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ENVI.2010 - Principles of Earth & Environmental Systems I

Study Questions VII

Weathering, Sedimentary Rocks, Stratigraphy, and geologic time

1. What is weathering? What is the major role of mechanical weathering. List and describe three processes of mechanical weathering and three processes of chemical weathering.

2. What is the major factor that controls the susceptibility of a mineral to chemical weathering?

3. What is “Uniformitarianism”?

4. List and describe the four major steps in the formation of a sedimentary rock.

5. Describe cross-bedding and the different types of ripple marks. What information can you extract from these features?

6. Name and define the two laws that are the basis of stratigraphy.

7. Define and explain the “Law of Faunal Succession”.

8. What is an unconformity. Name and describe the four major types of unconformities.

9. Distinguish between *relative* and *absolute* geologic time.