Weathering, Soil and Erosion Study Guide

1. Mass movement is caused by what force? **gravity**
2. Landslides, mudflows, slump, and creep are all examples of what type of erosion? **Mass movement**
3. A river flowing across a wide flood plain begins to form loop-like bends called **meanders**.
4. A stream or river that runs into another stream or river is called a **tributary**.
5. The process by which natural forces move weathered rock and soil from one place to another is called **erosion**.
6. Where a river flows from an area of harder rock to an area of softer rock, the softer rock may wear away, eventually forming a drop called a(an) **waterfall**.
7. A wide sloping deposit of sediment formed where a stream leaves a mountain range is called a(an) **alluvial** fan.
8. The energy that produces ocean waves comes from **wind**.
9. Deltas are built up by the **process of deposition**.
10. Where a coastline turns and interrupts longshore drift, sand may be deposited in a fingerlike landform called a **spit**.
11. The process by which wind removes surface materials is called **deflation**.
12. If you wanted to see a continental glacier, where would you go? **Antarctica** or **Greenland**.
13. The process that splits rock through freezing and thawing is called **ice wedging**.
14. Name three methods which farmers use to conserve soil? **contour plowing**, **conservation plowing** and **crop rotation**.
15. The humus in soil is located in which layer or horizon? **A horizon**.
16. Define natural resource: **Anything in the environment that humans use**.
17. Acid rain results in what type of weathering? **Chemical Weathering**.
18. Organic matter in soil is made from **decayed plants and animals**.
19. Label and describe the content of each layer of soil.

1. **A horizon**- made up of organic material from decaying plants and animals
2. **B horizon**- made up of minerals washed down through the A horizon by rain water
3. **C horizon**-broken up bed rock and soil particles
4. **D horizon**- bedrock
20. Farmers and construction companies whose methods are designed to protect the soil are practicing what? Soil conservation

21. The practice of plowing fields along the curves of a slope is called contour plowing.

22. Wind carrying sand grains deposits the sand when the wind slows down or hits an obstacle.

23. The geological principle stating that the same processes that operate today also operated in the past is called uniformitarianism.

24. A permeable rock weathers easily because it contains many small, connected air spaces.

25. What process builds up deltas where rivers run into standing bodies of water? Deposition

26. Why is soil a valuable resource? It is important to all living things on land.

27. What term describes the management of soil to prevent its destruction? Soil Conservation

28. Soil formation begins with the weathering of what? Bedrock

29. The growth of plant roots and animal activity may result in mechanical weathering.

30. Label each feature numbered on the diagram.

1. alluvial fan
2. flood plain
3. delta