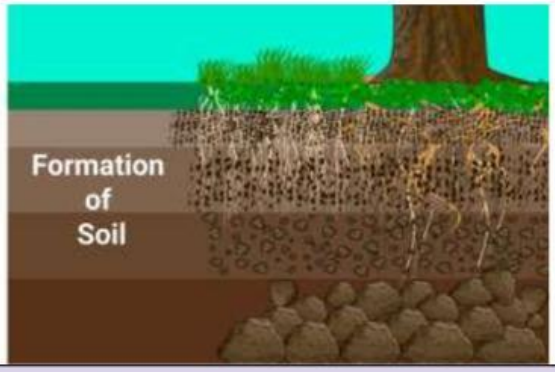
How Does the Geosphere Affect the Environment?

Name: Date: Class:

1. *Read the sentences and decide whether each affects the Earth's geosphere. Record Yes or No in the space provided.*

Statement	Yes or No?
a. When loose rocks fall down due to gravity, landslides will occur.	
b. Cacti are adapted to grow in sandy soils, while some kinds of grapes grow well in clay soils.	
c. Humans cut down trees to make buildings, furniture, and paper.	
d. There are three types of soils. Each type supports different plant and animal life.	
e. Soil has many different properties that allow various types of plants to grow.	

2. *Number the statements in order from 1 to 4 to explain how soil forms.*



Statement	Number
a. Rain, wind, and plants slowly break down rocks to form sediments.	
b. Bacteria and fungi break down dead plants and animals, adding humus to the soil.	
c. Animals move to mix the sediments.	
d. Humus adds nutrients to the soil to help plants grow.	

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3. Match each term in Column A to its description in Column B. Record the number of the correct description on the line.

	Column A	Column B
_____	a. volcano	1. an area where melted rocks rise onto the surface
_____	b. geosphere	2. the sudden movement of a large amount of rocks and soil down a slope
_____	c. hot spot	3. an opening in the Earth's crust where molten rocks flow to the surface
_____	d. landslide	4. forms by the slow breakdown of rocks over thousands of years
_____	e. soil	5. includes all solid and melted rocks that make up the Earth's layers

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