



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

1 The group of practices used to **preserve topsoil** and ensure its long-term use is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- A soil conservation
- B crop rotation
- C terracing
- D contour plowing



3 What is happening in this picture and why?

- A Water is being absorbed by the rich topsoil.
- B A temperate climate is quickly becoming a desert.
- C Terracing is being practiced to preserve



2 Consider this picture of New York City. Identify one **problem** that is created by **covering the soil horizons** with concrete, asphalt, and buildings.

- A It is windier in the city.
- B City dwellers suffer from a lack of sunlight.
- C Managing runoff water from rain storms is more challenging.
- D Pollution naturally increases.



4 Which of the following **never** make their **home** in a **soil horizon**

- A gophers
- B bacteria and fungi
- C worms
- D all of these



5



## PREVIEW

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7

- B precipitation containing acid eats away at rocks and metals
- C chemical weathering of rock occurs when rocks bang into each other
- D mechanical weathering of rock occurs when rocks bang into each other

- B false; rocks are covered in a strong acid to ward off roots and trees
- C true; as roots and tree trunks grow larger, they can push rocks apart
- D false; rock is simply too hard to be moved by any plant

9

The Greek word *pedon* means *soil*. There are two types of soil that are named based on their chemical compositions. They are **pedocal** and **pedalfer**. These two names mean \_\_\_\_\_.

- A calcium rich soil and phosphate rich soil
- B calcium rich soil and aluminum-iron rich soil
- C phosphate rich soil and nitrate rich soil
- D phosphate rich soil and aluminum-iron rich soil

10 This geologic feature is known as Devil's Tower. It is made of the rock basalt and is the **hardened center**, or neck, of a **volcano**. Why does this **remain** when the rest of the volcano has been eroded away?

- A Weathering stopped, leaving this remnant in place.
- B Basalt is harder than the rest of the volcano that has eroded away.
- C The basalt is softer, so it didn't erode as quickly.
- D A climate change caused weathering rates to slow down.





## ANSWER KEY

The group of practices used to **preserve topsoil** and ensure its long-term use is called \_\_\_\_\_.

- A soil conservation
- B crop rotation
- C terracing
- D contour plowing

(a)

Consider this picture of New York City. Identify one **problem** that is created by **covering the soil horizons** with concrete, asphalt, and buildings.



- A It is windier in the city.
- B City dwellers suffer from a lack of sunlight.
- C Managing runoff water from rain storms is more challenging.
- D Pollution naturally increases.

(c)

**What** is happening in this picture and **why**?



- A Water is being absorbed by the rich topsoil.
- B A temperate climate is quickly becoming a desert.
- C Terracing is being practiced to preserve the topsoil.
- D A tilled field is losing its topsoil due to erosion.

(d)

Which of the following **never** make their **home** in a **soil horizon**



- A gophers
- B bacteria and fungi
- C worms
- D all of these live in soil

(d)



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- C chemical weathering of rock occurs when rocks bang into each other
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- C true; as roots and tree trunks grow larger, they can push rocks apart
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These two names mean \_\_\_\_\_.

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(b)

This geologic feature is known as Devil's Tower. It is made of the rock basalt and is the **hardened center**, or neck, of a **volcano**. **Why does this remain** when the rest of the volcano has been eroded away?



- A Weathering stopped, leaving this remnant in place.
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