IGCSE Geography – River Flooding – Baregès, France 2013

This self guided study unit is devised around the following Google Map and the resources on Geographypods.

https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=1jezs_xOo1O_PFudJ1PvXDBmBnLg&ll=42.90335060937036%2C0.1080179214477539&z=15

Task 1 – Using the embedded map on geographypods, describe the site and situation of Baregès.

Situation of Baregès -

Situation of Baregès – Baregès is located 35km due south of the settlement of Tarbes in the French Pyrenees mountain range. The town is located 135km south west of the major settlement of Toulouse and approximately 700km south south west of the capital of France, Paris.

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**Task 2** – The relief (shape of the land) around Baregès.

Click ‘View Larger Map’ under the embedded map on geographypods. This will take you to a full screen version.

Now click the menu button found at the top left hand side of the screen (three lines) and click on Terrain. This adds contour lines to the map.

Using a mixture of these contour lines and the 3D facility on the map, describe the relief surrounding Baregès.

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<th>Task 3 – Using the Google Map and a Google search, outline up to four modern-day functions of Baregès.</th>
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**Extra** – Study the map and describe the ways that people may have modified the landscape around the town of Baregès.

Now go to the case study Google Map listed on geographypods and one page 1 of this work pack.

Click on ‘Snow Cover in June 2013’ Describe the situation regarding the snow in the area in June 2013. The describe the weather warning for this region (shown in red on the map). There is a larger version available on geographypods.

Now view ‘Video 1 – View from Tourmalet’.
   a. What evidence can you see of fast flowing water in this upper part of the river system?
   b. What may have caused this water to flow fast (two factors)

Now view ‘Video 2’.
   a. How can you tell that the velocity of the water was high at this stage?
   b. What has happened at the outside bend of the river?

Now view ‘Video 3 – High Erosive Power’ – this is at the entrance way to the town and you can start to see some of the destruction that was wrought on the settlement. No activity to complete here.

Now view ‘Video 4, 5 & 6’ – These were all filmed in Baregès.
   a. What processes of erosion can you see evidence of?
   b. Describe the impacts on the houses on the banks of the river.
   c. What would the dangers have been for the residents of these properties?
Now view ‘Video 7’ – Describe the impacts of this flash flood event on the town, its residents and the local economy.

Go back to the map and check out ‘Streetview 1’ – This shows you the current view from the road towards the channel. Use the timeslider device and rewind back to 2008. This was before the flood.
   a. Describe what has changed.
   b. How have the local authority tried to prevent a similar event from happening again?

Using a familiar case study, outline the causes and effects of a flood event that you have studied. (7)

Using suitable case study material, explain the immediate dangers posed by flash flood events? (5)

Outline the ways in which human activity has exacerbated (made worse) the effects of flooding in a location that you have studied. (7)

How does relief and vegetation cover affect the speed in which rainwater reaches the river channel (in the hydrological cycle)? (4)