

C 2.1 Vocabulary

1. landform – a natural shape or feature of Earth's surface
2. mountain – a landform; a place on Earth's surface that is much higher than the land around it
3. valley – a landform; a lowland area between higher lands, such as mountains
4. canyon – a landform; a deep valley with very steep sides
5. plain – a landform; a flat area on Earth's surface
6. plateau – a landform; a flat area higher than the land around it
7. barrier island – a landform; a thin island along a coast

Notes

1. Plateaus can be formed by forces within Earth that lift up plains.
2. The longest chain of barrier islands in the world is on the east coast of the U.S.
3. Canyon and valleys are both lowlands surrounded by higher lands.
4. A canyon is deeper and has steeper sides than a valley.
5. A valley could become a canyon if water were to wear away its bottom and sides.

C2.2 Vocabulary

1. weathering – the process by which rock is worn down and broken apart
2. erosion – the movement of weathered rock and soil
3. glacier – a huge sheet of ice

Notes

1. Weathering is caused by wind, water, and plants.
2. Water breaks rocks when it freezes in cracks.
3. Creep is slow erosion when soil moves down steep hills.
4. Glaciers change Earth's surface. They scrape rocks and soil and pile them up into hills. The holes left can fill with water and become lakes.

C2.3: Vocabulary

1. earthquake – the shaking of Earth's surface caused by movement of the crust and mantle
2. volcano – an opening in Earth's surface from which lava flows
3. flood – a large amount of water that covers normally dry land

Notes

1. Lava is liquid rock that may come from volcanoes.
2. Mountains are formed by lava and ash building up around a volcano opening.
3. Floods cause damage to buildings, roads, and soil.
4. Crops can benefit from floods because they can leave rich soil on fields.