

EROSION/WEATHERING

Directions: Use the terms below to complete the passage.

Acid precipitation
Mechanical

Carbonic acid
Pressure

Carbon dioxide
Temperature

Composition
Water

The process by which rocks and minerals break down into smaller pieces is _____ weathering, also called physical weathering. Two factors that play a significant role in this type of weathering are _____ and _____. To some extent, the _____ of rocks determines the effects that chemical weathering will have on them. _____ is an important agent in chemical weathering because it can dissolve many kinds of minerals. An atmospheric gas that contributes to the chemical weathering process is _____, which is produced by living organisms. When this gas combines with water, it produces a weak acid called _____. Another agent of chemical weathering is _____, which is caused mainly by emissions of sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides.

Directions: Answers must be in complete sentences and provide enough detail.

1. Define mechanical weathering.
2. List a variety of factors that affect the rate of mechanical weathering **and** explain how they affect the rate.
3. Define chemical weathering.
4. List a variety of factors that affect the rate of chemical weathering **and** explain how they affect the rate.
5. What exactly *is* weathering?
6. Explain why weathering can *only* occur on the *surface* of the earth?
7. What is the basic difference between *mechanical* weathering (also called Disintegration) and *chemical* weathering (also called Decomposition)?
8. Describe in detail 3 types of mechanical weathering.
9. Describe in detail 3 types of chemical weathering.