

2022 4A - LISTENING COMPREHENSION PARAGRAPH

The water level of oceans rises and falls alternately, twice each day. This movement of water is called a tide. Tides are caused by the pull of the sun and the moon on Earth's surface. The moon affects the tides more than the sun because it is much closer. When the moon is directly overhead, it actually pulls on the water that is below it. This causes the water level to rise because the water is pulled away from Earth. As the moon disappears over the horizon, the pull lessens; and the water level settles back toward the ocean bottom.

When the water reaches its highest level, we have high tide; when the water reaches its lowest level, we have low tide. From its lowest point, the water rises gradually for about six hours until it reaches high tide. Then it begins to fall continuously for about six hours, until it reaches low tide, and the cycle begins again.