

Geological Processes Study Guide

Geological processes – volcanoes, earthquakes, rock cycle, landslides

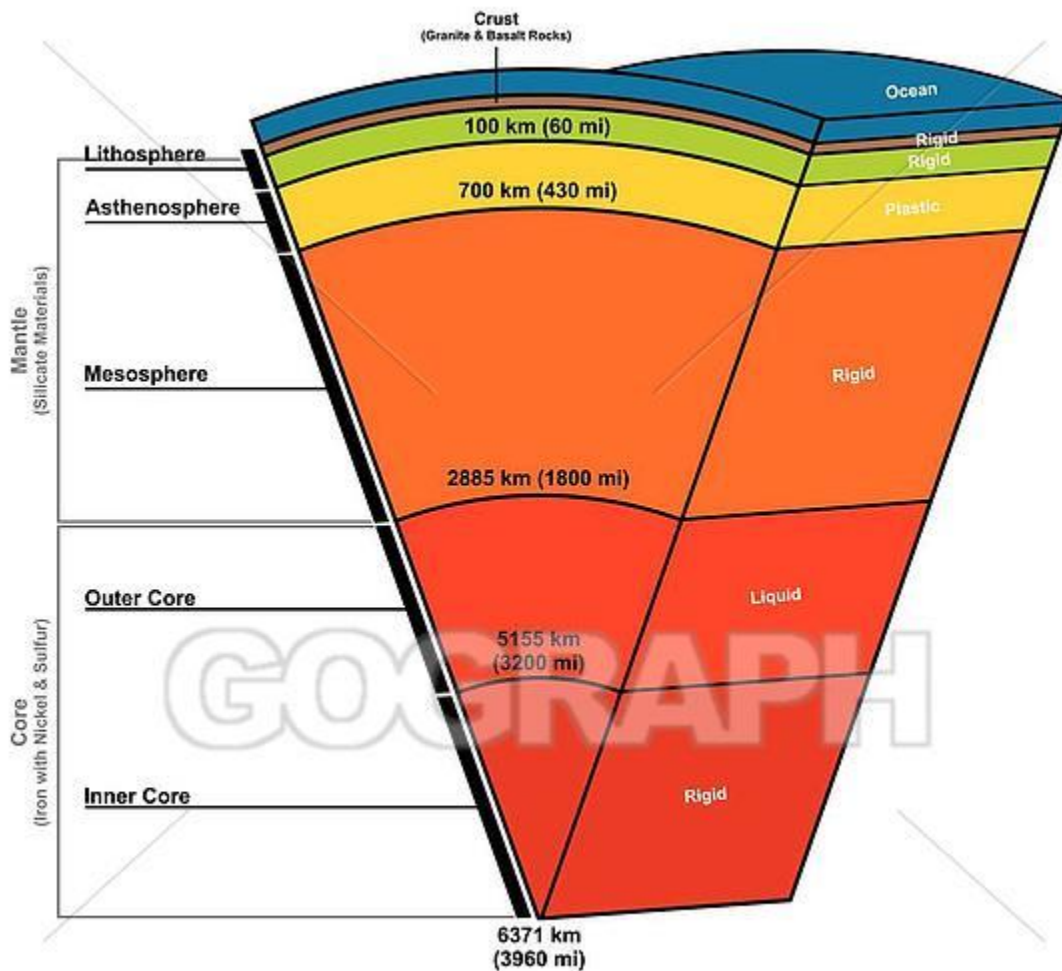
Plate boundaries include transform, convergent, divergent.

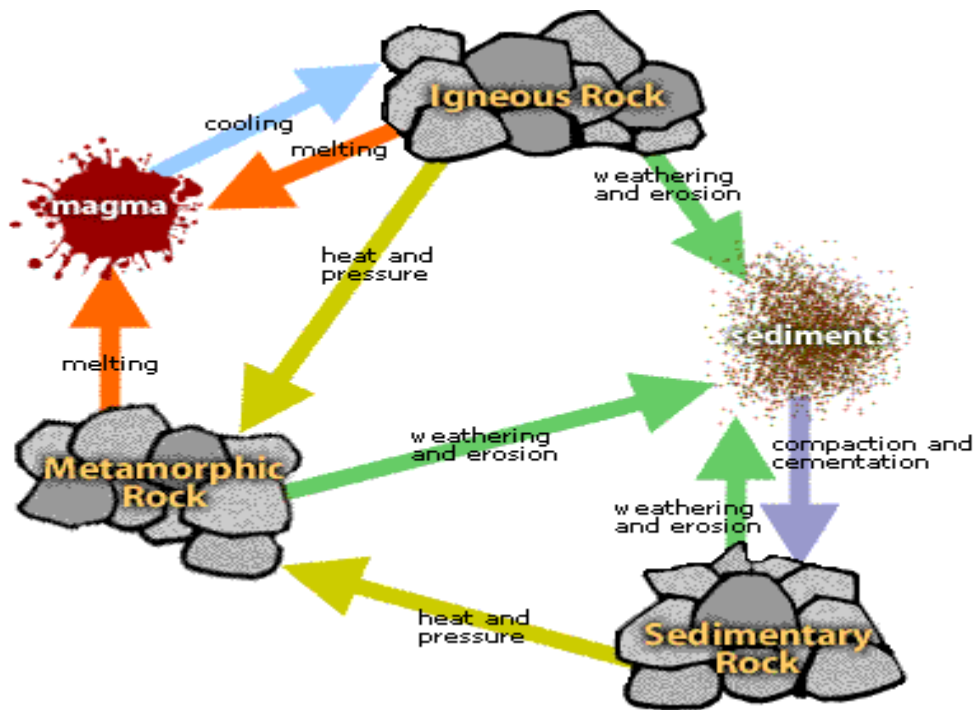
Theory of Continental Drift – The continents were once joined together in one large continent called Pangea. The evidence for this theory includes fossils, similar rock layers, and GPS measurements of the continents.

Theory of Plate Tectonics – The Earth is made up of large, lithospheric plates that move due to the convection currents in the mantle (convection is the transfer of thermal/heat energy).

New lithosphere is formed at divergent plate boundaries.

Layers of the Earth -





Rocks are classified by how they were formed. Geological processes form rock over millions of years. Rocks can change form as indicated in the diagram above.

Rocks can break into sediment and become pressed and glued together to form sedimentary rock.

Sedimentary rock can change into metamorphic by added head and pressure from subduction of plates.

Copper is found in metamorphic rock as a result of subduction of convergent plates.

Granite is an igneous rock found in magma chambers of volcanoes.

Metamorphic and igneous are usually found at plate boundaries or beneath mountains.

