




# Weathering and Erosion

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1 Which of the following describes the process of **erosion**?

- A the chemical breakdown of rocks
- B the physical breakdown of rocks
- C the removal of smaller rock particles
- D all of the above




2 Streams and rivers are constantly eroding and shaping the landscape. The Mississippi River, for example, erodes and moves 436,000 tons of sediment every single day. All the materials that a river or stream carries is called the river's or stream's \_\_\_\_\_.

- A discharge
- B load
- C gradient
- D drainage




3 The river pictured here erodes its channel **wider** rather than deeper and does not have a steep gradient. This river is described as a \_\_\_\_\_ river.

- A youthful
- B mature
- C suspended



4 It is possible for a dramatic tectonic event to uplift a portion of the earth's crust on which mature rivers had previously run, thus suddenly **increasing** the river's **gradient**. The river begins to **cut more deeply** into the uplifted sediments, making this now a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ river.

- A youthful
- B mature

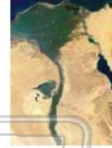



**PREVIEW**

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5 A river's discharge is determined by the amount of water that flows into it. The discharge of a river is affected by the temperature of the water. Warmer water \_\_\_\_\_.

- A the water loses energy and slows down
- B the water gains energy and moves faster
- C ocean water is colder
- D ocean water is warmer




6 A river's discharge is determined by the amount of water that flows into it. The discharge of a river is affected by the temperature of the water. Warmer water \_\_\_\_\_.

- A delta
- B flood plain
- C alluvial fan
- D meander



9 Beaches are large deposits of grains that have been eroded from rock for what scientists believe to be millions of years. The **type of sand**, such as the familiar tan-colored quartz sand, on a beach depends on \_\_\_\_\_.

- A how long waves have weathered the rock
- B how much energy the waves exert on a rock
- C the latitude of the beach
- D the source rock of the sand



10 In oceans, lakes, or rivers, **sediment deposition** can form \_\_\_\_\_.

- A beaches and sea arches
- B sea caves and wave-cut terraces
- C sandbars and barrier spits
- D sea cliffs and beaches





## ANSWER KEY

Which of the following describes the process of **erosion**?

- A the chemical breakdown of rocks
- B the physical breakdown of rocks
- C the removal of smaller rock particles
- D all of the above



(d)

Streams and rivers are constantly eroding and shaping the landscape. The Mississippi River, for example, erodes and moves 436,000 tons of sediment every single day. **All the materials that a river or stream carries** is called the river's or stream's \_\_\_\_\_.

- A discharge
- B load
- C gradient
- D drainage



(b)

The river pictured here erodes its channel **wider** rather than deeper and does not have a steep gradient. **This river is described as a \_\_\_\_\_ river.**

- A youthful
- B mature
- C suspended load
- D



(b)

It is possible for a dramatic tectonic event to uplift a portion of the earth's crust on which mature rivers had previously run, thus suddenly **increasing** the river's **gradient**. The river begins to **cut more deeply** into the uplifted sediments, making this now a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ river.

- A youthful
- B mature
- C old
- D



(d)



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- B the water gains energy and moves faster
- C ocean water is colder
- D ocean water is warmer



- A delta
- B flood plain
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**Beaches** are large deposits of grains that have been eroded from rock for what scientists believe to be millions of years. **The type of sand, such as the familiar tan-colored quartz sand, on a beach depends on \_\_\_\_\_.**

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(d)

In oceans, lakes, or rivers, **sediment deposition** can form \_\_\_\_\_.

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- B sea caves and wave-cut terraces
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(c)