

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*.