

Name _____

Mineral Magic: The Essential Role of Minerals in the Rock Cycle

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Discuss the significance of minerals in the rock cycle, including their role in the formation of rocks and their contribution to the diversity of Earth's surface features. Provide examples of specific minerals and the types of rocks they are associated with.
2. Explore how minerals can act as geological clues for scientists and geologists. Provide examples of what mineral composition can reveal about a rock's history and the environment in which it formed.
3. Imagine you are a geologist studying a rock sample. Explain how you would analyze the minerals present in the rock to gather information about its origin and geological history. What specific properties or tests would you use?
4. Compare and contrast the mineral composition of granite (igneous), sandstone (sedimentary), and marble (metamorphic) rocks. Discuss how the minerals in each type of rock contribute to its unique properties and appearance.

