

# Year 5 Merlins Geography Summer 2

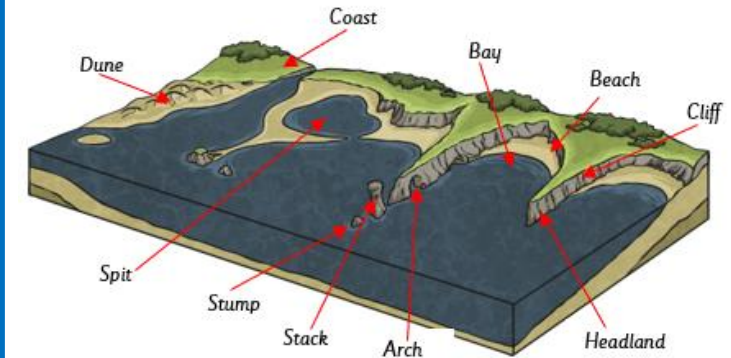
## Coastal Erosion



### What is Coastal Erosion?

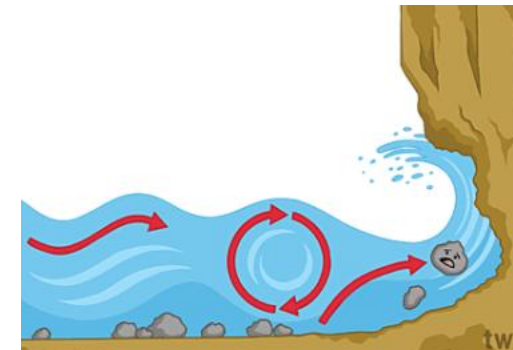
Coastal erosion is the name given to the process of the coastline being worn away by destructive waves. There are different types of coastal erosion, including abrasion, attrition, and hydraulic action.

### Coastal Features



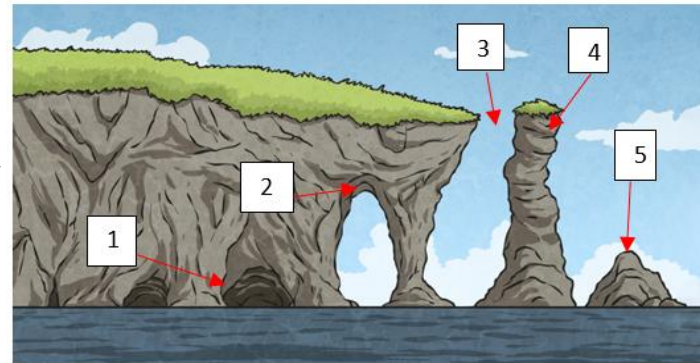
Key Vocabulary	Definition
<b>abrasion</b>	When pebbles grind along a rock platform, much like sandpaper.
<b>arch</b>	Wave-eroded passage through a small headland.
<b>attrition</b>	The sea picks up angular rocks and knocks them into each other, chipping away the corners.
<b>bay</b>	A body of water partially surrounded by land.
<b>cave</b>	A natural hollow in a cliff face.
<b>cliff</b>	A mass of rock that rises very high and is almost vertical, or straight up and down.
<b>coast</b>	The area where the sea and land meet.
<b>deposition</b>	When pieces of the Earth are transported and dumped somewhere else.
<b>dune</b>	A mound of sand formed by the wind.
<b>erosion</b>	When tiny pieces of the Earth's surface worn away.
<b>headland</b>	A point of land sticking out into the sea.
<b>hydraulic action</b>	The sheer power of the waves as they smash against a cliff.
<b>ocean</b>	A huge body of salt water.
<b>resistance</b>	A force that opposes or slows down another force.
<b>shore</b>	The area where land meets the ocean.
<b>spit</b>	An extended stretch of beach material that projects into the sea, joined to the mainland at one end.
<b>stack</b>	Landform consisting of a steep, often vertical column or columns of rock.
<b>stump</b>	The eroded remains of a sea stack, often looking like a lump of rock sticking up from its surroundings.

### Abrasion, Attrition and Hydraulic Action



### How does erosion change the coastline?

- 1: Caves can form where there is a weakness or crack in the rock.
- 2: Erosion may cause the cave to extend through the headland to form an arch.
- 3: Over time, the archway may collapse.
- 4: A stack is left.
- 5: This further erodes to leave a stump.



**Abrasion** uses sand and small pebbles to wear away and smooth out shorelines and headlands. It's often known as the sandpaper effect. Abrasion happens most often during stormy conditions. **Attrition** is the process of waves causing rocks that have already been loosened away from the coastline to knock into each other and break apart. **Hydraulic action** can also cause large pieces of the cliff face to break away just through the power and force of the waves crashing against it.