

Review questions: Coastal 2

1. What causes local surface currents?
2. What two forces cause ocean tides?
3. What causes spring tides and neap tides?
4. What is the tidal range and what factors affect it?
5. If you are bobbing around in the deep ocean in a lifejacket, what motion will your body make as a wave passes by you?
6. Draw a wave or two and label the crest, trough, wave length, and wave height.
7. Explain the three factors that affect the size of waves that wind will generate?
8. Where do the tsunamis that strike Hawaii often originate? What is happening there that generates earthquakes that trigger tidal waves?
9. Explain how waves at the beach often strike parallel to the shore despite the fact that the wind is blowing the waves in at an angle.
10. What is the longshore current and how does it work?
11. The Morgan Peninsula is a spit. Explain how it was built.
12. Why are plants better coastal dune builders than sand fences?