Visual diversity

We have looked at shape and scale, and how we can use these terms to understand and describe landscape character.

Now we are going to look at visual diversity.
Reading landscape character

Visual diversity

Visual diversity is the number of different elements in the landscape, and the degree of visual complexity this generates.
Reading landscape character

Visual diversity
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Visual diversity
Summary

Different landscape characters have different degrees of diversity; some are simple, some are complex.

More visual diversity is not necessarily better.

Simple landscapes can be dramatic.

Complex landscapes can become over-cluttered.
Exercise 1: Reading landscape character

Now you are going to practice reading landscape character – shape, scale and visual diversity

Discuss and describe the landscape character illustrated in the photographs provided

Answer the questions in the brief.
Exercise 1: Reading landscape character

In groups of three...

Analyse and describe the landscape character of these three images

Provide brief answers to the questions you have been given.
Exercise 1: Photo 1 - Tutor feedback
Exercise 1: Photo 2 - Tutor feedback
Reading landscape character

Exercise 1: Photo 3 - Tutor feedback
Landscape character – summing up

Landscape character is not a form of value judgement - the shape, scale and visual diversity is simply a record of what is there

When we read landscape character, we are identifying the dominant characteristics

We use these characteristics to identify what makes a landscape distinctive...
Reading landscape character

Landscape character – summing up

We assess the shape, scale, and visual diversity of landform, waterbodies, vegetation pattern, even infrastructure and settlement.

We can use these terms to explain and describe landscape character in an objective and informed way.