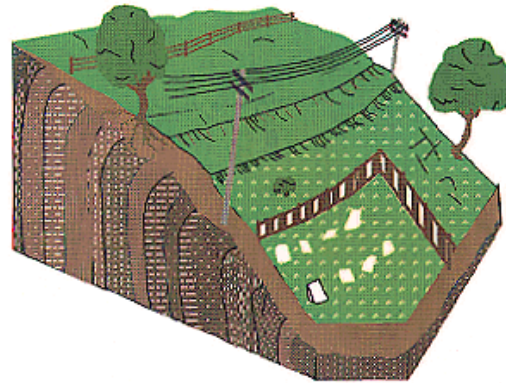
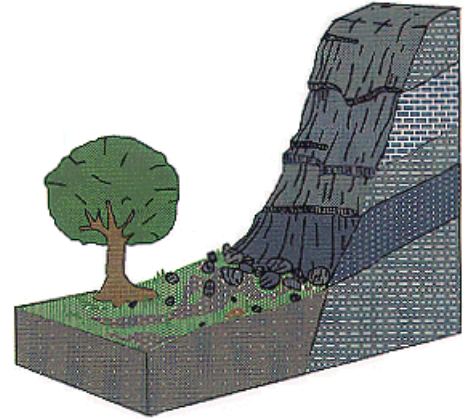


12. Gravitational and eolian landforms

If gravitational force exceeds rock's hardness, a rock starts to move downslopes. The hardness is decreased by many factors, e.g. weathering, saturation by water, etc.

Mass movements caused by **gravitation** and weathering:

- *rockfall* = in mountains, creating a scree
- *soil creep* = slow movement of a soil down the slope, especially in polar areas
- *landslide* = downslope movement of a particular land, slope
- *mudflow* = mixture of soil (clay) and water (from precipitation)



Mass movements caused by **wind** – eolian processes take place at uncovered places (not protected by vegetation):

- *rocky deserts*
- *sandy dunes*

Both forms in dry areas, e.g. Sahara, Gobi, Atacama, Namib, etc. but also in Záhorská nížina

Cosmic forms of georelief:

- *meteoric craters* created by asteroid fallen to the Earth's surface, e.g. in Arizona, USA



Keywords

gravitation, hardness, mass movements, rockfall, soil creep, scree, landslide, mudflow, clay, precipitation, rocky deserts, sandy dunes,

