

Accumulation Vs Ablation Worksheet

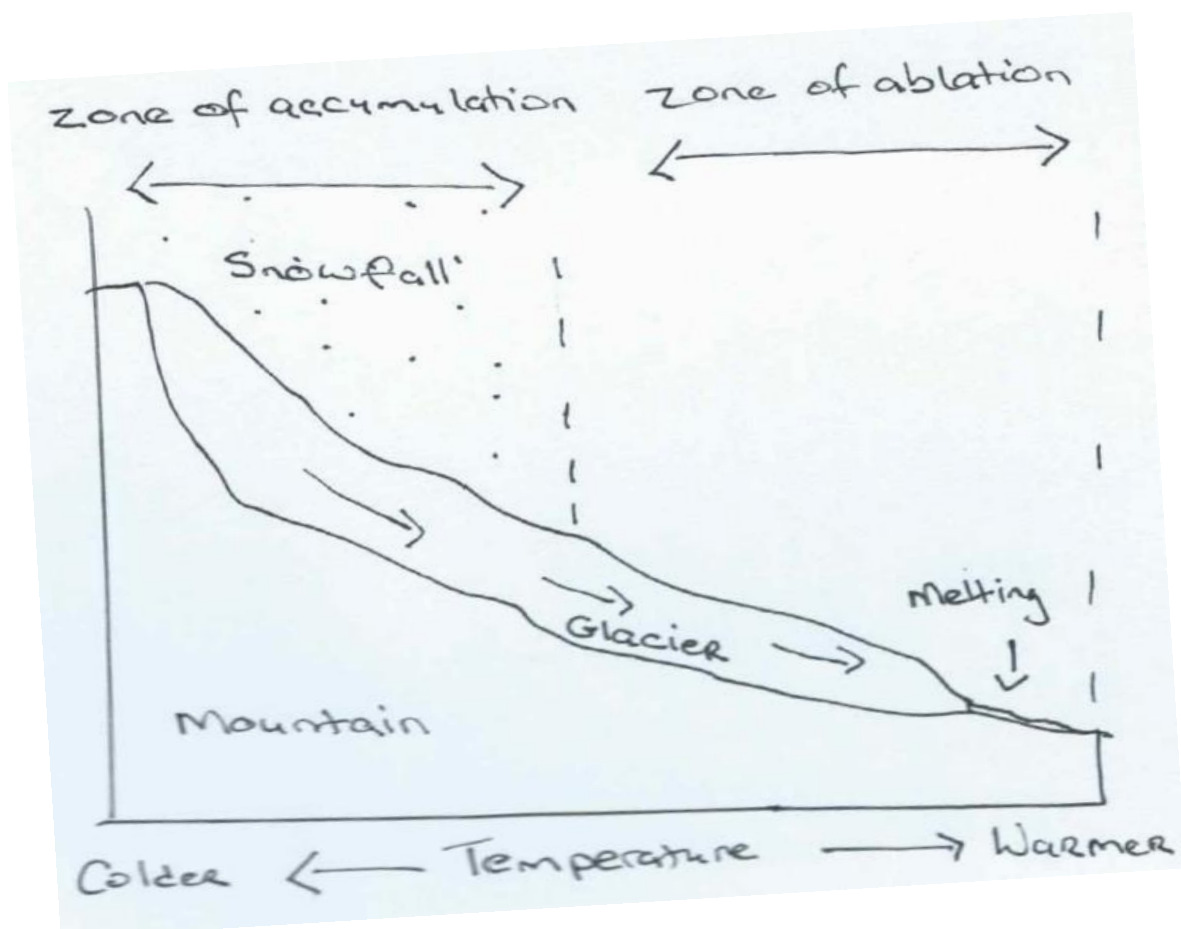
Read the definitions of accumulation and ablation and then complete the activity that follows:

Zone of accumulation

When snow starts to fall it is fluffy and light. As it becomes heavier it is compacted together and the air pockets are removed. Now the collection of new snow is greater than the snow melt, this is called accumulation. The area of ground where this occurs is called the zone of accumulation. See the simple diagram below.

Zone of Ablation

If the temperatures increase, either at lower altitudes or during the summer months, melting or ablation of the accumulated snow will occur. If the amount of snowfall in the winter is not greater than the melting that occurs in the summer months the snow line or glaciers (moving rivers of ice) will retreat. The area where this occurs is called the zone of ablation. See the simple diagram below.



Draw a line on the following images to mark where you believe the zone of accumulation ends and the zone of ablation begins:

1. Image 1



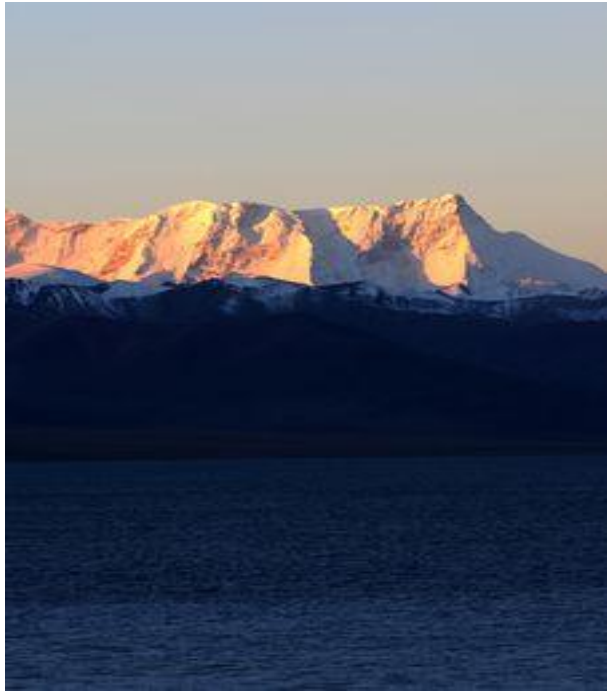
2. Image 2



3. Image 3



4. Image 4



5. Image 5

