Cause and effect

Grade 4 Reading Worksheet

*The **cause** is <u>why</u> something happened.*

For example:
There was a lot of wind last night.

*The **effect** is <u>what</u> happened.*

For example:
A tree fell down on our street.

Read about the rock cycle, and think about cause and effect:

<u>The Rock Cycle</u>

Rock may seem to last forever, but it is actually always changing. It is always in one of the stages of the rock cycle. The series of events in the rock cycle takes thousands of years, but the cycle is always in motion.

The pressure inside the Earth produces enough heat to melt rock. This melted rock, or magma, seeps up into the Earth's crust of the Earth or erupts from volcanoes. In the Earth's crust and around the volcanoes, the magma cools into solid rock. This kind of rock is called igneous rock.

Over time, igneous rock breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces. This process, called weathering, produces soil or sediment.

Water and wind carry these bits of sediment into layers called sediment beds. This movement of sediment is called erosion. As the sediment is pressed down by more and more sediment on top, the lower levels turn into sedimentary rock.

As more and more layers of sedimentary rock are formed, the layers on the bottom are pushed down deeper into the Earth. They grow hot from the pressure. Finally, the rock may melt into magma and the cycle is complete—and ready to begin again.

© www.k5learning.com

Then answer the following questions:

1. **Cause**: The pressure deep inside the earth causes extreme heat.
   What is the **effect**?

   a. Magma is formed.

   b. Igneous rock is formed.

   c. Sedimentary rock is formed.

2. **Cause**: Magma erupts from a volcano and cools.
   What is the **effect**?

   a. Magma is formed.

   b. Igneous rock is formed.

   c. Soil is formed.

3. **Cause**: Igneous rock breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces.
   What is the **effect**?

   a. Igneous rock is formed.

   b. Soil is formed.

   c. Sedimentary rock is formed.

4. **Cause**: Wind and water carry soil into sediment beds.
   What is the **effect**?

   a. Igneous rock is formed.

   b. Soil is formed.

   c. Sedimentary rock is formed.

5. **Cause**: Weathering occurs. What is the **effect**?

   _____

   _____

6. **Cause**: Erosion occurs. What is the **effect**?

   _____

   _____

© www.k5learning.com

Answers

1. **Cause**: The pressure deep inside the earth causes extreme heat.
What is the **effect**?

   a. Magma is formed.
   b. Igneous rock is formed.
   c. Sedimentary rock is formed.

2. **Cause**: Magma erupts from a volcano and cools.
What is the **effect**?

   a. Magma is formed.
   b. Igneous rock is formed.
   c. Soil is formed.

3. **Cause**: Igneous rock breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces.
What is the **effect**?

   a. Igneous rock is formed.
   b. Soil is formed.
   c. Sedimentary rock is formed.

4. **Cause**: Wind and water carry soil into sediment beds.
What is the **effect**?

   a. Igneous rock is formed.
   b. Soil is formed.
   c. Sedimentary rock is formed.

5. **Cause**: Weathering occurs. What is the **effect**?

   Soil or sediment is formed.

6. **Cause**: Erosion occurs. What is the **effect**?

   Sediment beds are formed.

© www.k5learning.com