Topic IX Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition

Topic: Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition Aim: Weathering - the breakdown of rocks and minerals into smaller pieces

Weathering - the breakdown of rocks and minerals into smaller pieces weathering, along with biological activity (living things), leads to the formation of sediments (fragments of rocks and minerals), and possibly **soil** (if the right conditions exist).

2.

1. Physical Weathering

Rock is broken into smaller pieces with \underline{NO} change in its chemical composition

a. ABRASION -

a wearing, grinding, or rubbing away of rock material by friction

b. FROST ACTION (ice wedging) -

water repeatedly seeps into cracks, freezes, expands, and eventually splits the rock (causes pothole formation in NY)

c. ROOT ACTION -

plant's roots grow into cracks and break apart rock

Chemical Weathering

Rock is broken down by chemical reactions with <u>air and water</u> resulting in a <u>change in chemical composition.</u>

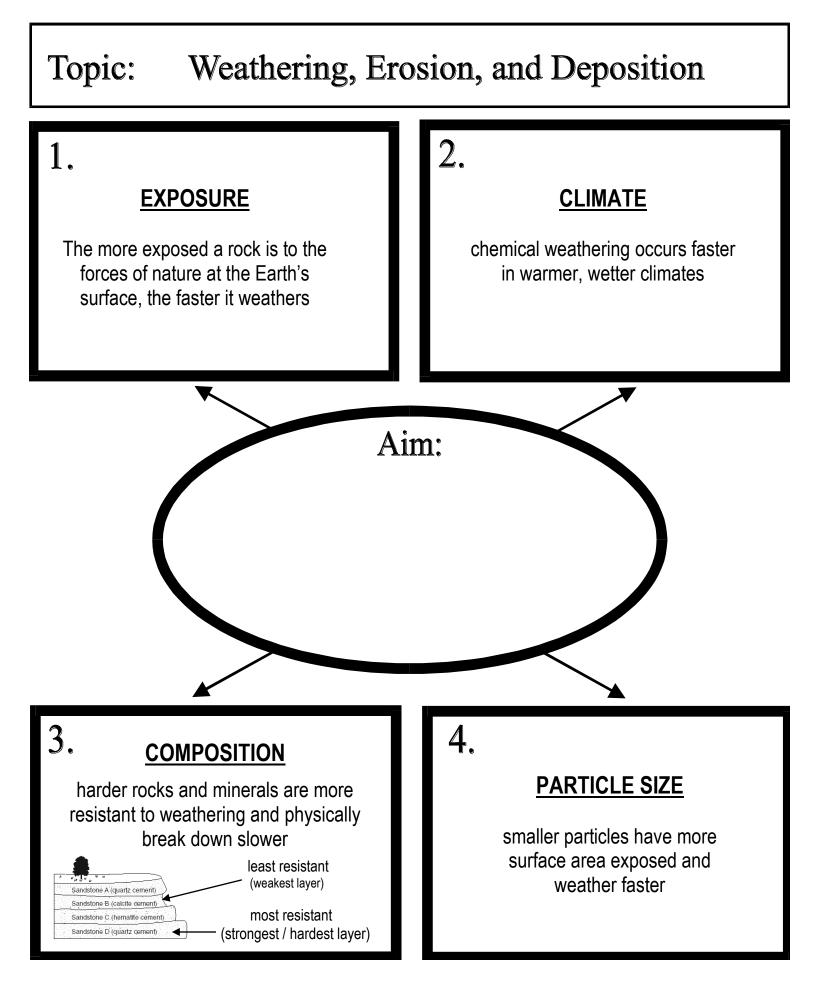
a. OXIDATION -

oxygen chemically unites with iron and water to form iron oxide (rust)

b. CARBONATION -

CO₂ dissolved in H₂O makes carbonic acid which dissolves calcite-rich rocks. (limestone cave and sinkhole formation)

c. ACTION OF ACIDS (acid rain, organic acids)



Weathering Review

- 1. Which is the best example of physical weathering?
 - (1) the cracking of rock due to freezing and thawing of water
 - (2) the transportation of sediment in a stream
 - (3) the reaction of limestone with acid rainwater
 - (4) the formation of a sandbar along the side of a stream
- 2. Chemical weathering occurs most rapidly in climates that are
 - (1) warm and dry (3) warm and moist
 - (2) cool and dry

(4) cool and moist

The two photographs below show dates on tombstones found in a cemetery in St. Remy, New York. The tombstones were 5 meters apart and both faced north. Tombstone *A* had dates cut into the rock in 1922. Tombstone *B* had dates cut into the rock in 1892.

- 3. Which statement best explains why the dates are more difficult to read on tombstone *A* than on tombstone *B*?
 - (1) Tombstone *A* is composed of minerals less resistant to weathering than tombstone *B*.
 - (2) Tombstone *A* has undergone a longer period of weathering than tombstone *B*.
 - (3) Tombstone *A* experienced cooler temperatures than tombstone *B*.
 - (4) Tombstone *A* was exposed to less acid rain than tombstone *B*.



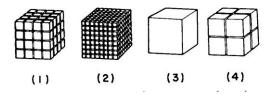
Tombstone A (1922)



Tombstone B (1892)

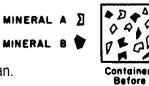
- 4. Which property of water makes frost action a common and effective form of weathering?
 - (1) Water dissolves many Earth materials.
 - (2) Water expands when it freezes.
- (3) Water cools the surroundings when it evaporates.
- (4) Water contracts when it freezes.
- 5. Limestone caves are formed as a result of
 - (1) erosion

- (3) chemical weathering
- (2) frost action (4)
- (4) thermal expansion
- 6. Impact craters are more obvious on the Moon and Mercury than on Earth because
 - (1) meteorites have not struck Earth
 - (2) exposure to weathering processes on Earth have removed most craters
 - (3) Earth is younger than Mercury or the Moon
 - (4) all meteorites burn up in Earth's atmosphere
- 7. Four samples of the same material with identical composition and mass were cut as shown in the diagrams below. When subjected to the same chemical weathering, which will weather the fastest?



- 8. The weathering of Earth materials is most affected by
 - (1) climate
 - (2) altitude

- (3) topography
- (4) longitude
- 9. Two different kinds of minerals, A and B, were placed in the same container and shaken for 15 minutes. The diagrams below represent the size and shape of the various pieces of mineral before and after shaking. What caused the resulting differences in shapes and sizes of minerals?
 - 1 Mineral B was shaken harder.
 - 2 Mineral B had a glossy luster.
 - 3 Mineral A was more resistant to weathering.
 - 4 Mineral A consisted of smaller pieces before shaking began.





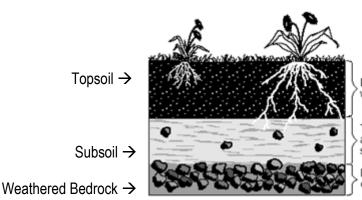
Container After Shaking

- 10. Soil develops as a result of
 - (1) capillary action and solution
 - (2) leaching and color changes
- (3) erosion and ionization
- (4) weathering processes and biological activity

Shaking

- 11. In which layer of the soil diagram would the most organic material be located?
 - -
 - (1) topsoil(2) subsoil

- (3) weathered bedrock
- (4) all layers have organic material



Dark brown to black soil with a high organic content

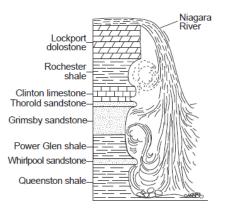
Tan to orange soil with a high clay content, some rock fragments

Light gray to black soil, coarse rock fragments

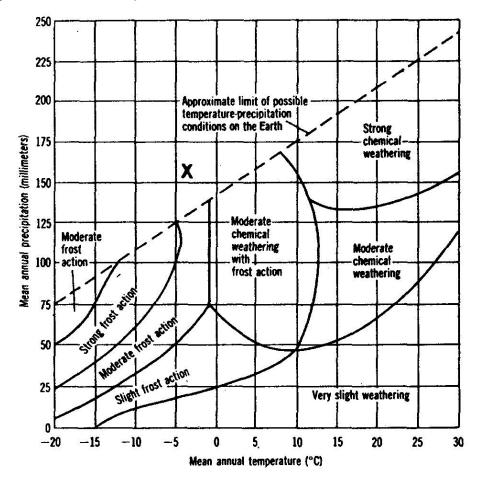
12. The generalized cross section below shows the sedimentary rock layers at Niagara Falls in western New York State.

Which rock layer appears to be most resistant to weathering?

- (1) Lockport dolostone
- (2) Rochester shale
- (3) Grimsby sandstone
- (4) Queenston shale



Use the diagram below to answer questions 13-15.



- 13. Which climatic conditions would produce very slight weathering?
 - (1) a mean annual temperature of 25°C and a mean annual precipitation of 100 mm
 - (2) a mean annual temperature of 15°C and a mean annual precipitation of 25 mm
 - (3) a mean annual temperature of 5°C and a mean annual precipitation of 50 mm
 - (4) a mean annual temperature of -10°C and a mean annual precipitation of 75mm
- 14. Which climatic conditions would produce strong frost action?
 - (1) a mean annual temperature of 25°C and a mean annual precipitation of 100 mm
 - (2) a mean annual temperature of 15°C and a mean annual precipitation of 25 mm
 - (3) a mean annual temperature of 5°C and a mean annual precipitation of 50 mm
 - (4) a mean annual temperature of -15°C and a mean annual precipitation of 50mm
- 15. The graph shows that as the both temperature and amount of precipitation increase, the amount of chemical weathering
 - (1) increases (2) decreases (3) remains the same

Topic: Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition Aim:

Erosion - the movement of weathered material

1. Erosion by Gravity – a.k.a. mass movement

Gravity is the driving force behind all erosion

Evidence of Gravity Erosion - unsorted (mixed) sediments found at the bottom of a steep slope

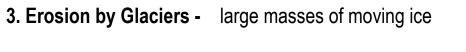
Examples:

- a. landslides
- b. mudslides

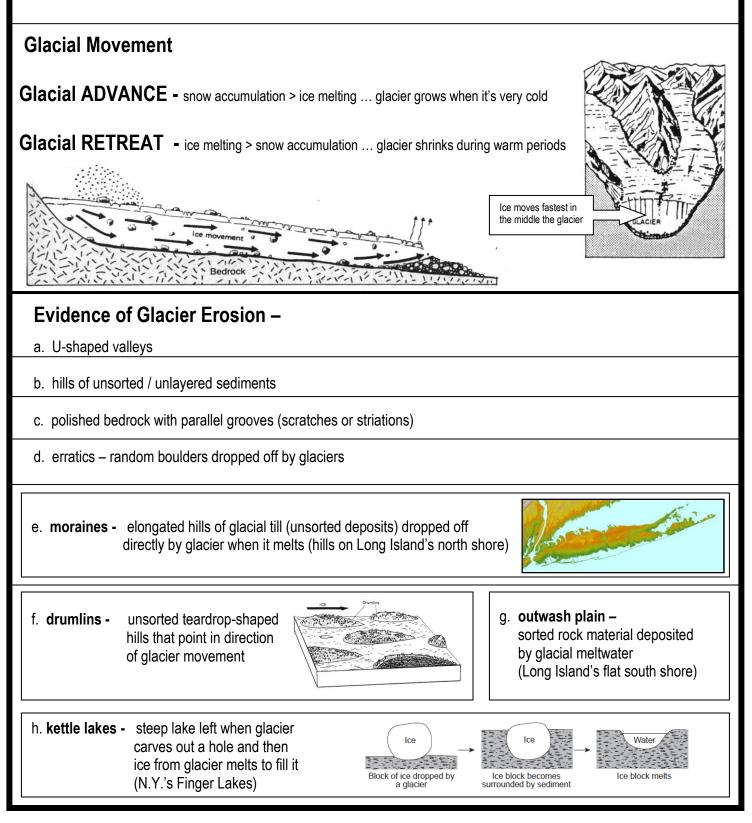
c. avalanches



2. Erosion by Wind – dominant force of erosion in deserts contributes to beach erosion Evidence of Wind Erosion – mushroom rocks b. dune formation and migration



Today, glaciers are found on Earth: high latitudes (near the poles) and high elevations



4. Erosion by Running Water (streams, rivers, runoff from precipitation, etc) -						
water is the	water is the dominant agent of erosion on Earth today					
Evidence of Water Erosion – a. rounded, smooth sediments b. sorted and layered sediments c. V-shaped stream valleys (canyons) d. delta formation – triangular landform at the end of a stream where eroded sediments are dropped off						
Stream Velocity (speed of water) determines the amount of erosion – **faster = more erosion** Factors that affect stream velocity:						
a. Gradient (slope of the land) steeper = faster velocity	 b. Stream Discharge (volume of water in the more discharge = faster v - greatest in the spring when sn melt and because of excess ra - increases when smaller rivers 	/elocity nowcaps on mountains ainfall	c. Channel Shape strighter = faster velocity			
Stream Velocity affects Ca Faster streams can carry more particle What is the biggest particle size that moving at a. 0.1 cm/sec? b. 1.0 cm/sec? c. 20 cm/sec?	cles, and larger particles.		Diship of Transported Size to Water Velocity Boulders Cobbles Pebbles Sand			
Streams carry sediments in 3 differen <u>rolling on the bottom</u> – larger (coar <u>suspension</u> – smaller (finer) particle	rser), denser particles	0.0001 0.01	0.006 Silt Clay 0.5 ¹ 5 ¹ 5 ⁵ 10 5 ⁵ 10 5 ⁵ 10 5 ⁵ 10			
<u>solution</u> – some minerals dissolve in the water (salt)		STF	REAM VELOCITY (cm/s)			

Agents of Erosion

- 1. On Earth today, which is responsible for moving the greatest amount of material?
 - (1) running water
 - (2) groundwater

- (3) wind
- (4) glaciers
- 2. The diagram below represents a cross section of a soil deposit from a hill in central New York State. The deposition was most likely caused by
 - 1 a glacier
 - 2 a wind storm
 - 3 a stream entering lake
 - 4 wave action along a beach

- 3. Which erosional force acts alone to produce mass movements such as avalanches and landslides?
 - (1) gravity (3) wind
 - (2) running water (4) sea waves
- 4. Which rock material most likely has been transported by wind?
 - (1) large boulders with sets of parallel scratches
 - (2) jagged cobbles consisting of interlocking crystals
 - (3) irregularly-shaped pebbles which contain fossils
 - (4) sand grains in the desert
- 5. Which agent of erosion was primarily responsible for forming the long, narrow, U-shaped valleys in the Finger Lakes region of New York State?
 - (1) wind
 - (2) landslides

- (3) continental glaciers
- (4) meandering streams
- 6. Which property would best distinguish sediment deposited by a river from sediment deposited by a glacier?
 - (1) mineral composition of the sediment
- (3) amount of sediment sorting(4) age of fossils found in the sediment
- (2) thickness of sediment layers
- 7. The photograph shows a sand dune that formed in a coastal area.

This sand dune was most likely formed by

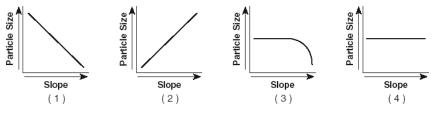
- (1) water flowing from the left
- (2) water flowing from the right
- (3) wind blowing from the left
- (4) wind blowing from the right



- 8. The photograph below shows a large boulder of metamorphic rock in a field in New York State. The boulder was most likely moved to this location by
 - (1) glacial ice (3) a stream
 - (2) wind
- (4) volcanic action



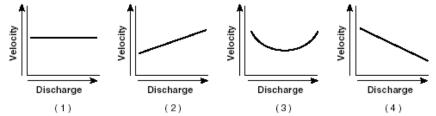
- 9. What change will a pebble usually undergo when it is transported a great distance by streams?
 - (1) It will become jagged and its mass will decrease.
 - (2) It will become jagged and its volume will increase.
 - (3) It will become rounded and its mass will increase.
 - (4) It will become rounded and its volume will decrease.
- 10. A stream flowing at a velocity of 100 cm/sec can transport
 - 1 silt, but not sand, pebbles, or cobbles
 - 2 silt and sand, but not pebbles and cobbles
 - 3 silt, sand, and pebbles, but not cobbles
 - 4 silt, sand, pebbles, and cobbles
- 11. Which graph best represents the relationship between the slope of a river and the particle size that can be transported by that river?



- 12. Which agent of erosion most likely formed the drumlins found in New York State?
 - (1) running water (3) wave action
 - (2) moving ice

(4) mass movement

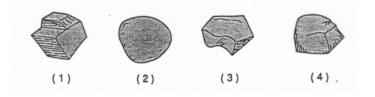
13. Which graph best represents the relationship between the discharge of a stream and the velocity of stream flow?



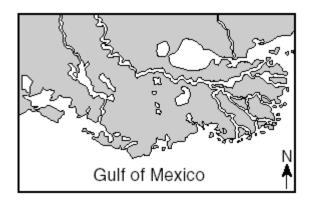
- 14. A brief, heavy rainstorm occurs in the mountains. How will the volume of water and the rate of erosion in the stream change shortly after the rainstorm?
 - (1) The volume of water will decrease and the rate of erosion will increase.
 - (2) The volume of water will increase and the rate of erosion will decrease.
 - (3) Both the volume of water and the rate of erosion will decrease.
 - (4) Both the volume of water and the rate of erosion will increase.
- 15. Which landscape characteristic indicates a landscape has been formed primarily by streams?
 - (1) residual soil covering a large area
 - (2) coastal sand dunes

- (3) V-shaped valleys
- (4) parallel hills of unsorted sediments

16. Which of the particles below was eroded by a stream for the longest period of time?



- 17. The map below shows the large delta that formed as the Mississippi River emptied into the Gulf of Mexico. Which process was primarily responsible for the formation of the delta?
 - (1) glacial erosion
 - (2) cementation of sediment
 - (3) deposition of sediment
 - (4) mass movement



- 18. Sediments found in glacial moraines are best described as
 - (1) sorted and layered
 - (2) sorted and not layered

(3) unsorted and layered (4) unsorted and not layered

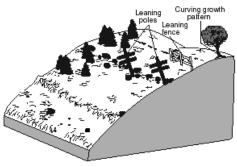
- 19. Parallel grooves etched in bedrock is evidence of erosion by
 - (1) gravity
 - (2) glaciers

- (3) wind
- water (4)
- 20. Which material could best be carried in solution (dissolved) by a stream?
 - 1 sand 3 clay 2 salt 4 silt
- 21. The diagram shows the surface features of a landscape.

Based on the features shown, which erosional agent had the greatest effect on tree growth and the structures that humans have built on this landscape?

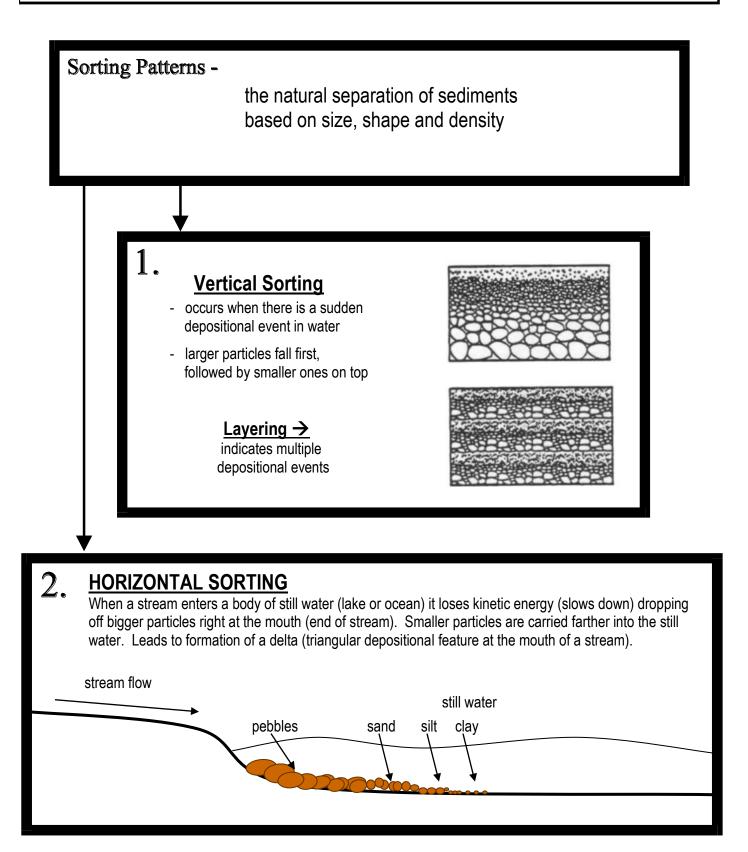
(1) running water

- (3) prevailing wind
- (2) moving ice
- (4) mass movement

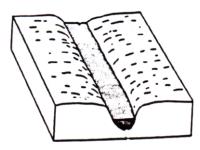


3. <u>PARTICLE</u> <u>DENSITY</u>		4. PARTICI F SHAPF		
ic: 3, Erosion, osition		the dropping off of sediments	Settling Time	how long it takes for a particle to settle (seconds)
Topic: Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition Aim: Demosition -		the dropping	Settling Rate	how fast a particle settles (cm/sec)
1. <u>STREAM</u> <u>VELOCITY</u>		2. <u>PARTICLE SIZE</u>		

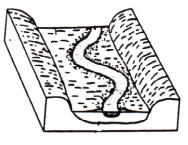
Topic: Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition Aim:



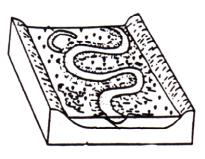
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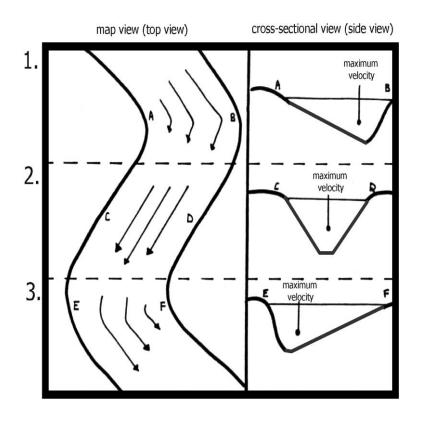
- Straight and narrow channels
- Steep slopes (canyons)
- Waterfalls and rapids
- V-shaped valleys



- Some meanders (curves)
- Slopes less steep (stream slows down)
- Development of a floodplain (flat area surrounding stream that gets covered with water during flood stage)



- many meanders
- much flatter terrain
- large floodplain
 - oxbow lakes (horseshoe-shaped cut-offs of stream channel)



In the straight part of the stream (C-D) equilibrium exists between erosion and deposition (they occur equally)

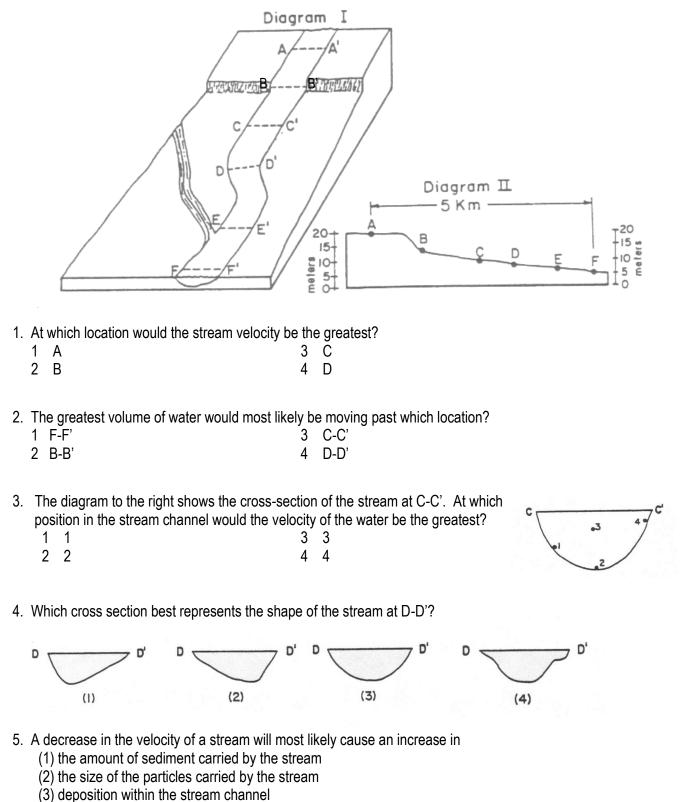
Water moves faster on the outside curve causing more erosion. B and E are outside curves –water moves faster causing more erosion.

On the inside curve water moves slower depositing (dropping off) sediments. A and F are inside curves – water slows down and sediment is deposited.

point bars – "mini-beaches" formed by deposition on the inside curve of a stream where the water slows down

Stream Erosion and Deposition

Questions 1-4: Diagram I shows the paths of two streams over the Earth's surface. Diagram II shows the side-view profile of the major stream.



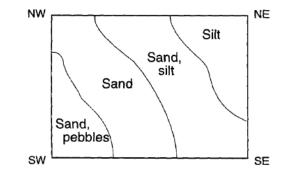
(4) abrasion of the stream channel

- 6. The map to the right shows a meandering stream. Points *A*, *B*, *C*, and *D* represent locations along the stream bottom. At which location is the greatest amount of sediment most likely being deposited? (1) *A*(3) *C*
 - (2) B
- 7. In a soil sample, the particles have the same shape but different sizes. Which graph best represents the relationship between particle size and settling time when these particles are deposited in a quiet body of water?

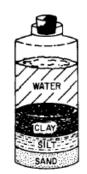
8. Clay, silt, and sand are added to a jar of water. The jar is shaken and then allowed to stand quietly for a number of hours. The result of this demonstration could be best used as a model to show that

(4) D

- (1) particles with the lowest density settle the fastest
- (2) particles with the largest diameter settle the fastest
- (3) water has a higher specific gravity than clay, silt, and sand
- (4) the bottom layer of a series of sediments is the youngest
- 9. The four particles shown in the table below are of equal volume and are dropped into a column filled with water. Which particle would usually settle most rapidly?
 - (1) A
 - (2) B
 - (3) C
 - (4) D
- 10. A stream entering a lake deposits sediments on the lake bottom in the pattern shown on the map below. Which corner of the map is nearest to the point where the stream flows into the lake?
 - (1) northeast (NE)
- (3) southeast (SE) (4) southwest (SW)
- (2) northwest (NW) (4) south



Particle	Shape	Density
A	flat	2.5 g/cm ³
В	flat	3.0 g/cm ³
С	round	2.5 g/cm ³
D	round	3.0 g/cm ³



3)

4)

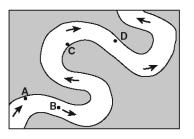
TIME

SETTLING

SETTLING TIME

PARTICLE SIZE

PARTICLE SIZE



1)

2)

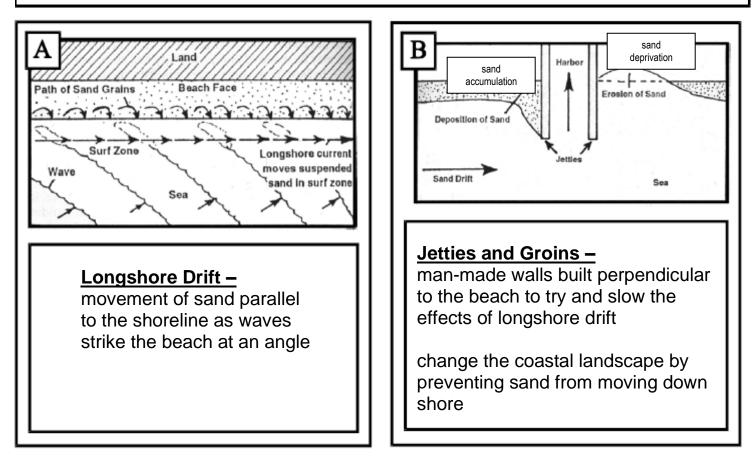
SETTLING TIME

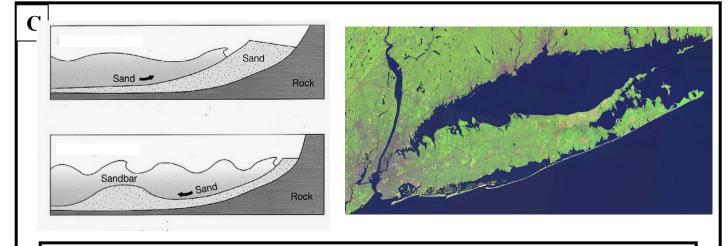
SETTLING TIME

PARTICLE SIZE

PARTICLE SIZE

Topic: Weathering, Erosion, and Deposition Aim:





sandbars - waves pull sand away from the shoreline and builds up under water

<u>barrier island</u> – forms when a sandbar accumulates enough sand to rise above sea level (Jones Beach Island, Fire Island)

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Name

Date

Weathering, Erosion, Deposition Review

- 1. Which change in the climate of New York State would most likely cause the greatest increase in chemical weathering of local bedrock?
 - 1 lower temperature in winter
 - 2 lower humidity in winter

3 higher atmospheric pressure in summer

- 4 higher precipitation in summer
- 2. On Earth today, which is responsible for moving the greatest amount of material?
 - 1 groundwater

3 wind

2 glaciers

- 4 running water
- 3. The photograph below shows a U-shaped valley.



Which agent of erosion most likely produced this valley's shape?

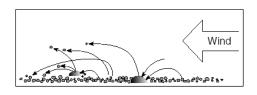
- (1) wave action (3) blowing wind
- (2) moving ice

- (4) flowing water
- 4. The diagram below shows sand particles being moved by wind.

At which Earth surface locations is this process usually

the most dominant type of erosion?

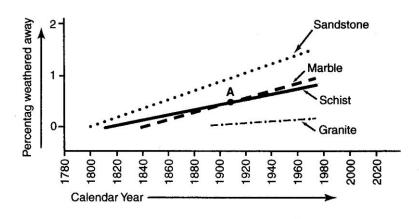
- (1) deserts and beaches
- (2) deltas and floodplains
- (3) glaciers and moraines
- (4) mountain peaks and escarpments



- 5. The principal cause of the frost action of rocks on the Earth's surface is
 - 1 rock abrasion
 - 2 the heating and cooling of surface rock
 - 3 mineral reactions with air and water
 - 4 the expansion of water as it freezes
- 6. A quartz pebble is transported by a stream for a long period of time. Which property of the pebble is least likely to change?
 - 1 volume
 - 2 density

- 3 mass
- 4 shape

Base your answers to **questions 7 through 9** on the graph below which was prepared from the results of a study of four different types of cemetery stones. The graph shows the relationship between the ages of four cemetery stones and the percentage of each stone which had weathered away.



7. Which rock was found to have been exposed to weathering for the least number of years?

1 granite

3 marble

2 schist

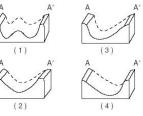
sandstone

- 4 sandsto
- 8. In this study, which rock was most resistant to weathering?
 - 1 marble 2 schist

- 3 granite
- 4 sandstone
- 9. Studies have shown that pollutants added to the atmosphere in recent years are accumulating to cause an increase in the rate of weathering of marble. This factor should cause the line in the graph for marble in the future to
 - 1 increase in slope (curve upward)
 - 2 decrease in slope (curve downward)
 - 3 remain at the same slope
- 10. If the gradient of a stream increases at a certain location, the amount of erosion will
 - 1 decreases 2 increases 3 remains the same

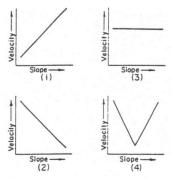
Use the diagram to the right to answer **questions 11 and 12**.

11. Which cross-section best represents the profile from A to A'?



- 12. Which landscape feature would this meandering stream most likely be associated?
 - 1 a steep canyon
- 3 a gently sloping landscape
- 2 a large area of rapids 4 a mountainous area

13. Which graph best illustrates the relationship between stream velocity and the slope of the stream channel?



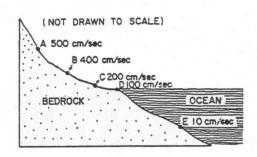
- 14. As stream discharge increases, the velocity of a stream will generally
 - (1) increase

(2) decrease

(3) remain the same

Base your answers to **questions 15 through 17** on the diagram below. The diagram shows the profile of a stream carrying particles which have a range of diameters from 0.0001 to 50 centimeters. The velocity of the stream is indicated at locations A through E.

- 15. Better points A and D, the velocity of the stream
 - 1 increase
 - 2 decrease
 - 3 remain the same
- 16. At point E, what are the largest particles being carried?
 - 1 sand 3 cobbles
 - 2 pebbles 4 clay



- 17. At the end of this river, deposition of sediment will eventually create a landform known as a
 - 1 delta 3 sandbar
 - 2 moraine 4 drumlin
- 18. More deposition than erosion will take place in a streambed when
 - 1 density of the rock particles carried by the stream decreases
 - 2 slope of the stream increases
 - 3 discharge of the stream increases
 - 4 velocity of the stream decreases
- 19. As particle size decreases, its rate of weathering
 - 1 increases 2 decreases

3 remains the same

- 20. Water and air chemically combine with iron to form rust. This is a description of a process known as
 - (1) frost action (3) carbonation
 - (2) hydrolysis (4) oxidation
- 21. In which climate would the chemical weathering of limestone occur most rapidly?
 - (1) cold and dry

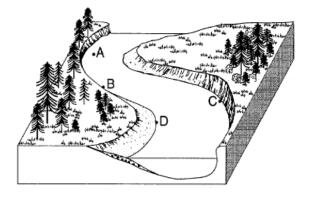
- (3) warm and dry
- (2) cold and humid
- (4) warm and humid

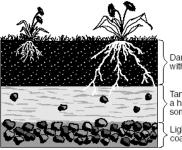
Based your answers to questions 22 and 23 on the diagram below

- 22. Which material is most likely to be transported
 - in suspension during the slowest stream velocity?
 - 1 pebbles
 - 2 sand
 - 3 silt
 - 4 clay
- 23. At which point is the amount of deposition greater than the amount of erosion?
 - 1 A 3 C 2 B 4 D
- 24. The cross section below shows layers of soil.

Which two processes produced the layer of dark brown to black soil?

- (1) melting and solidification of magma
- (2) erosion and uplifting
- (3) weathering and biologic activity
- (4) compaction and cementation





Dark brown to black soil with a high organic content

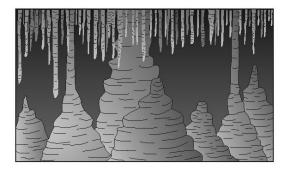
Tan to orange soil with a high clay content, some rock fragments

Light gray to black soil, coarse rock fragments

- 24. Which event will most likely occur during the spring thawing of ice and snow?
 - (1) Less sediment will be carried by streams.
 - (2) An increase in sea level will cause more sediments to be deposited along the shoreline.
 - (3) The shoreline will experience a greater range in tides.
 - (4) The discharge from streams will increase.
- 25. The diagram to the right shows some features in a cave.

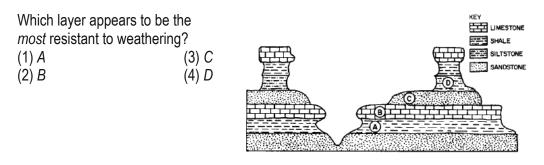
Which type of rock was chemically weathered by acidic groundwater to produce the cave and its features?

- (1) siltstone (3) quartzite
- (2) basalt (4) limestone

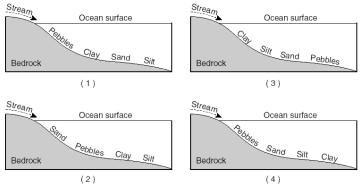


- 26. The principal cause of the chemical weathering of rocks on the Earth's surface is
 - (1) rock abrasion
 - (2) the heating and cooling of surface rock
 - (3) mineral reactions with air and water
 - (4) the expansion of water as it freezes

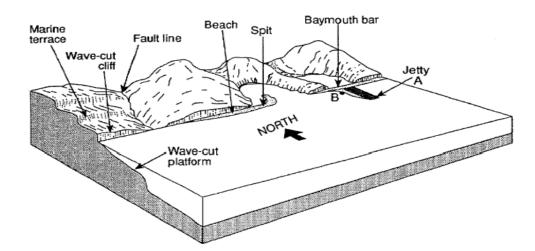
27. The diagram below shows an outcrop of different layers of sedimentary rock located on the Earth's surface.



28. Which profile best shows the general depositional pattern that occurs when water from a stream enters the ocean?



29. Which statement best describes the longshore current that is modifying this coastline?



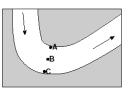
- 1 The current is flowing northward at a right angle to the shoreline.
- 2 The current is flowing southward at a right angle away from the shoreline.
- 3 The current is flowing eastward parallel to the shoreline.
- 4 The current is flowing westward parallel to the shoreline.
- 30. Which agent of erosion was most likely responsible
 - for shaping the particles in this sedimentary rock?
 - (1) mass movement
 - (2) wind

(3) glacial ice(4) running water

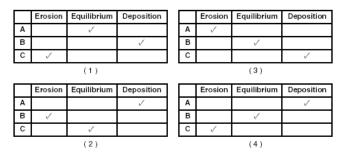


(Shown actual size)

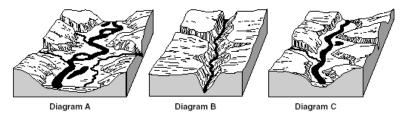
31. The map below shows the bend of a large meandering stream. The arrows show the direction of stream flow. Letters *A*, *B*, and *C* are positions on the streambed where erosion and deposition data were collected.



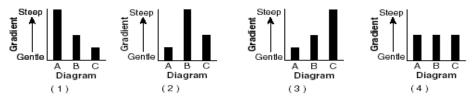
Which table best represents the locations where erosion and deposition are dominant and where an equilibrium (balance) exists between the two processes?



Diagrams A, B, and C represent three different river valleys.



32. Which bar graph best represents the relative gradients of the main rivers shown in diagrams A, B, and C?



33. Name the agent of erosional-depositional force (wind, streams, waves, glaciers, gravity) most related to the word or phrase given.

