

Physical Geography

CLIMATE AND THE ATMOSPHERE

Layers of the atmosphere	1
Summary sheet: Layers of the atmosphere	2
Climatic Zones	3
Summary sheet: Biomes	4

GLOBAL WEATHER PATTERNS

The circulation of high-and low-pressure air	5
Global convection cells	6
Prevailing winds and the Coriolis effect	7

WEATHER SYSTEMS AND WEATHER MAPS

Cold front	8
Warm front	9
Sea breezes and land breezes	10

THE WATER CYCLE, CLOUDS AND RAINBOWS

The water cycle	11
Summary sheet: Cloud classification by type and altitude	12

OCEANS AND SEAS

Oceans	13
The Grand Banks	14
The Persian Gulf	15
Surface ocean currents	16
The North Atlantic Deep-Water (NADW) Current	17
Thermohaline currents	18
Ocean tides	19
The Mediterranean Sea	20
Seas of the western Pacific Ocean	21
Summary sheet: The oceans	22

RIVERS OF WATER AND ICE

The parts of a river	23
Summary sheet: Main drainage patterns of rivers	24
Drainage patterns	25
Major rivers of the world	26
The parts of a glacier	27

LAKES, WETLANDS, AND AQUIFERS

Summary sheet: Major lakes of the world	28
Lakes of the Great Rift Valley	29
An aquifer	30

THE EARTH'S LAYERS

The interior of the earth	31
Summary sheet: The layers of the earth	32
Plate tectonics	33
Map of the tectonic plates	34
A convergent boundary	35
A divergent boundary	36
A transform boundary	37

VOLCANOES

A volcano	38
Volcanic regions of the earth	39
How mid-plate volcanoes form	40
A cinder cone	41
A composite volcano	42
A shield volcano	43
Summary sheet: Four types of volcanoes	44

EARTHQUAKES

Three main types of faults	45
The San Andreas Fault System	46
Earthquake locations	47
The hypocenter and epicenter of an earthquake	48
P Wave, S Wave, Love Wave, Rayleigh Wave	49
Summary sheet: Earthquake scales	50

CONTINENTS, ISLANDS, AND COASTLINES

Continental and oceanic crust .....	.51
The stages of continental drift .....	.52
The continental shelf .....	.53
Summary sheet: The world's ten largest islands .....	.54
Summary sheet: Coastline features .....	.55
Coastline features .....	.56

MOUNTAINS, VALLEYS AND PLAINS

Summary sheet: Major mountain ranges of the world .....	.57
Oceanic-continental convergence .....	.58
Fault-block mountains in Nevada .....	.59
An underwater valley .....	.60
An oceanic trench .....	.61

ROCKS AND MINERALS

The most common elements in the earth's crust .....	.62
How atoms form the earth's crust .....	.63
Summary sheet: Mineral segregation .....	.64
How different types of rock form .....	.65
The rock cycle .....	.66
Stratigraphy .....	.67
Vertical analysis of sedimentary layers .....	.68
Radiometric dating .....	.69
Fossil succession .....	.70
Paleomagnetism .....	.71
Summary sheet: The Mohs scale of mineral hardness .....	.72
Template: Mineral classification table .....	.73

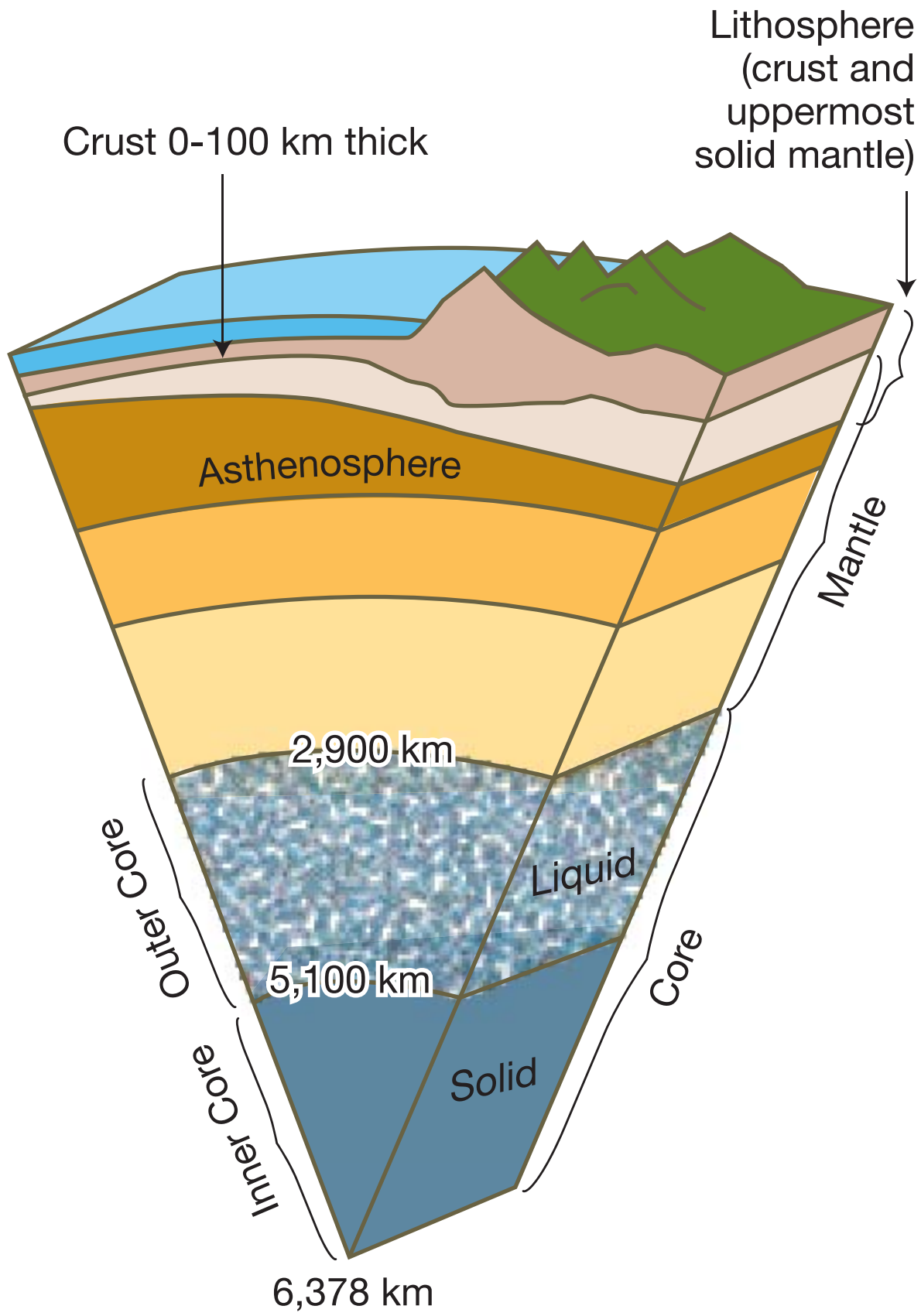
WEATHERING AND EROSION

A storm surge .....	.74
Summary sheet: Six main erosion processes .....	.75
Erosion and deposition on a meander .....	.77

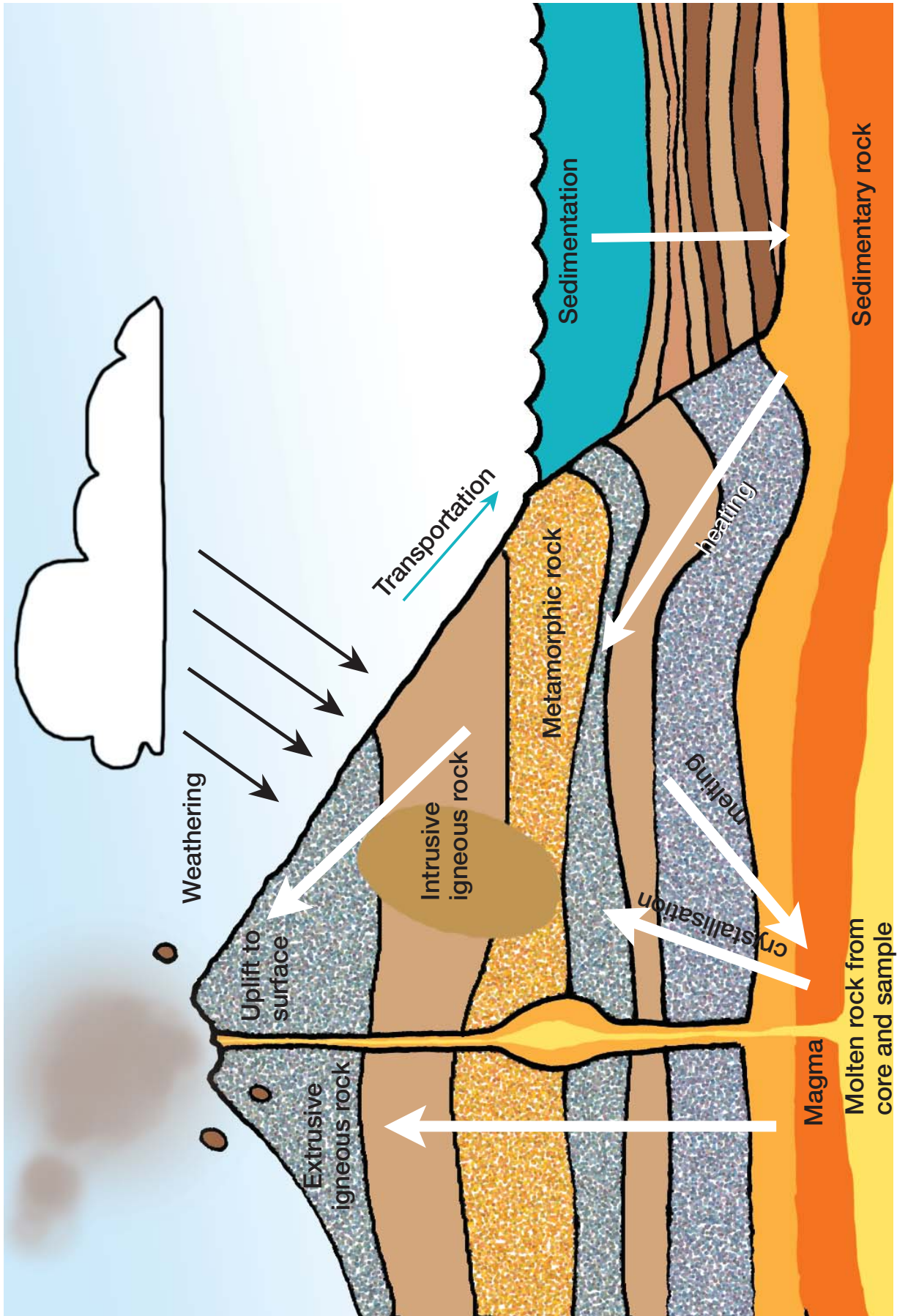
Major rivers of the world

Name	Length	Location	Source	Mouth
Nile	4,160 mi (6,695 km)	Africa	Uganda, Kenya	Egypt
Amazon	4,000 mi (6,400 km)	South America	Peru	Brazil
Yangtze	3,900 mi (6,300 km)	Asia	China	China
Mississippi-Missouri-Red Rock	3,710 mi (5,970 km)	North America	US	US
Yenisey-Angara	3,450 mi (5,550 km)	Asia	Russia	Russia
Huang He (Yellow River)	3,395 mi (5,464 km)	Asia	China	China
Ob'-Irtys	3,362 mi (5,410 km)	Asia	Russia	Russia
Rio Paraña-Rio Grande	2,800 mi (4,500 km)	South America	Brazil	Argentina
Amur-Shilka	2,744 mi (4,416 km)	Asia	Russia	Russia
Lena	2,728 mi (4,400 km)	Asia	Russia	Russia
Congo	2,718 mi (4,374 km)	Africa	Zambia	Zambia
Mackenzie-Peace-Finlay	2,635 mi (4,241 km)	North America	Canada	Canada
Mekong	2,610 mi (4,200 km)	Asia	China	Vietnam
Niger	2,600 mi (4,180 km)	Africa	Guinea	Nigeria

Source: Microsoft Encarta 2006. "World's Longest Rivers." Microsoft Corporation. One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA, 95052-6399. DVD, CD-ROM.



The interior of the earth (not to scale)



How different types of rock form