



Note-taking Worksheet

Minerals

Answer Key

Section 1 Minerals

- A. Mineral —four characteristics
1. Naturally occurring—formed by processes on or inside Earth with no input from humans
 2. Inorganic —not made by life processes
 3. Element or compound with a definite chemical Composition
 4. Orderly arrangement of Atoms; all minerals are Crystalline solids.
- B. Crystal —solid with atoms arranged in orderly, repeating patterns
1. Some crystals form from Magma, hot melted rock below the Earth's surface.
 - a. When magma cools Slowly, crystals are large.
 - b. When magma cools quickly, crystals are small.
 2. Crystals can form from Solutions as water evaporates or if too much of a substance is dissolved in water.
- C. Mineral groups are defined by their ~~Composition~~ Composition
1. Silicates contain Silicon, oxygen, and one or more other elements; they include most common rock-forming minerals.
 2. Silicon and oxygen are the two most abundant elements in Earth's crust; they form the building blocks of many minerals.

Section 2 Mineral Identification

- A. Color and Appearance are not enough to distinguish most minerals.
- B. Hardness is a measure of how easily a mineral can be scratched; the _____ scale compares mineral hardness.
- C. The way a mineral reflects Light is its luster.
1. Can be Metallic or nonmetallic
 2. Nonmetallic lusters include dull, pearly, silky, and glassy.
- D. Specific Gravity is the ratio of a mineral's weight to the weight of an equal volume of water; expressed as a number.