

Rock Solid Worksheet Answers

1. What are the two ways that stress can be caused in nature?

movement of the earth's crust

weathering

2. What are the three types of stress?

tensional

compressional

shear

3. What are the three types of weathering?

physical (such as wind, water, freezing, repeated wetting and drying)

chemical (such as rust, acid rain)

biological (such as tree roots, animals, human activity)

4. Which type of weathering is not a type of stress?

chemical

5. How does an engineer test the strength of a rock?

Examine it carefully to learn characteristics such as color, texture, structure, shininess, hardness, the way it breaks, etc.

Stress test a sample.

6. Why do we care how strong a rock is?

For safety.

Some natural disasters are caused by breaking rocks.

Structures that are built on or near rocks may be damaged (and people hurt) if the rocks move or break as part of a natural disaster such as an earthquake, volcano or landslide.