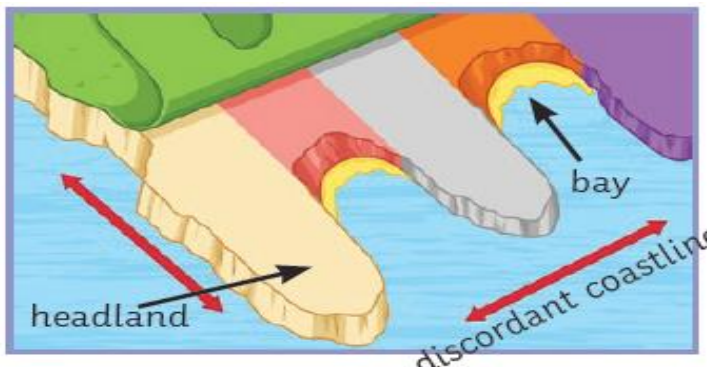
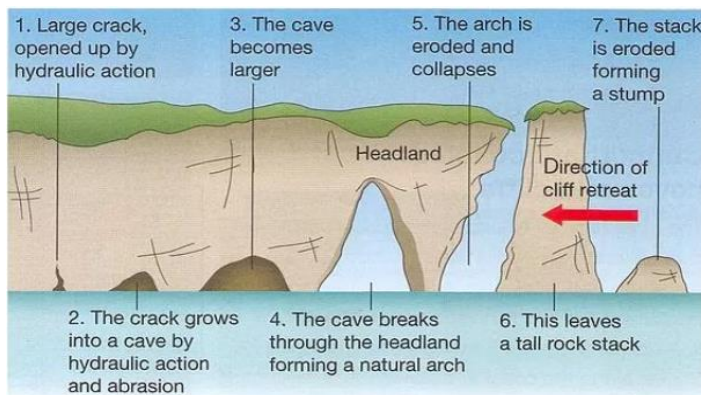
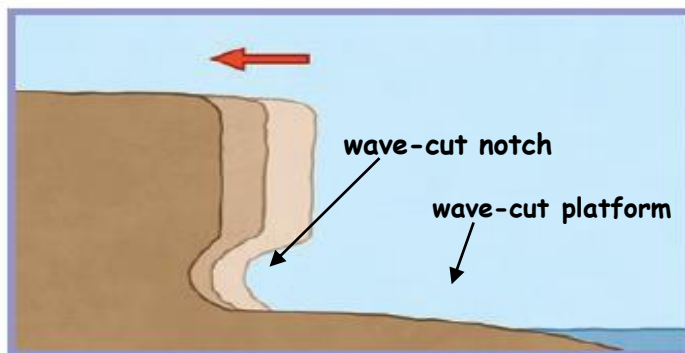




# Year 5 Coasts



The sea's waves lead to **hydraulic action** and **erosion** of the land. When a coastline is made up of different types of rock they are called **discordant coastlines**. The rocks will erode at different speeds. The softer rock is eroded faster, forming bays. The harder rock is eroded slower, forming headlands at either side of the bay.



## Cliffs and wave-cut platforms

Waves cause most erosion at the foot of cliffs creating a **wave-cut notch**. The rock above will eventually collapse and the cliff will retreat, leaving a **wave-cut platform** in front of the cliff.

**Headlands** are normally made of hard rock which do not erode easily, but cracks can develop into **caves**, **arches** and **stacks**.

## Key Vocabulary

coast	The area where the land and sea meet.
beach	A low lying area where the land meets the sea, made up of fine, loose sediment.
cliff	A high altitude area where the land meets the sea, made of hard rock.
erosion	The process where material is removed from the land.
headland	An area of land protruding into the sea.
bay	An area of sea protruding into the land.
longshore drift	The process through which sediment is moved across a beach.
hydraulic action	The weight of a wave crashing on a cliff face, pushing the air in cracks and caves, under pressure, to force open the crack/cave.
abrasion	During storms, the strong waves pick up rocks, pebbles and sand. The material is then smashed into the cliff face. This can break off pieces of the cliff face.
transportation	The movement of material in the sea and along the <b>coast</b> by waves.
deposition	When the sea drops or <b>deposits</b> material. This can include sand, sediment and shingle. Depositional landforms include: beaches, sand dunes and spits.

## Sticky Knowledge

- Coasts are where the land meets the ocean. This can take different forms such as **beach** (sand, shingle, pebble) and **cliffs**.
- **Waves** are created by the movement of air across the sea. **Tides** are created by the gravitational pull of the moon.
- Beaches are becoming poisonous habitats due to human activity. Pollution is caused by ocean plastic and beach litter.
- Coastal areas attract tourism, and residential areas. **Coastal erosion** can threaten land use, and so beach protection measures, such as rock armour, groynes, and sea walls are created.



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