

THE RIVER RHINE

The Rhine is an important route way for people and goods

- It is navigable as far as Basle in Switzerland
- Ocean-going vessels can travel as far as Cologne
- It has a low watershed allowing it to connect with other European rivers eg. Rhone in th south of France
- It passes through the coalfields of the Ruhr in Germany
- It is centrally located

Transport Links

- Canals eg. Mittelland Canal links the Rhine to Hamburg
- Docks were improved along the river since 1945
- Road and Rail terminals were built to allow storage of containers

Growth of Settlement

- Towns/Cities along the Rhine have developed industrially eg. Cologne, Duisburg and also Rotterdam – Europe's largest port
- Rotterdam's development led to the creation of EUROPOORT
 - EUROPOORT = an example of a Europort – a port of European-wide importance. Also known as an ENTREPOT (entry point)
 - Hanover, Dortmund, Hamburg developed industrially due to the Rhine
 - Also Marseilles in the South of France linked by the Rhine-Rhone corridor.