8Ga5 Describing rocks 1

    

 **A B C D**

not to scale

Rocks are mixtures of **minerals**. The **grains** in rocks can be different shapes and sizes. **Interlocking** grains (crystals) fit together without any gaps between them. If the grains are rounded, there can be gaps between the grains and the rock may be **porous**. Porous rocks can absorb water.

**1** Which two rocks have interlocking crystals?

**2** How many different kinds of mineral are there in:

**a** rock A

**b** rock B

**c** rock C

**d** rock D?

**3** Which rock is made of rounded grains that are all the same size?

**4** Which rock is made of several different sizes of rounded grains?

**5** Which two rocks are porous?

**6** Which rock do you think will absorb the most water? Explain your answer.

**7** Read this description of granite.

 ‘Granite consists of three main minerals. One of the minerals often forms large crystals.’

 Which rock could be granite?

**8** Read this description of conglomerate.

 ‘Conglomerate is made of quite large, rounded pebbles, in a mixture of much smaller grains.’

 Which rock could be conglomerate?

**[ knowledge ]**