

Skills Worksheet

Directed Reading A

Section: Weathering

1. What is the process of weathering?

MECHANICAL WEATHERING

- _____ 2. Mechanical weathering is the breakdown of rock into smaller pieces by
- a. warm weather.
 - b. cold weather.
 - c. chemical processes.
 - d. physical means.
- _____ 3. Ice, wind, water, gravity, plants, and animals can all be agents of
- a. mechanical weathering.
 - b. chemical weathering.
 - c. chemical processes.
 - d. abrasion.
- _____ 4. The alternate freezing and thawing of soil and rock is called
- a. frost action.
 - b. abrasion.
 - c. oxidation.
 - d. chemical processes.
- _____ 5. Ice wedging occurs when water filling a crack in a rock
- a. flows out and then freezes.
 - b. freezes and contracts.
 - c. freezes and expands.
 - d. flows out and causes abrasion.
6. The grinding and wearing away of rock surfaces through the mechanical
action of other rocks or sand particles is called . _____
7. Rocks that have been shaped by blowing sand are called
. _____

Directed Reading A continued

Match the correct description with the correct term. Write the letter in the space provided.

- | | |
|---|------------|
| _____ 8. one rock falling against another rock | a. wind |
| _____ 9. pebbles bumping against each other in a stream | b. gravity |
| | c. water |

_____ 10. wind blowing sand against rock

11. Explain how a plant can break a rock.

12. In what way can an animal cause mechanical weathering?

CHEMICAL WEATHERING

- _____ 13. The process by which rocks break down as a result of chemical reactions is called
- a. abrasion.
 - b. mechanical weathering.
 - c. chemical weathering.
 - d. acid precipitation.
- _____ 14. Rain, sleet, or snow that contains a high concentration of acids is called
- a. mechanical weathering.
 - b. acid precipitation.
 - c. chemical weathering.
 - d. abrasion.
- _____ 15. Compounds formed by the burning of fossil fuels combine with water in the atmosphere to form
- a. phosphoric acids.
 - b. acetic acids.
 - c. carbon monoxide.
 - d. weak acids.

Directed Reading A continued

- _____ 16. Acid precipitation can result from
- a. ventifacts.
 - b. abrasion.
 - c. burning of fossil fuels.
 - d. mechanical weathering.
17. Over a long period of time, acids in the groundwater can cause chemical weathering of limestone. This weathering can form a cavern, which is a type of _____
18. Explain how lichens cause chemical weathering.
- _____
- _____
19. The chemical reaction in which an element, such as iron, combines with oxygen to form an oxide is called . _____
20. When oxygen in the air reacts with metal, oxidation occurs and causes the metal to . _____