

Rocks and Their Types

Chapter 5: Rocks and Their Types · Topic 1

Key Concept

Igneous rocks form from cooled and solidified magma or lava, like granite (cooled slowly underground) or basalt (cooled quickly from lava).

Sedimentary rocks form from compacted layers of sediment over long periods, like sandstone or limestone, often containing fossils.

Metamorphic rocks form when existing rocks are transformed by intense heat and pressure, like marble (from limestone) or slate (from shale).

The rock cycle shows how rocks continuously transform between these three types over geological time through various processes.

Quick Revision Notes

- Igneous rocks form from cooled magma or lava.
- Examples: granite, basalt.
- Sedimentary rocks form from compacted sediment.
- Examples: sandstone, limestone.
- Sedimentary rocks often contain fossils.
- Metamorphic rocks form from heat and pressure.
- Examples: marble, slate.
- The rock cycle shows continuous transformation.

Practice Questions

- 1 Find an example of each rock type.
- 2 Research how fossils form in sedimentary rocks.
- 3 Discuss the rock cycle.
- 4 Explain how marble forms from limestone.
- 5 Research a use of granite.
- 6 Create a diagram of the rock cycle.