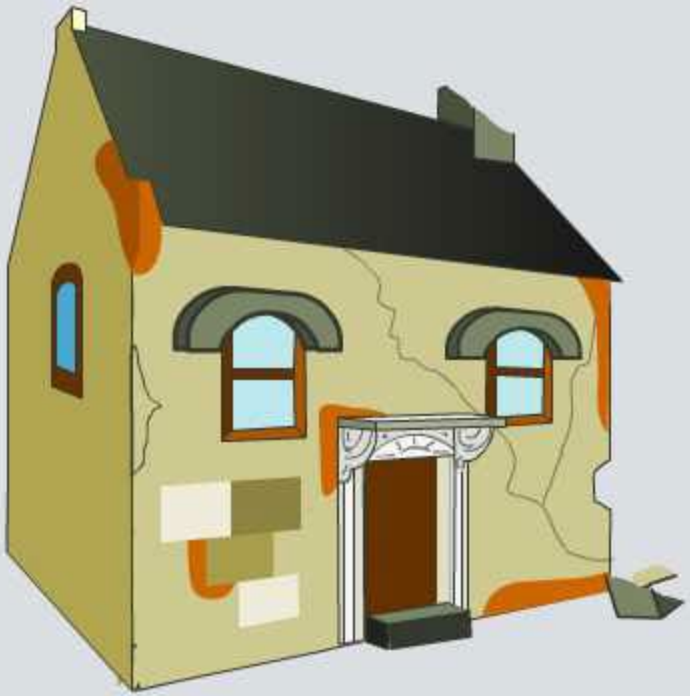
Chemical Weathering



What is chemical weathering?

Slow chemical weathering

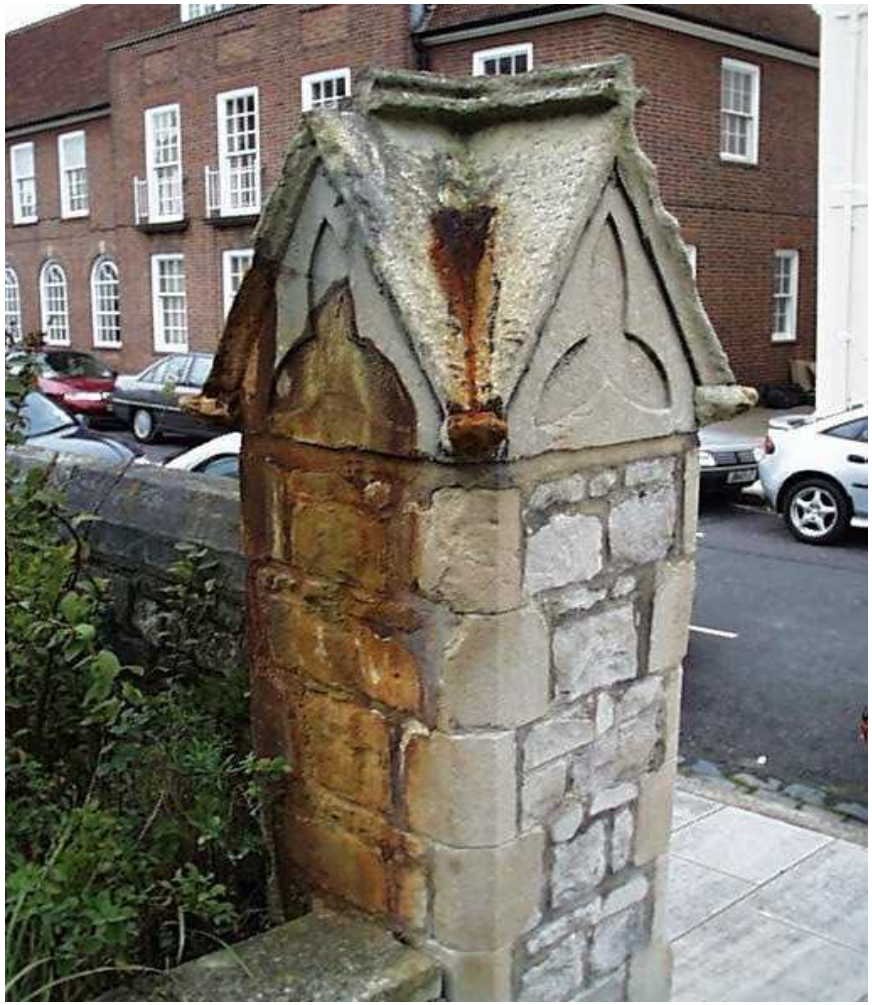
- Rainwater is naturally a weak acid because carbon dioxide in the air reacts with rainwater to form carbonic acid.
- This weakly acidic rain reacts with minerals in rocks and slowly wears them away.

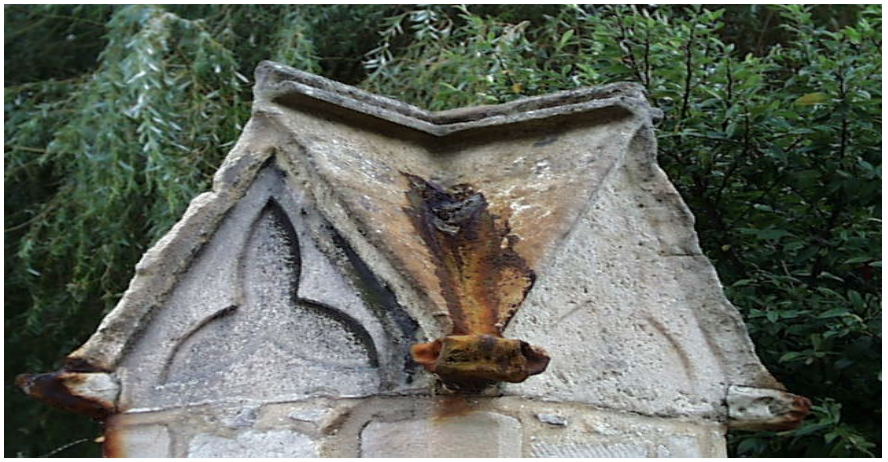
Rapid chemical weathering

- The burning of fossil fuels produces oxides of sulphur and nitrogen, which make rainwater more acidic.
- Acid rain reacts quickly with minerals, so the rocks get weathered more rapidly.

Examples of chemical weathering

How has chemical weathering affected these rocks?





Which type of weathering?

Which type of weathering is likely in each situation?

1. A rock sitting on an alpine mountain — ?
2. A seedling growing in the cracks between paving slabs — ?
3. A rock sitting on a sand dune in the dessert — ?
4. A mole digging a burrow — ?
5. Acid rain falling on a headstone in a cemetery — ?

solve