



Fetch

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makes exams easier

The distance of
open sea over which
the wind blows

Swash

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The water that
rushes up the
beach

Backwash

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The water that
returns back
down the beach

Constructive Waves

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When the swash is
greater than the
backwash and material is
deposited on the beach



Destructive Waves

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When the backwash is greater than the swash and material is eroded on the beach

Compressed Air

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When air gets trapped in the cracks on the coast and is released with an explosive effect

Bay

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A curved area where the waves have eroded the coastline

Headlands

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An area of hard rock jutting into the sea



Sea Cliff

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A vertical or steep slope on the coast

Wave-cut platform

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The rock left at the former base of the cliff

Wave-built terrace

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When eroded materials are deposited on the wave-cut platform

Sea Cave

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A tunnel at the base of a cliff



Sea Arches

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An arch-shaped tunnel that stretches through a headland

Sea stacks

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Pillars of rock cut off from a headland, which become sea stumps when further eroded

Blowholes

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A passage that links the surface of the cliff top with the roof of a sea cave

Longshore Drift

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The zig-zag transportation of material along the coast



Hydraulic Action

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Erosion caused by
water repeatedly
hitting off the coast

Storm Beaches

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When storm waves
hurl larger materials
such as rocks above
the highwater mark

Sand Dunes

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Small hills that form
when sand is blown
inland and gets trapped
behind vegetation

Marram Grass

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Grass with long roots
that is used to help bind
the sand in the dunes
and prevent it from
blowing further inland



Sand Spit

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A long ridge of sand or shingle that stretches across a bay and is connected to one side

Sand Bar

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When a sand spit eventually connects to the other side of the bay

Lagoons

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The body of water trapped behind a sand bar

Tomboles

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A ridge of sand that connect the mainland to an island



Sea Walls

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Walls placed on the coast to reduce the erosive power of the waves

Rock Armour

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Large boulders placed at the base of a cliff to protect the coastline

Groynes

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Concrete or wooden structures built at rightangles to the coast to trap sediment carried by longshore drift

Gabions

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Wire cages filled with small stones placed in front of beaches to slow down erosion

