

Weathering and Denudation

Chapter 7: Weathering and Denudation · Topic 1

Key Concept

Physical weathering breaks rocks through processes like temperature changes, freezing water, or plant roots growing into cracks.

Chemical weathering breaks down rocks through chemical reactions, like rainwater dissolving certain minerals over time.

Denudation combines weathering with erosion (the movement of weathered material by wind, water, or ice) and transportation of sediments.

These processes continuously reshape Earth's surface, creating features like valleys, canyons, and gradually wearing down mountains over time.

Quick Revision Notes

- Physical weathering breaks rocks via temperature, freezing water, roots.
- Chemical weathering uses chemical reactions.
- Example: rainwater dissolving minerals.
- Denudation combines weathering and erosion.
- Erosion moves weathered material by wind, water, ice.
- Transportation moves sediments further.
- These processes reshape Earth's surface.
- They create valleys, canyons and wear down mountains.

Practice Questions

- 1 Discuss an example of physical weathering.
- 2 Discuss an example of chemical weathering.
- 3 Explain the difference between weathering and erosion.
- 4 Research how a canyon forms through denudation.
- 5 Discuss how plant roots contribute to weathering.
- 6 Create a diagram showing weathering and erosion processes.