

Year 5 Geography Assessment: Coastal Landscapes

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of coastal processes, landforms, and the impact of human activity on the British coastline.

Read each question carefully. Use geographical terminology where appropriate. Ensure your explanations are clear and detailed to achieve full marks.

Finn the dolphin has spent the summer mapping the dramatic coastline of the United Kingdom. As he swims, he observes how the relentless power of the waves constantly shapes the cliffs and beaches. From the jagged headlands of the north to the sandy bays of the south, Finn records how both natural processes and human intervention change the shape of our island home.

Word bank: erosion · deposition · longshore drift · headland · bay · arch · stack · sea wall · tourism · coastal management

1. Define the term 'erosion' and explain one way it physically changes a cliff face over a long period of time. (2 marks)

2. Describe the process of 'longshore drift'. You may use a labelled diagram to support your written explanation. (3 marks)

3. Explain the difference between a headland and a bay. Why do these features often form next to each other? (3 marks)

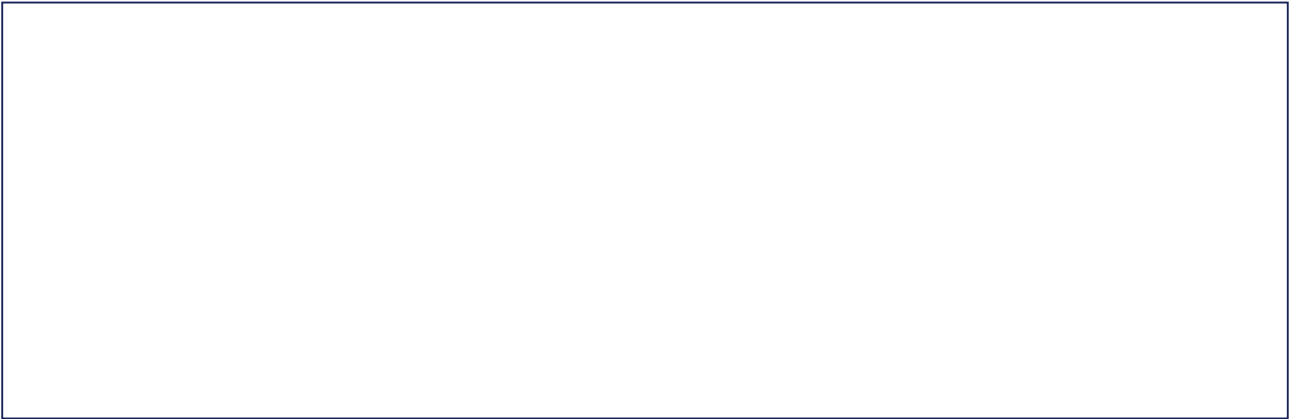
4. Look at the following scenario: A local council is deciding whether to spend £150,000 on a new sea wall to protect a small village or to allow the natural process of erosion to continue. Justify which option you believe is more sustainable and explain the potential environmental consequences of your choice. (4 marks)

5. Compare and contrast the impact of tourism on a coastal town. Identify two positive economic impacts and two potential negative environmental impacts. (4 marks)

6. Describe the formation of a sea stack. Use the sequence of: cave, arch, stack. (4 marks)

7. Extended Writing Task: Finn the dolphin has noticed that some beaches are disappearing due to rising sea levels and human activity. Write a persuasive paragraph explaining why it is important for humans to manage our coastlines carefully. Consider the needs of local wildlife and the people who live in coastal communities. (5 marks)

Draw: Draw a labelled diagram showing the stages of coastal erosion as a headland turns into an arch and then a stack.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Extension Task: Imagine a future where sea levels have risen by two metres. Write a creative diary entry from the perspective of a scientist documenting the changes to a local coastal landmark. How has the geography of the area shifted, and what might happen to the local economy if the beach is lost forever?