



read

Coastal Landscapes

Erosional Landforms

quiz



The Big Picture



Headlands and Bays

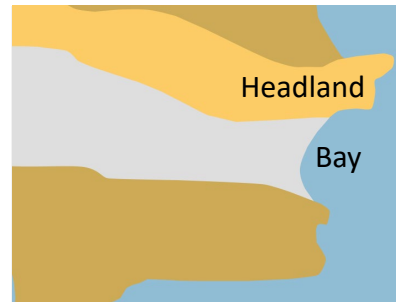
Bagshot beds (soft)

Chalk (hard)

Clay (soft)

Limestone (hard)

Headlands and bays are characteristic features of a discordant coastline where rocks of different hardness are exposed at the coast.



As weaker rock is eroded faster bays form, leaving more resistant headlands jutting out into the sea.



Key Terms



Arch – A wave eroded passage through a headland.



Bay – A broad inlet of the sea where the land curves inwards.



Cave – A large hole in a cliff caused by waves enlarging cracks.



Discordant Coastline – Alternative bands of rock along the coastline.



Headland – Resistant rock that juts out into the sea.



Stack – A column of rock, often the remains of an arch.



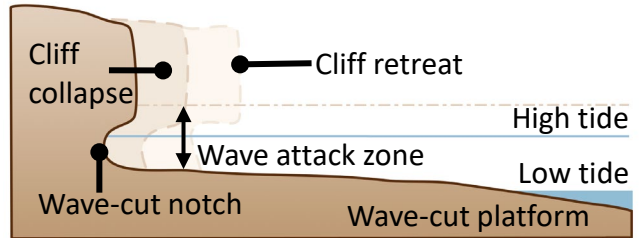
Wave-cut Notch – A dent in the cliff usually at the level of high tide.



Wave-cut Platform – A wide, gently sloping surface found at the base of a cliff, extending to the sea.



Wave-cut Platform



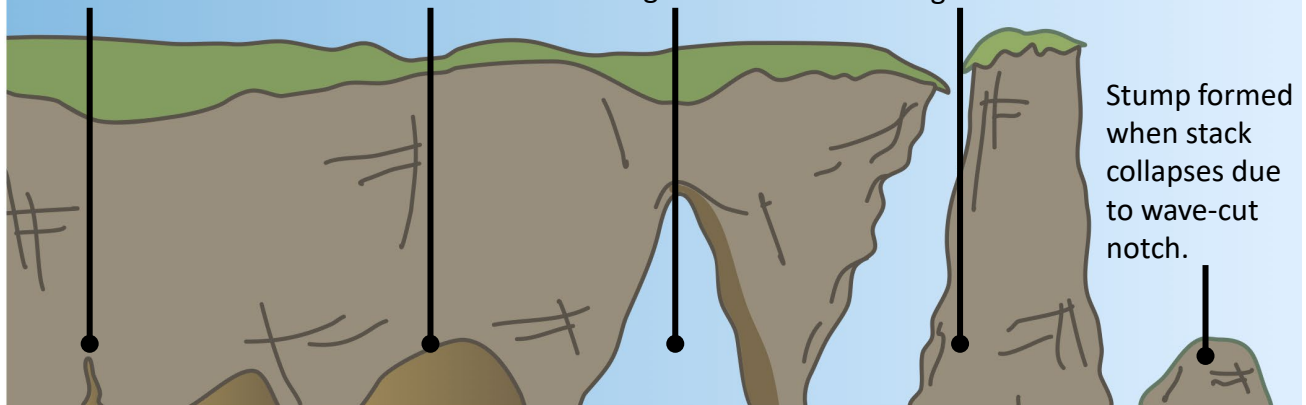
Caves, Arches and Stacks

Cracks enlarged by hydraulic action to form a cave.

Cave enlarged by hydraulic action and abrasion.

Arch forms when cave erodes through headland.

Roof of arch weakened by weathering and collapses leaving a stack.



Stump formed when stack collapses due to wave-cut notch.