

TASK

CBA 1 *Geography in the News* - Students carried out a structured inquiry in relation to managing surface processes on the River Lee

FORMAT

Report

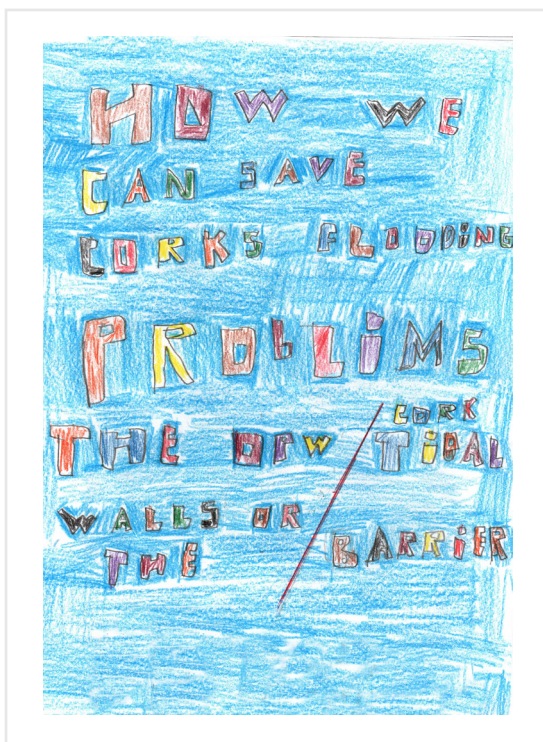
TITLE

An analysis of proposed flood defence measures on the River Lee

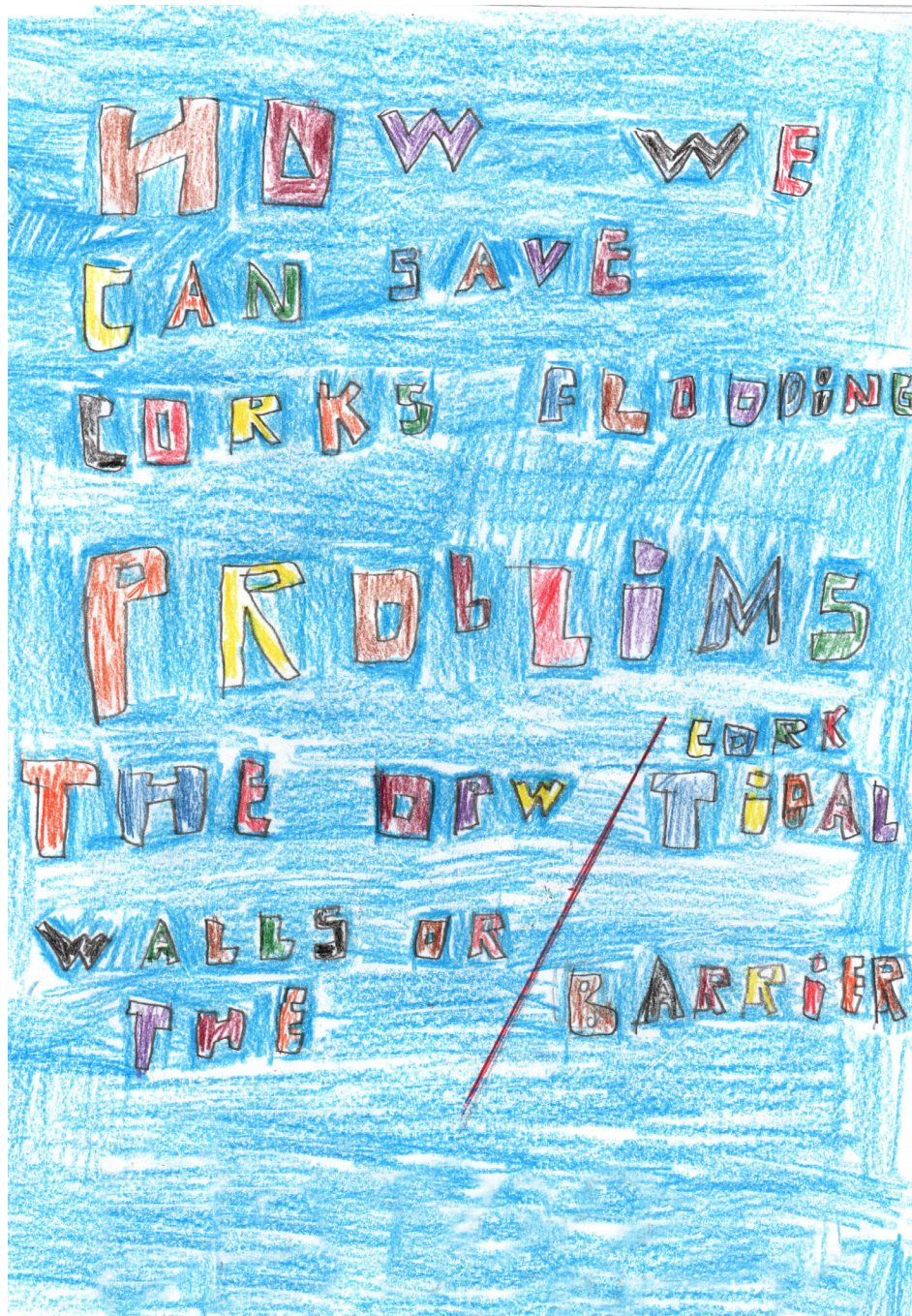
TEACHING AND LEARNING

For CBA1 Geography in the News, students selected a geographical event of significance as reported in the media. The students researched and drew conclusions on the implications of the geographical event through a real-life example.

SAMPLE 3: EVIDENCE OF WORK



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The importance of flood defences to cork

Cork has been having a problem with flooding the past few years and the affects of these floods to Cork are bad for the economy and to the local population.

“Cork flood damage to cost €35m”

This is a head line by breaking news.ie which was posted on the 08/12/2009. They got their information from the evening echo and in the paper it says how cork city council will have to spend €35m which includes fixing the city water pipes and paying compensation to homes and businesses



“Further flooding in Cork city as River Lee bursts banks”

This is a headline by the Irish times which was posted on 04/02/2014. The article is about the floods that were caused by a storm that hasn't been giving a name in 2014 Feb. It talks about how the gardaí was closing down parts of cork and the journey the flood took threw out cork. The Taoiseach also gave

€15m to help to people in cork as well as the already €10m already in place, they will also add more funds if needs be.



And some of these floods are still being remembered years after it happened.

“Cork floods 2009: Remembering one of the city’s worst disasters ten years on”

This is a headline by the evening echo which was posted on the 17/11/2019. the article talks about what happened in the 2009 floods which include affects of the people and the economy. The floods happened because of heavy rainfall, high tides and a questionable decision by the ESB where they released millions of tons of water from the innascara dam. It broke down the walls that cork had to defend them and ended causing €100 million in repairs. The emergency service used boats and the army were deployed to make sure the hospitable stayed up and running. The ESB faced many legal battles because of their decision to open the dam and potentially putting the people of cork in danger

Teacher annotations based on Features of Quality

- Organised to a purpose
- Awareness of processes



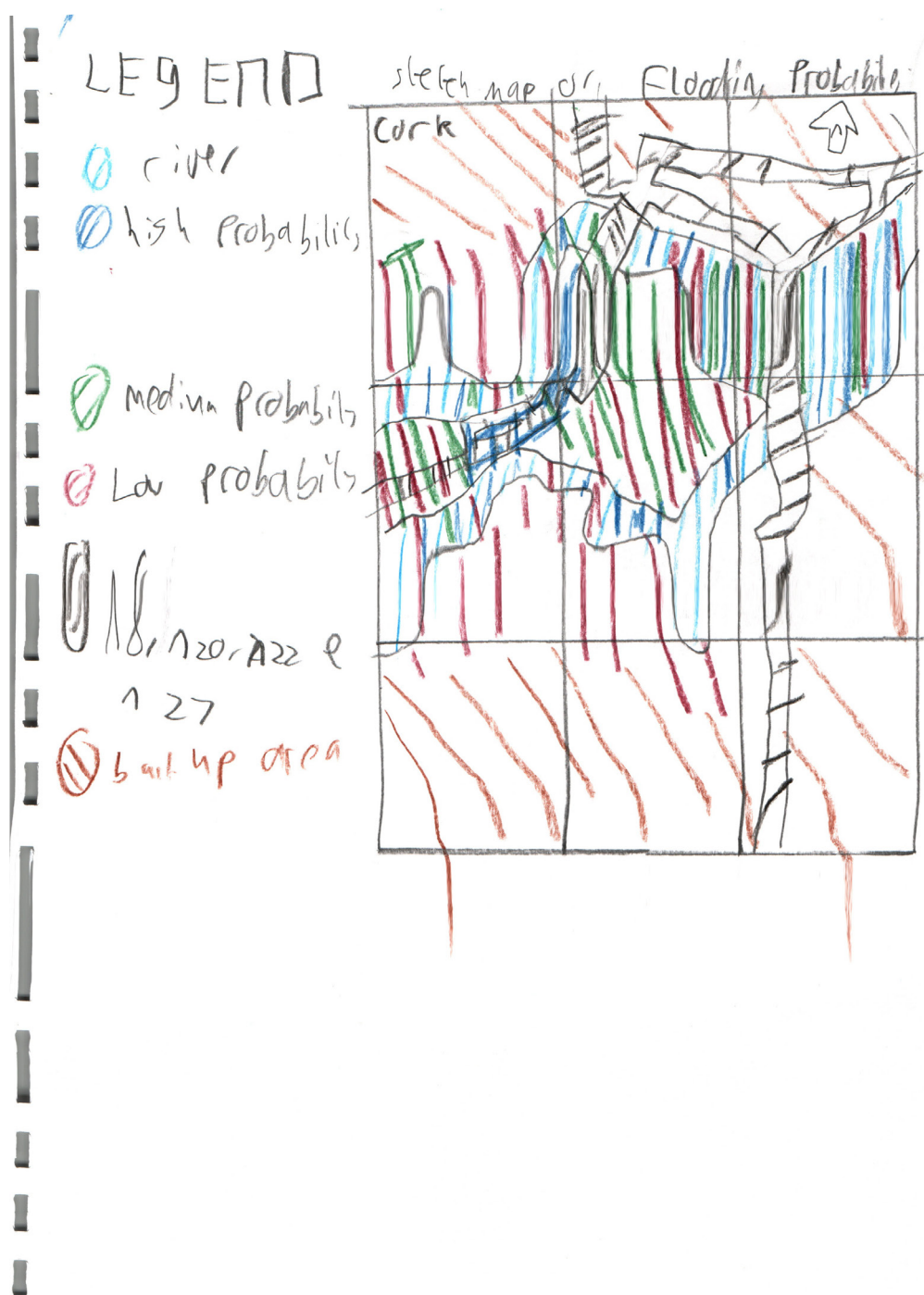
You may be wondering how come the floods are only seem to be getting worse as time progresses but the reason is that climate change

“Climate change to flood Cork, Dublin and Galway”

This is a head line by the independent.ie written in 15/03/2007. It talks about how cork is in trouble because climate change is going to permanently change the way we live because of factors like increased temperatures, more winter storms and of course more flooding. This study was done by a UN panel of over 2000 leading scientists worldwide. And considering this study was done in 2007 and there was a catastrophic flood two years later it's safe to say they were right.

“Ireland at risk of severe flooding from climate change”

This is a head line by the Irish times written in 28/08/2019. It talks about a study published in the journal nature released on the same day as the article. It a study that was looking at all flood records from 1960 and 2010 and it formed a pattern that the countries in the north west of Europe are experiencing more often floods than countries in the south east of Europe are going to be experiencing less flooding. Now instead of very extreme flood every 100 years it's now every 80 years, soon it might even go down to fifty. Flood magnitudes



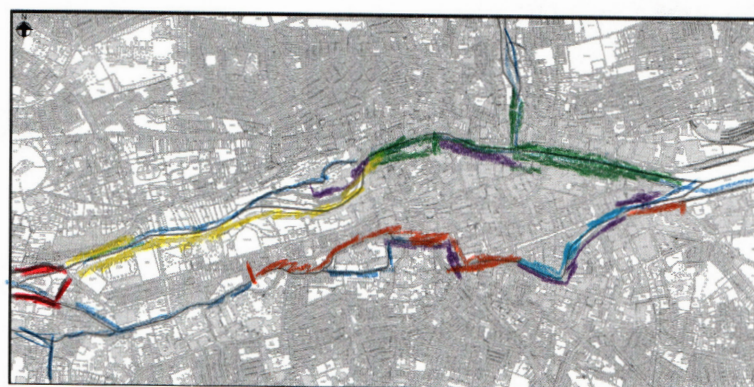
Teacher annotations based on Features of Quality

- Shows good awareness of the processes and patterns

OPW walls

Now that I have told ye about the problems cork is having with flooding and how we need to stop it, I will now tell ye about the two proposals that are being put forward. The first one that I'm going to talk about is the OPW walls.

The OPW (office of public works) have put forward a proposal to set up walls from the Inniscarra dam to the cork city centre protecting over 900 homes and 1200 businesses and they will put drainage systems all throughout cork so if another flood those happen. While doing so they will create walk ways to help the city interact with the river more easily. They will also help rebuild the walls currently in place. The walls will also be made so they are able to adapt to climate change. The overall investment will cost €140m which if there ever is another big flood they it would be worth the cost.

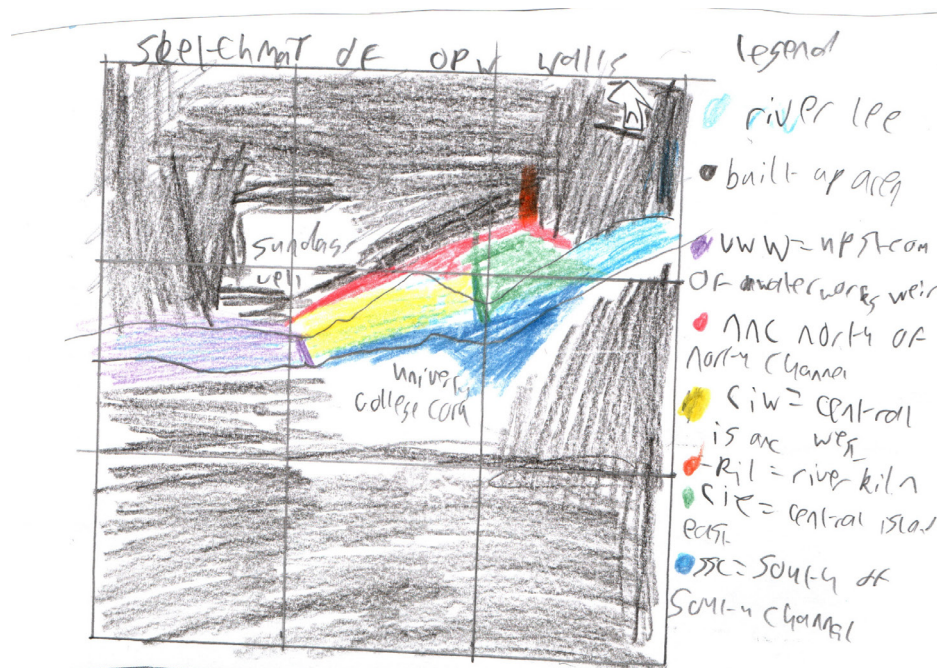


— river Lee

The phases are numbered in the order they are going to be putting up the walls starting at zero

Teacher annotations based on Features of Quality

- Detailed analysis of the processes



What they plan for it to look like

Impacts of the OPW walls

	Positive impacts	Negative impacts
Social impacts-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The public won't have to worry of getting flooded all the time and this might improve morale of the people working near the river With the new walk ways people will might visit the river more often and more people will be interested in the river 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many people of the community are against the walls and if they are put they may start protests and cause public dismay If the walls end up not turning out the way they envisioned people might migrate to other cities
Economic impacts-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the walls do work cork will be safe from any future floods and government won't have to pay rebuilding cost anymore Since their won't be any floods businesses like can always stay open and won't have to pay flooding insurance anymore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It will cost the government €140m to build and if the walls end up not working that money will never be made back
Environmental impacts-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> With the new drainage system if a flood does ever happen again we will be able to make sure it makes it back to the sea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The water might become polluted and it won't be safe to swim or fish from it anymore The river processes will be put to a halt while the walls are being built

Teacher annotations based on Features of Quality

- Shows good awareness of chosen events patterns, processes and systems

Love the lee

Now that I have told ye about the OPW campaign I am now going to talk to you about the other side the love the lee campaign

The people behind the love the lee campaign are no specific organisation it's instead a group of people from cork city who are opposed to the OPW walls and think there is a much better way, and that way is comprised of three points. The first being to build a tidal barrier at little island and it will have a gate that can open and close so you can control the water contents, they chose to build it here so they can have water storage and protect the city. The next step would be to rebuild the quarry walls. The final step would be to slow down the river by planting trees and hedges. The tidal barrier will cost around €135m plus a fifty years maintenance cost of €27.5m





Pictures of the landscape that the love the lee organisation want to protect

Tidal barrier impacts

	Positive impacts	Negative impacts
Social impacts-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The people inside the city who wanted to do this proposal will be happy and will no longer be protesting about it. If it works the people of cork will no longer be afraid of another flood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The farmland areas around tidal barriers will be hit with a flood that will devastate their land If the tidal barrier ends up not working loads of people from the city will migrate to someplace else
Economic impacts-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the tidal barrier works the city council will no longer have to pay for rebuilding costs in the future if there is another big flood. They are able to generate power using the tidal barrier by using hydro electricity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It will need a maintenance cost that the city council will keep having to pay. The farmers that are getting flooded by the tidal barrier might end up moving and it will be harder for cork to get farmland crops
Environmental impacts-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the tidal barrier does work than the natural beauty of cork will not be touched nor will it be destroyed by flooding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since they will be slowing down the river the processes in the river will be put to a halt

Teacher annotations based on Features of Quality

- Shows good awareness of processes, patterns and systems



Teacher annotations based on Features of Quality

- Draws interesting and relevant conclusions
- Engages with some important geographical questions
- Consideration of sustainability

LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

Best fit on balance judgement =



In line with expectations

The annotations capture observations by the student's teacher, using the features of quality, with a view to establishing the level of achievement this work reflects. The annotations and judgments were confirmed by a Quality Assurance group, consisting of practising teachers and representatives of the Inspectorate, the State Exams Commission and the Junior Cycle for Teachers support service.