

Excerpt from ***Erosion! The Ever-changing Earth***
By Robin Koontz



Even mountains, the toughest, tallest landforms, can change over time. There are two forces that work together to change landforms: weathering is the breakdown of land into smaller pieces, and erosion is the movement of the pieces removed by weathering.

Weathering is **caused** by wind, water, heat and cold. Erosion is caused by the forces of wind, water, and gravity. Weathering and erosion typically happen over hundreds, thousands, or even millions of years. Boulders can become sand, and mountains can be reduced to smaller hills. The pieces of land move downhill, creating new landforms. It's a never-ending process.

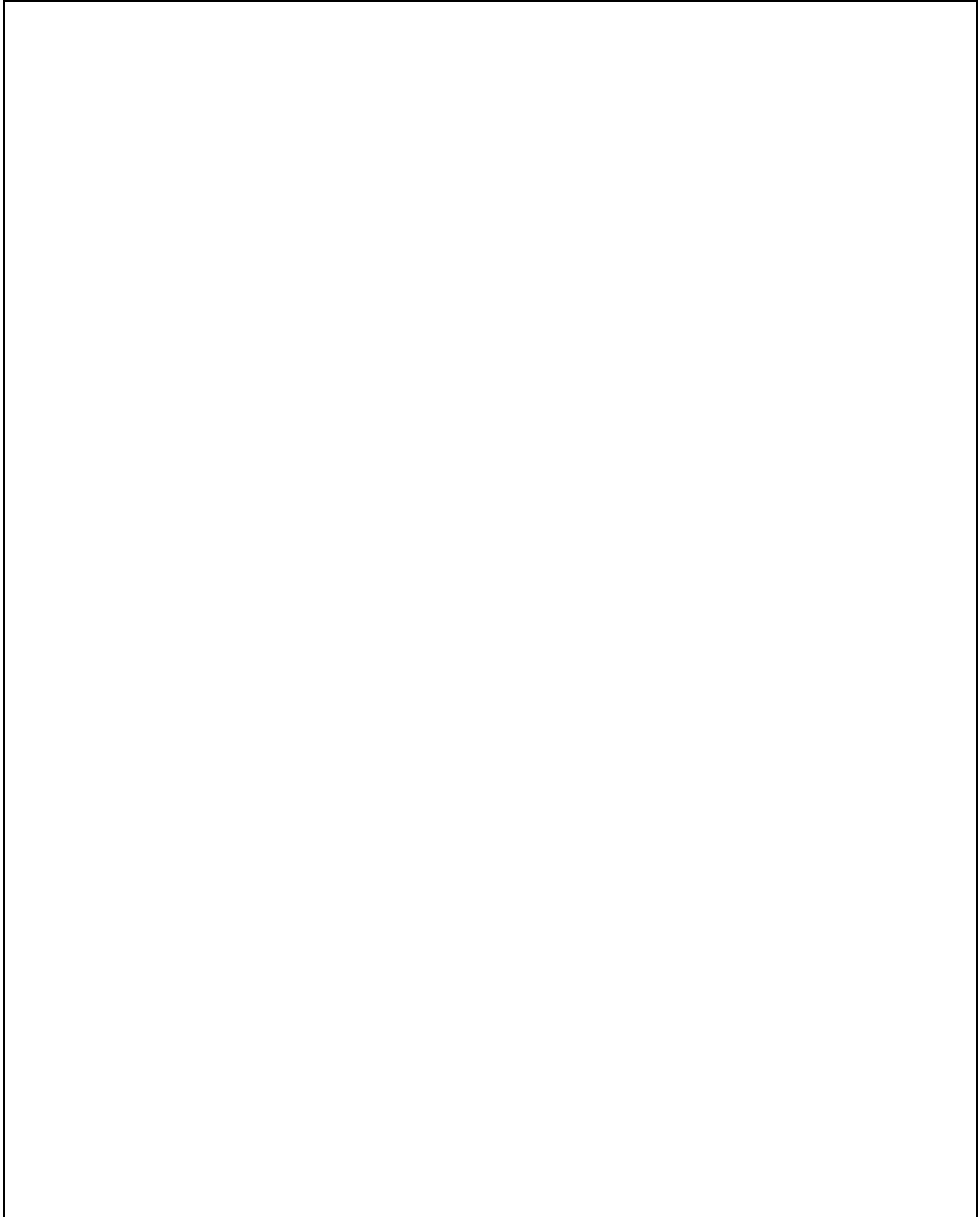
1. Use the photograph and the text below to determine the meaning of “breakdown.”

There are two forces that work together to change landforms: weathering is the **breakdown** of land into smaller pieces, and erosion is the movement of the pieces removed by weathering.

- a. when something stops working
 - b. damage due to natural forces
 - c. rain or snow
 - d. a strong and powerful effect
2. Look at the photograph. Based on what you have learned about weathering and erosion, what may have caused these rocks to form? Use **at least three** of the vocabulary words below in your response.

wear	carve	layer	steep	cause	impact
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Add an illustration to show more about your ideas.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for a student to draw an illustration. The box occupies the central portion of the page, below the instruction text and above the footer.