

Case Study name:	Three Gorges Dam	Section of specification:	Option A - Freshwater - Issues and conflicts
Location:	<u>City/Region:</u> Yangtze River	<u>Country:</u> China	<u>Continent:</u> Asia
What: A multi-purpose dam in central China and the world's largest dam. Controversial due to several negative impacts.	When: Completed 2015 Causes/Theory: - China is looking for renewable sources of energy due to increased air pollution and high projected increases in energy demand. - It creates employment and accelerates economic growth and development through electricity supply. - Beneficial for flood control		
Facts and Figures - 10% of China's energy supply through HEP - Protects 10 million from flooding downstream - Resettlement of 1.3 million people - Cost \$27 billion			
Political Effects:	Economic Effects: - High cost to build (\$27 billion)	Environmental Effects: - Pollution problems remain due to sewage, industry and chemicals released from the flooding of factories. - Threat to wildlife: Increased river traffic and ecosystem changes	Social Effects: - Resettled populations face problems finding adequate housing and employment as previous income sources have been eradicated. - Flood control benefits 10 million
Solutions: Governmental effort and extensive planning could implement water-cleaning strategies or improved conditions for endangered species.		Possible Exam Question: „Dams and reservoirs create as many problems as they solve.“ Discuss this statement with reference to multi-purpose schemes.	