Name Date Class

Note-taking Worksheet

Weathering and Erosion

Section 1 Weathering and Soil Formation

A. Natural process that causes rocks to break down is called _____.

B. _____ _____—breaks rocks into smaller pieces without changing them chemically

1. _____ _____ is the freezing and thawing cycle that breaks rocks apart.
2. Plant _____ and burrowing _____ exert pressure on rocks.

C. When the chemical composition of rock changes, _____ _____ has occurred.

1. _____ _____, from water and carbon dioxide, reacts chemically with many rocks.
2. _____ _____, formed from a plant's release of tannin, dissolves some rock minerals.
3. Oxygen can cause rocks containing iron to rust in the process of _____.

D. _____—mixture of weathered rock, organic matter, water, and air that supports the growth of plant life

1. The _____ _____ affects what kind of soil develops.
2. _____ influences soil development.
3. The _____ in tropical regions increases the rate of weathering forming soil more quickly than in deserts.
4. Rocks take _____, perhaps thousands of years, to weather into soil.
5. _____ _____ affect soil development.

Meeting Individual Needs

Note-taking Worksheet (continued)

Section 2 Erosion of Earth's Surface

A. _____—wearing away and removal of rock; occurs because of gravity, ice, wind, and water

B. _____ _____—gravity pulls rock or sediment down slopes.

1. _____—sediments move downhill slowly.

2. _____—rock or sediment moves downhill along a curved slope.

3. Rock layers break loose and slide downhill in a _____ _____.

4. _____—mass of wet sediment that flows downhill over the ground surface

C. _____ forms continental and valley glaciers.

1. _____ _____ can occur as glaciers remove loose pieces of rock or as dragged rock scratches rock underneath the glacier.

2. Glaciers can form _____ and steep peaks in mountains, create lakes, or totally remove rock from the surface.

3. Glaciers deposit _____.

a. _____, a mixture of different sized particles ranging from clay to boulders, is deposited directly from the bottom of a glacier.

b. _____ includes sand and gravel deposits moved by rivers from melting glaciers.

D. Wind—blows small particles from Earth's surface in a process called _____

1. _____ forms pits in rocks or polishes surfaces smooth as sediments are blown by strong winds.

2. _____ can form as the wind is slowed as it blows around irregular features such as rock or vegetation and deposits the sediment it carried.

3. _____, or fine silt, often collects downwind of large deserts or near glacial streams.

Note-taking Worksheet (continued)

E. _____—water flowing on Earth's surface causes erosion.

1. _____ _____—when water flows downhill as a thin sheet often carrying loose sediment grains
2. _____ and gullies are channels cut into Earth's surface and are formed as runoff carries sediments along.
3. Streams have water flowing through them _____; they eventually flow into the ocean or a large lake.
4. _____ water in streams is the most important agent of erosion; streams shape more of Earth's surface than ice, wind, or gravity.