

Name _____

Shaping the Earth: Erosion and Weathering's Role in Landform Creation

Short Answer Key

1. Water erosion can create valleys and canyons by wearing away rock and soil over time, forming river valleys and deep gorges.
2. Mechanical weathering involves physical processes that break rocks into smaller pieces, while chemical weathering alters rock composition through chemical reactions.
3. An example of a landform created by wind erosion is a sand dune, characterized by its crescent or elongated shape formed by wind-blown sand grains.
4. Glacial erosion shapes landscapes by carving U-shaped valleys, fjords, and cirques, typically forming U-shaped valleys.
5. Understanding the slow process of landform creation through erosion and weathering is essential for appreciating Earth's geological history and addressing environmental challenges.

