

Chapter 6

Use with Section 1

REINFORCEMENT**● Weathering**

Weathering includes mechanical weathering and chemical weathering. Mechanical weathering is any process that breaks up rock without changing its chemical composition. Chemical weathering is any process in which water, air, or other substances react with the minerals in the rock and change the chemical composition of the rock.

Decide if the following descriptions are examples of mechanical weathering or chemical weathering. Write the word "mechanical" or "chemical" in the blank at the left.

- _____ 1. Mosses growing on the surface of rocks, producing pits in the rocks
- _____ 2. The wedging of tree roots along natural joints in granite outcrops
- _____ 3. Limestone dissolved by carbonic acid
- _____ 4. The oxidation of minerals that contain iron
- _____ 5. Animal burrows dug in rock that let in water and air
- _____ 6. Repeated freezing and thawing of water that cracks rock
- _____ 7. The action of water, salt, and air on car fenders and panels
- _____ 8. Acids from plant roots which break up rocks
- _____ 9. Formation of potholes in streets during severe winters
- _____ 10. Lifted sections of sidewalk along tree-lined streets
- _____ 11. A small rock falling from a cliff
- _____ 12. Feldspar mixing with acidic groundwater and producing clay minerals
- _____ 13. Halite in rocks dissolving in water
- _____ 14. Decaying plants dissolving some of the minerals in rocks
- _____ 15. Tree roots cracking the concrete foundation of a house