Geog Coasts

Coastal Protection

Hard engineering

- Sea walls
  - hard material reflects water into sea. cost alot
- Rip Rap
  - large boulders along coast eventually break + lead materials
- Groynes
  - can cause beach starvation further down beach
- Revetments
  - Slanted structure absorb wave energy. strong backwash erodes
- Gabions
  - boulders in cages absorb wave energy
  - ugly

Soft engineering

- beach replenishment
  - add sand to beach to slow waves
  - destroys natural habitats
  - expensive
  - stops coastal flooding
- establishing coastal vegetation
  - put plants that either hold sand / absorbs force of wave

Methods

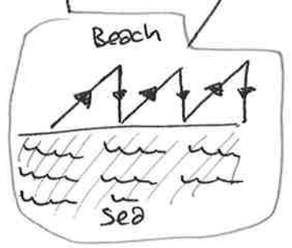
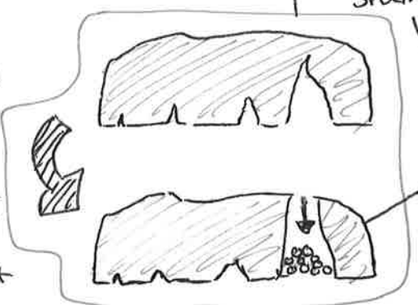
- Sustainability
- tourism
  - fishing
    - energy
- Case study: Sitges, Spain
  - coastline town
    - V. touristic
    - 40km South of Barcelona
  - tourists
    - Million € houses
      - need protecting
      - Without these less tourists, less money
    - expensive houses
      - People affected coastline
      - right beach opposite
      - could be destroyed
  - erosional features
    - cliffs
      - with abrasion
      - under cutting
    - stumps
    - blow holes
    - wave cut notches
    - other features
      - LSD
      - beaches
      - deposition
        - pebbles
        - pebble beaches
        - smaller in swash zone
        - larger in storm zone
        - further up beach
    - Fetch
      - small fetch
        - small waves
        - ↑ 500m
      - Prevailing wind
        - direction of wave

- needs coastal protection
  - breakwaters
  - groynes
  - sea wall
    - deflects wave
  - rock islets
    - create little sandy beach behind where wave can't reach
  - minimise LSD
    - humans fill beach w. pebbles
    - protect nightclub on a nearby rock
    - traps sand sediment
    - cause beach starvation along the coast
    - beach replenishment

- biological
  - roots of plants break up rock
- mechanical
  - freeze thaw
    - water enters cracks, freezes + expands
    - breaks up
- Weathering
- chemical
  - eg. Limestone
  - affected by acid
    - dissolved by acid rain / acidity in air
    - depends on Geology
      - Soft rock erode quicker
        - becomes so unstable it collapses into sea
        - causes wave cut notch at the base of the cliff
          - large waves hurles sediment at cliff face
          - Abrasion
          - Swash < backwash
            - take sediment + destroy beach
      - hard rock juts out into wa
      - can lead to caves when soft rock erods but hard doesn't
      - makes an arc shape

Waves

- Fetch
  - area of open water where wind makes waves
  - bigger fetch = more constructive / deconstructive the wave.
    - more powerful
    - more deconstructive
- types
  - deconstructive
    - Swash < backwash
  - Constructive
    - Swash > backwash
    - build up coast
      - deposit sediment
- returns to sea
  - backwash
- runs up beach
  - swash

Landshaping

- erosion
  - methods
    - Hydraulic action
      - force of waves
    - Attrition
      - waves cause boulders to collide + break up
      - gradually turns to sand
    - Solution
      - salts in sea erode cliff reduce over ti
      - dissolves
        - Soft rock
        - limestone clay
    - Abrasion
      - sea stack
        - eventually becomes a stump
        - leaves a stack
- transportation
  - to island
    - tombolo = stretch of beach formed between island and mainland
  - water takes sand + moves it
- deposition
  - deposits sediment + forms beach
  - features
- Longshore drift
  - washed up beach + deposited further up coast
  - causes spits / bars