



1. stream [stri:m]
2. mountain range ['maʊntɪn reɪndʒ]
3. summit ['sʌmɪt]
4. mountain ['maʊntɪn]
5. peak [pi:k]
6. valley ['væli]
7. meadow ['medəʊ]
8. river ['rɪvə]
9. forest ['fɒrɪst]
10. bay [beɪ]
11. beach [bi:tʃ]
12. sea [si:]
13. cliff [klɪf]
14. field [fi:ld]
15. hill [hɪl]
16. wood [wʊd]
17. lake [leɪk]

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VOCABULARY

Landscapes

Are you maybe planning to enjoy a few days in the countryside this summer? ANNA HOCHSIEDER presents language used to talk about landscapes.

MEDIUM PLUS

The Emerald Isle

Ireland is famous for its beautiful **scenery**. The Irish **mainland** is **surrounded** by **dozens** of smaller **islands**, most of which are **uninhabited**. Its **coastline** is characterized by numerous **bays** and **inlets**, **headlands** and **peninsulas**, as well as some of the highest and most spectacular **cliffs** in Europe.

The central **lowland plain** is **ringed** by **mountain ranges**. Ireland's **mountains** are not very high. Only three **peaks** rise above 1,000 metres.

Ireland's longest **river** is the Shannon. It **flows** 370 kilometres from its **source** in County Cavan to its **mouth** near Limerick, where the Shannon **Estuary** meets the Atlantic **Ocean**. Along the way, it is joined by numerous **tributaries** and widens into four **lakes** (known as **loughs** in Irish).

There are no active **volcanoes** in Ireland, but the Giant's Causeway, a dramatic **rock formation** on the **north coast** of Northern Ireland, is proof of former **volcanic activity**. There are no **deserts**, either; instead, there is a massive **karst landscape** known as the Burren. At first sight, this seems as **bare** and lifeless as the moon. In fact, it supports a highly **diverse ecosystem**, including many rare species of flora and fauna.

PRACTICE

Now, try the following exercises to practise talking about landscapes.



Exercise 1	E
Underline the correct answer to each question below.	
A. Which is greener — a desert or a meadow?	
B. Which has salt water — the sea or a lake?	
C. Which is higher — a hill or a mountain?	
D. Which is narrower — a bay or an <u>inlet</u> ?	
E. Where does a river start — at its source or its mouth?	

Exercise 2	A
Complete each sentence below with one word from the text on the opposite page.	
A. The island has been _____ since the last family left, in 1992.	
B. The Rhine _____ through several countries.	
C. The Rhine's main _____ are the Neckar, the Main and the Moselle.	
D. Ireland has no _____ volcanoes, but Italy has three.	
E. Above the treeline, the mountainside is completely _____.	

Exercise 3	M
Study the picture and read the text. Then match the words on the left to their definitions on the right.	
A. A “stream” ...	1. is the wide part of a river where it flows into the sea.
B. A “bay” ...	2. is a small forest.
C. A “wood” ...	3. is a low area of land between hills or mountains.
D. A “valley” ...	4. is a narrow, high area of land that sticks out into the sea.
E. A “plain” ...	5. is a part of the coast where the land curves inwards.
F. An “estuary” ...	6. is a small, narrow river.
G. A “peak” ...	7. is a large area of flat land.
H. A “headland” ...	8. is the pointed top of a mountain.

“Landscape”, “scenery”, “country(side)”

The countable noun **landscape** describes an area of land that has a particular appearance:

- The Burren is a karst landscape.

The uncountable noun **scenery** describes the natural features of an area, such as hills, lakes, and forests, and almost exclusively refers to attractive landscapes:

- Ireland has some spectacular scenery.

The uncountable noun **country(side)** (or **country**) describes land outside towns and cities:

- I'd rather live in the country(side) than in a city.

Answers

- A. a meadow
 - B. the sea
 - C. a mountain
 - D. an inlet
 - E. at its source
- A. uninhabited
 - B. flows
 - C. tributaries
 - D. active
 - E. bare
- A-6; B-5; C-2; D-3; E-7; F-1; G-8; H-4

bare [beə]
• kahl

dozens ['dʌzənz]
• Dutzende

feature ['fi:tʃə]
• Merkmal

inlet ['ɪnlət]
• Meeresarm

ringed: be - by sth. [rɪŋd]
• von etw. umgeben sein

surrounded [sə'raʊndɪd]
• umgeben

uninhabited
[ˌʌnɪn'hæbɪtɪd]
• unbewohnt

