

Chapter 6

Text Pages 148–155

STUDY GUIDE

● Weathering

Use the words to fill in the blanks of the paragraphs.

plants	pieces	moisture	ice wedging	acids	carbonic acid
freezing	chemical	oxidation	temperatures	minerals	
climate	desert	mechanical	cracks	reacting	

Weathering is the breaking of rocks into _____. There are two main types of weathering. _____ weathering involves breaking rocks without changing their chemical composition. In _____, water trapped in rocks freezes and expands, forcing the rocks apart. _____ can also cause mechanical weathering. As their roots grow and put pressure on rocks, _____ widen and rock fragments may fall off. _____ weathering involves water, air, and other substances' _____ with the minerals in the rocks. When metal is exposed to water and oxygen, _____ occurs and rust forms. _____ in plant roots and mosses can also react with the _____ in rocks. Water and carbon dioxide combine to form _____, which reacts with minerals such as calcite in limestone. How rapidly weathering occurs in an area depends on the _____. Chemical weathering happens more slowly in _____ areas due to a lack of _____. Low _____ in polar regions keep chemical weathering to a minimum there. Whenever _____ and thawing alternate, mechanical weathering becomes an important form of weathering.