

Brief Contents

Introduction

Physical Geography and the Tools
Geographers Use 2

Chapter 1

The Earth as a Rotating Planet 36

Chapter 2

The Earth's Global Energy Balance 56

Chapter 3

Air Temperature 82

Chapter 4

Atmospheric Moisture and
Precipitation 110

Chapter 5

Winds and Global Circulation 148

Chapter 6

Weather Systems 182

Chapter 7

Global Climates 216

Chapter 8

Biogeographic Processes 264

Chapter 9

Global Biogeography 304

Chapter 10

Global Soils 342

Chapter 11

Earth Materials
and Plate Tectonics 372

Chapter 12

Volcanic and Tectonic Landforms 404

Chapter 13

Weathering and Mass Wasting 438

Chapter 14

Fresh Water of the Continents 466

Chapter 15

Landforms Made
by Running Water 494

Chapter 16

Landforms Made
by Waves and Wind 522

Chapter 17

Glacial Landforms
and the Ice Age 554

Appendix 1

Climate Definitions
and Boundaries 580

Appendix 2

Conversion Factors 581

Appendix 3

Topographic Map Symbols 582

Glossary 584

Illustration Credits 613

Photo Credits 615

Index 619