

Solutions

Each answer shows the steps, then the **result**.

2.1

- Weathering (of rock) and decomposition (of organic matter)

2.2

- The A horizon (topsoil)

2.3

- Any one: deforestation, overgrazing, plowing

3.1 B

- the fertile A horizon (topsoil)

3.2

(a)

- Removing plant cover exposes the soil, and roots no longer hold it; on a slope, water washes the loose topsoil away

(b)

- Sediment (and nutrients) enter the river, causing sedimentation or eutrophication

3.3

- Soil forms extremely slowly (hundreds of years for a few cm), so once eroded it cannot be replaced within a human lifetime