

Freeze Thaw Action

Fill in the blank spaces using the list of words below

*joints, winter, rain, pressure, widen
Thaws, freezes, Frost, scree, freezing, breaks up.*

Freeze Thaw Action, also called _____ Shattering, occurs when rock disintegrates (_____) because of continual freezing of water and thawing of ice in upland areas. Upland areas tend to receive more _____ than lowland areas. Some of this water gathers in the _____ (cracks) in rocks. During _____, or whenever the temperature falls below _____ point, this water freezes. When water freezes it expands by about 11%. The expansion of the ice causes _____ on the joints in the rock. As a result the joints _____ slightly. When the water _____, it will lie deeper in the joints. The next time the water _____ the joints will widen even more. Eventually the rock will break and collapse into smaller pieces of rock called _____. Scree can be found on the sides of many mountains. The Great Sugarloaf in Co. Wicklow is a good example of where scree can be found.