

# Reading Comprehension

Craters are created by meteorites that hit the earth at great speeds. This impact creates lakes, canyons and other landforms. What other natural processes affect the shape of the land?

*Nature has many different ways of shaping the earth. It is called weathering. Volcanoes, earthquakes (movement of tectonic plates), floods, rainfall, snow, ice, wind, and chemical reactions in the soil are just some of the many types of weathering that shape the earth. Even gravity has an affect on the earth's shape! The earth would not be round if it weren't for gravity.*

## Finding Volume

Let's do a math review! Imagine we live in a world where craters are rectangular in shape. Find the volume of the craters using the formula below.

$$\text{volume} = \text{length} \times \text{width} \times \text{height}$$

If the Vredefort crater is 300 kilometers wide, 250 kilometers long and 10 kilometers deep, what is its volume?

$$300 \times 250 \times 10 = 750,000 \text{ km}^3$$

If the western Clearwater Lake is 32 kilometers wide, 26 kilometers long and 1.5 kilometers deep, what is its volume?

$$32 \times 26 \times 1.5 = 1,248 \text{ km}^3$$

If Lake Bosumtwi crater is about 8 kilometers wide, 8 kilometers long and 1 kilometer deep, what is its volume?

$$8 \times 8 \times 1 = 64 \text{ km}^3$$