

lies below Horizon B. This layer consists of rock fragments. The true soil is not affected by biological processes. The lower-most layer, it lies in this layer has unbroken solid rocks.

Soil erosion

Topsoil is known as soil fertility due to erosion. The cultural factors are responsible for the physical factors include the intensity of rainfall and weather. Natural factors include deforestation of land, overgrazing and agricultural farming methods.

Soil conservation

Soil is removed, our planet becomes barren and lifeless as the soil is necessary to conserve soil. It includes all those measures which prevent soil from erosion and fertility. Some of the methods adopted are afforestation, checking crop rotation, contour ploughing.

NEW WORDS

depression	huge low-lying area surrounded by higher land
mud-crack	crack formed on muddy sediment due to contraction of sediment
landslide	rapid downward movement of rocks in hilly areas caused by heavy rain or earthquake
mudflow	rapid downward movement of water-saturated debris in hilly areas due to very heavy rain
parent rock material	underlying rocks which contain minerals and make up the bulk of soil
leaching	washing away of topsoil
crop rotation	growing of different crops in different seasons on a particular plot of land to avoid exhaustion of soil fertility
contour ploughing	cutting farm-beds across the hill slopes following the contours of the land

TIME TO LEARN

A. Tick (✓) the correct answers.

1. The rocks which are formed from magma are called _____ rocks.

- a. sedimentary ☒ b. igneous c. metamorphic d. metallic

2. Quartzite is _____ rock. ☒ d. a metamorphic

- a. an igneous b. a sedimentary c. a volcanic

3. Which of these is not a type of weathering? d. mechanical

- a. Geological b. chemical c. biological

4. Carbonic acid disintegrates limestone as a result of ☒ d. carbonation.

- a. frost action. b. oxidation. c. hydration.

5. Which of these factors is not responsible for soil formation? ☒ c. deforestation

- a. climate b. human activities d. parent rock material

6. Which of these factors is responsible for soil erosion?

- a. crop rotation ☒ b. overgrazing c. afforestation d. terrace farming

B. Match the columns.

1. basalt a. soil erosion

2. fossils