the border between China and Russia. It has been the cause of much conflict between the two countries with both claiming it as their land in the past.



HS2 is a high speed rail link between London and northern cities. It is currently under construction and has caused a lot of conflict as the route takes it through nature reserves and areas that are currently protected. Many people don't think it is necessary but the government are trying to attract business to the north of the UK.

Subject: Geography

Year: 8

Topic: Borders and Conflict