

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## The Mighty Builders: How Mountains Are Formed

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Erosion gradually shapes mountain landscapes by wearing down rocks through processes like weathering and the movement of ice, wind, and water. Landforms resulting from erosion include valleys, ridges, and canyons.
2. Tourism can have both positive and negative impacts on mountain ecosystems and communities. Sustainable tourism practices involve minimizing environmental impact, supporting local economies, and preserving the natural beauty of mountain environments.
3. Early explorers climbing a newly discovered mountain range might encounter extreme weather conditions, unfamiliar terrain, and the need for navigation tools, camping equipment, and food supplies. They would document their discoveries using maps, sketches, and written descriptions.
4. Mountains can influence regional climates by blocking or redirecting air masses, leading to variations in temperature and rainfall. For example, mountains can create rain shadows, where one side receives more rain while the other side is drier, impacting agriculture and ecosystems in nearby areas.

