



read

Coastal Landscapes

Coastal Processes

quiz



The Big Picture

physical processes*

coastal landforms

Coastal
Landscapes

coastal management

case study



Key Terms



Abrasion – Rocks carried along by a wave wear down cliff material.



Attrition – Rocks transported by a wave collide and become smaller and rounded.



Deposition – When material is dropped by constructive waves.



Erosion – The wearing away of land by the sea.



Hydraulic Action – The force of water compressing air in cracks, weakening cliffs.



Longshore Drift – The zig-zag movement of sediment along the coast.



Saltation – Pebbles are bounced along the sea bed.



Solution – Soluble particles are transported by the sea.



Suspension – Lighter sediment is carried within the water.



Traction – Large, heavy pebbles are rolled along the sea bed.



Transportation

Suspension - fine material such as clay and sediment is carried by the sea.

Solution - large boulders and pebbles are rolled along the sea bed.

Traction - large boulders and pebbles are rolled along the sea bed.

Saltation – material bounces along the sea bed.



Processes of Erosion

Attrition

Sediment particles knock against the bed or each other and break, and become more rounded and smaller.

Hydraulic Action

The force of the waves hits the cliff and forces water and air into cracks in the bedrock.

Abrasion

Material carried by waves wear away cliffs.



Longshore Drift

Direction of longshore drift

swash

backwash

prevailing wind



Deposition occurs when...

1. waves enter an area of shallow water;
2. waves enter a sheltered area, e.g. a cove or bay;
3. there is little wind;
4. a river or estuary flows into the sea, reducing wave energy; and
5. there is a good supply of material