



MILLFIELD

DISCOVER BRILLIANCE

River Exe Case Study

L6 Geography Field Visit

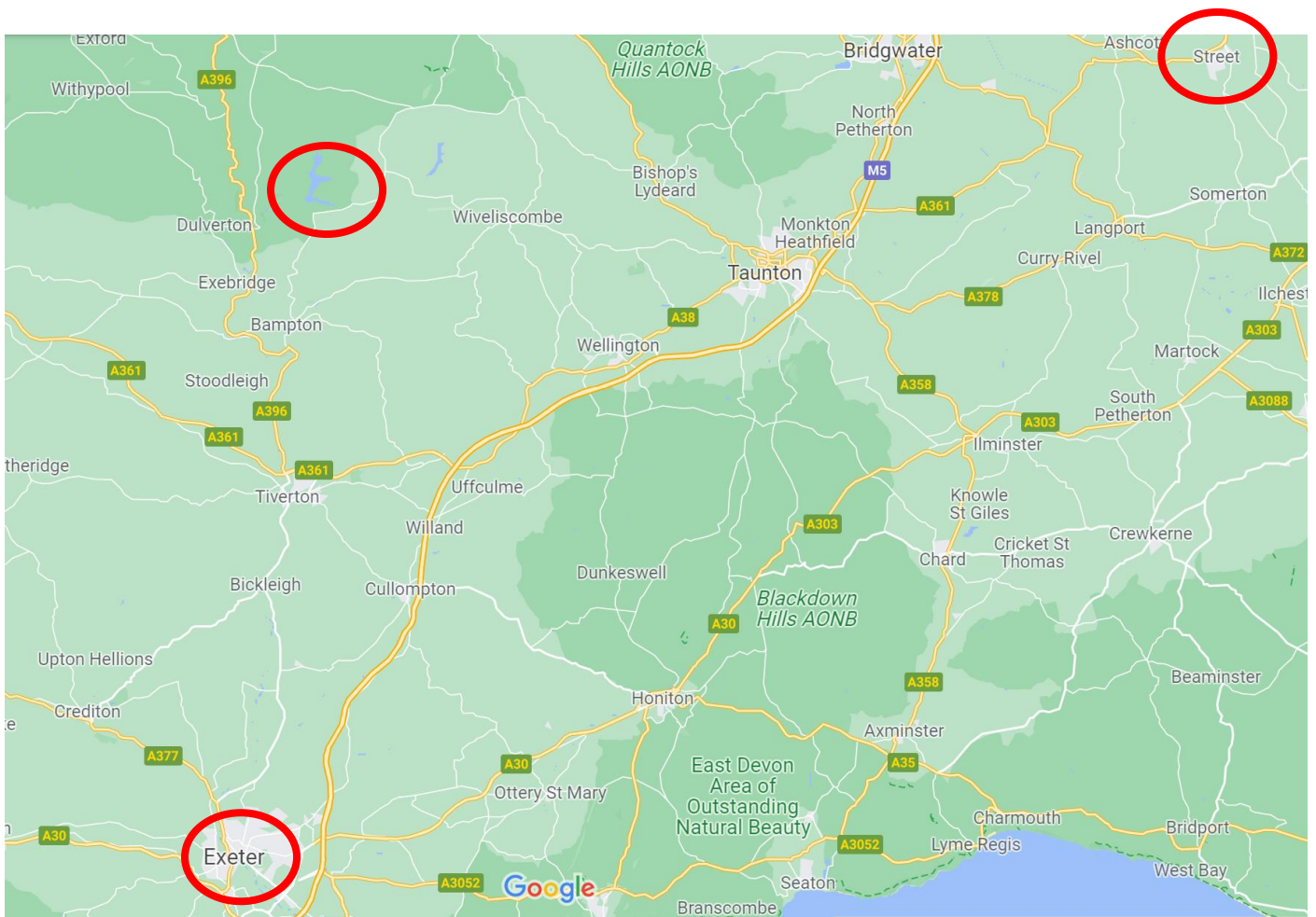
Student Booklet



Name:

Itinerary

- 08.30 **Briefing in the Science Lecture Theatre**
- 09.00 **Depart**
- 10.30 **Arrive Wimbleball Lake**
Discuss the catchment area of the upper course
- 12.30 **Drive to Exeter**
- 13.30 **Flood Defences**
Look-see flood defences
- 16.00 **Depart for school**



Introduction

The source of the River Exe in Simonsbath is just 8km from the Bristol Channel high in the hills of Exmoor. The river flows south for 82.7km through Dulverton, Tiverton and Exeter to the sea at Exmouth on the south coast of Devon. It has an extensive network of tributaries and a high drainage basin.



[Source](#)

The Upper Course of the River Exe

Task 1: Look around you. What do you notice about the upper course of the River Exe? Make a few notes here from your observations and from what your teacher is telling you.

The Upper Course of the River Exe

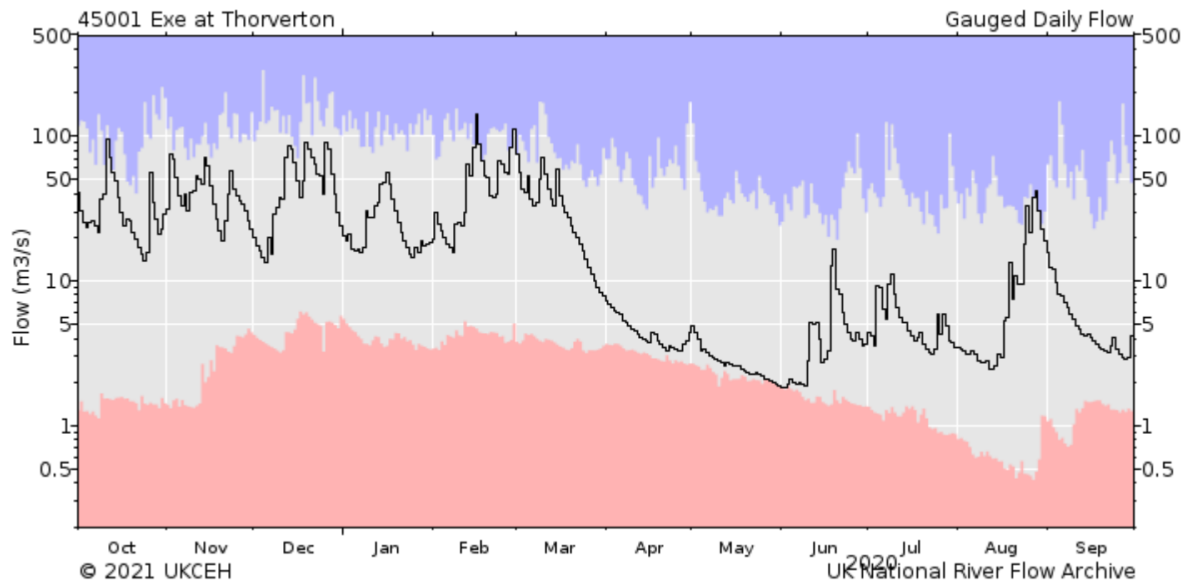
Task 2: Write some observations about the dam, the river that flows out from underneath it and the next part of the valley.

The Upper Course of the River Exe

Task 3: Draw an annotated fieldsketch of the reservoir and surrounding land.

The Upper Course of the River Exe

Task 4: Based on your recent lessons and the work you have completed this morning, what observations can you make about the annual hydrograph for the River Exe, measured at Thorverton. Thorverton is generally regarded as the end of the upper course of the river.



Key: Red and blue envelopes represent lowest and highest flows on each day over the period of record. Underlying data supplied by the Environment Agency

Flood Management Scheme at Exeter: Context

Historical flood events:

October 1960

- devastating floods along the Exe as a result of half the annual average of rainfall (380mm), saturating the ground.
- 700cumecs flowed into Exeter, flooding parts of Exwick, St Thomas and Alphington.
- No deaths
- 2500 homes affected: Exmoor sandstone results in thick red sediment

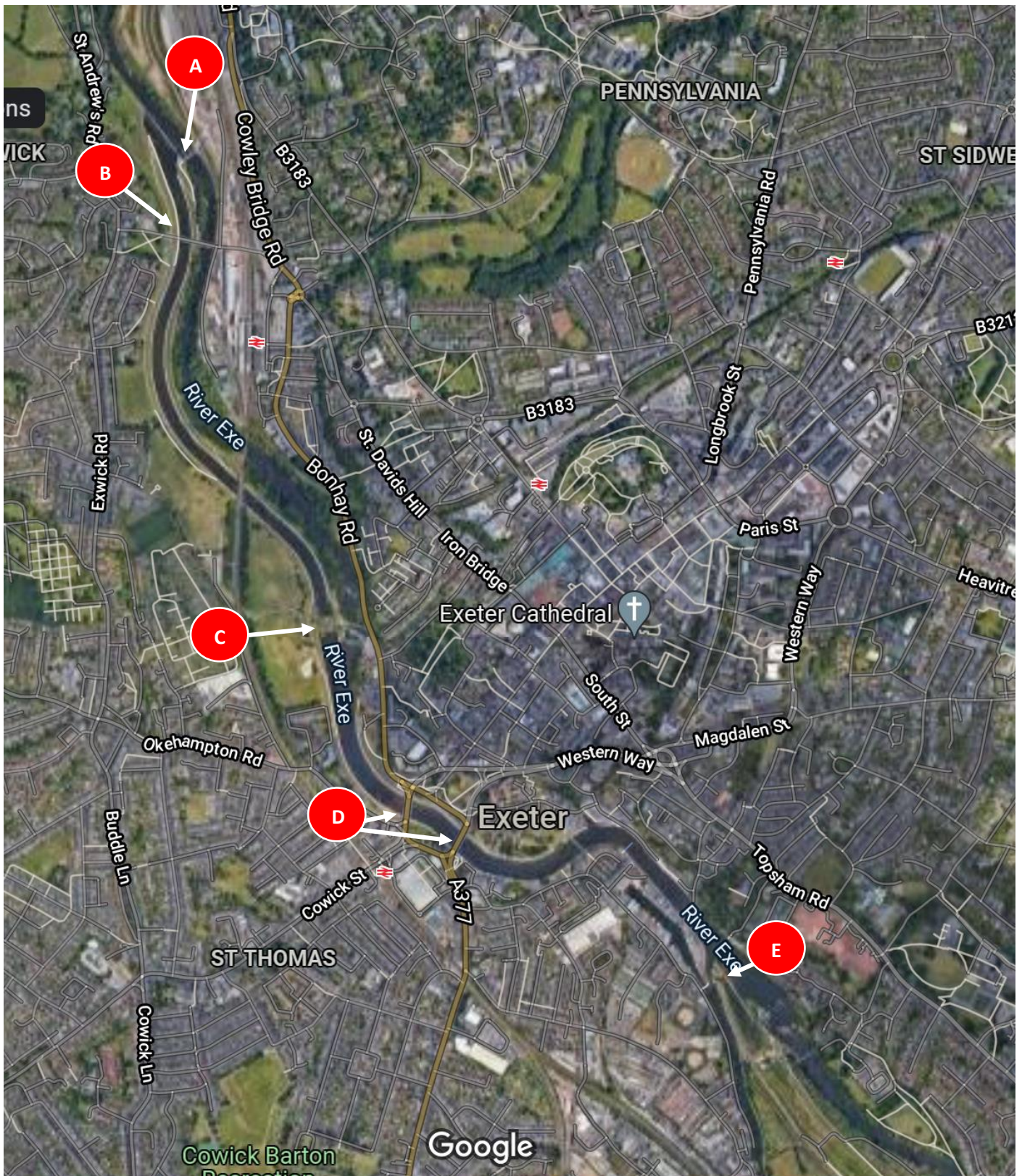
December 1960

- Just five weeks later 80mm of rain fell one night and a second flood affected 1200 homes



Okehampton Street

[Source](#)



Site A: Start of Exwick Spillway

Site B: Flood gates

Site C: End of Exwick Spillway

Site D: Exe Bridges

Site E: Trews Weir

Space for notes for the five fieldwork sites in Exeter.

