

## Practice Exercises

A Complete the sentences with a suitable conjunction. Sometimes more than one is possible.

after	although	and	as	because	but	since	so	when
whenever	while							

1. Rock erosion is caused by human activities, \_\_\_\_\_ it is also caused by wind, water, and ice.
2. Rainwater forms pools on the rock surface, \_\_\_\_\_ is trapped within tiny cracks.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ water turns to ice, it expands.
4. The water expands and contracts inside them, \_\_\_\_\_ the rocks start to break up.
5. In desert regions, rocks are rapidly heated up by the sun \_\_\_\_\_ they expand.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ the rocks cool down and contract, small pieces of rock break off.
7. Dry soil is eroded more easily \_\_\_\_\_ there is insufficient vegetation to hold it down.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ erosion is a natural process, it has been dramatically increased by the effects of human activities.

**B** Choose the sentence that best expresses the essential information in the sentence.

1. Since the cultivation of crops requires the clearing of existing vegetation, large areas of land are deprived of plant cover and become vulnerable to erosion.
  - a Clearing land for crops is increasing erosion.
  - b Erosion is occurring because there are too many crops.
  - c There is too much erosion so plants cannot grow.
  - d Planting crops will prevent erosion.
2. Although the erosion caused by storms is not as destructive as that produced during hurricanes and tornadoes, the amount of soil loss can be significant, especially when storms repeatedly affect a given region.
  - a When storms occur, they cause soil erosion.
  - b Storms are not very destructive because they are not strong.
  - c Storms can cause soil erosion over a long time period.
  - d Hurricanes cause more erosion than storms.

3. Because melting ice is causing sea levels to rise, habitats of humans as well as multitudes of other organisms will be in danger of being washed away.
- a Habitats are being destroyed by melting ice.
  - b Ice is melting because sea levels are rising.
  - c As sea levels rise, habitats are being destroyed.
  - d Sea levels are rising so ice is melting.

#### WORD BUILDING

The root word *habit* means *to live in a place*. Use your dictionary to find the meaning of these words: *habitat, habitable, uninhabitable, inhabit, inhabitant*.