

GOLD

Gold is an element.

It is a metal.

Pure gold is very soft, so it is mixed with other metals to make it harder for rings and necklaces.

Gold is VERY valuable.

SILVER

Like gold, silver is an element. It is also a metal. Gold doesn't tarnish, but silver does. Bright, shiny silver tarnishes to dark gray to black. It is used to make jewelry and utensils.

COPPER

Like gold and silver, copper is an element.

It is also a metal.

Copper is very important because it is used to make electrical wires. Important copper ores are azurite, malachite and cuprite.

MOLYBDENITE

Molybdenite is an important ore of the element *molybdenum*. It is mixed with other metals to make them stronger.

PYRITE

Pyrite is known as "Fool's Gold" because it is bright yellow and metallic like real gold.

It is made of the elements iron and sulfur. Pyrite can have real gold trapped in its crystals.

GALENA

Galena is lead ore. It is made of the elements lead and sulfur. The lead gives it a silver color. Galena often contains the valuable element, silver.

LODESTONE

Lodestone is massive magnetite. It is made of iron and oxygen.

Like magnetite, lodestone is naturally magnetic. It is one of the most important ores of iron.

MERCURY

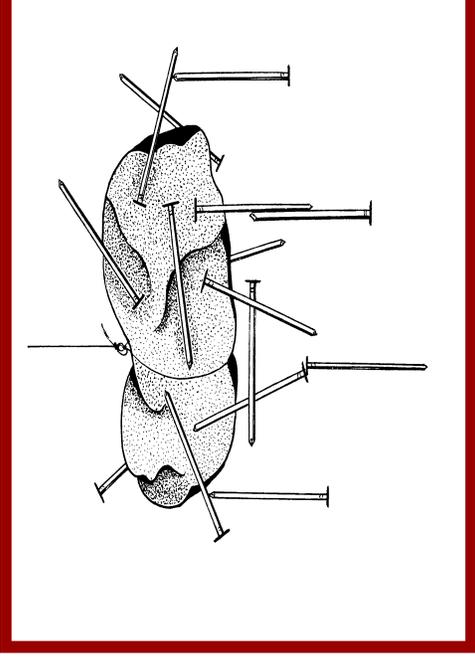
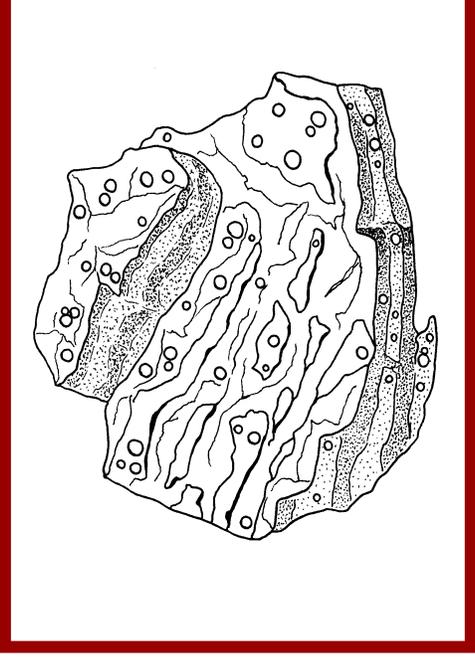
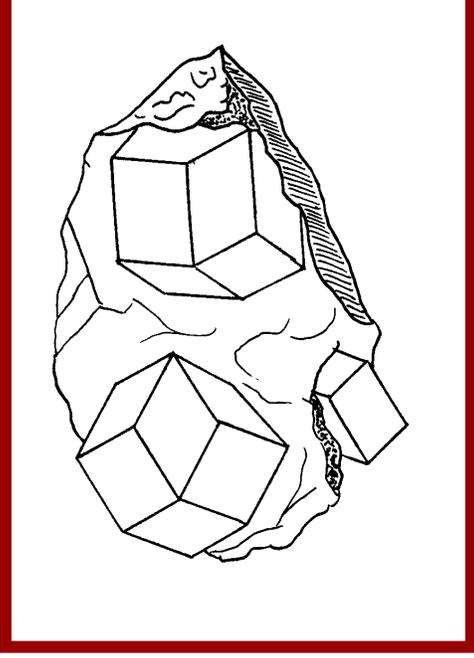
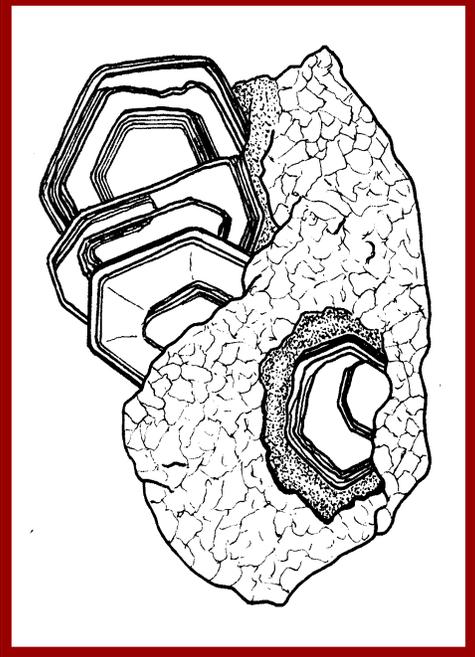
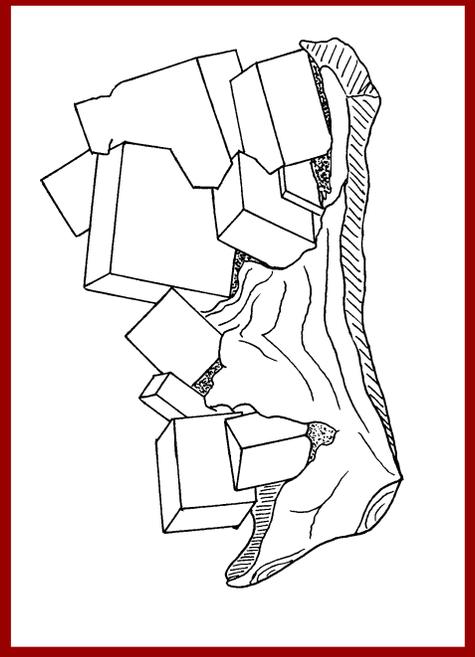
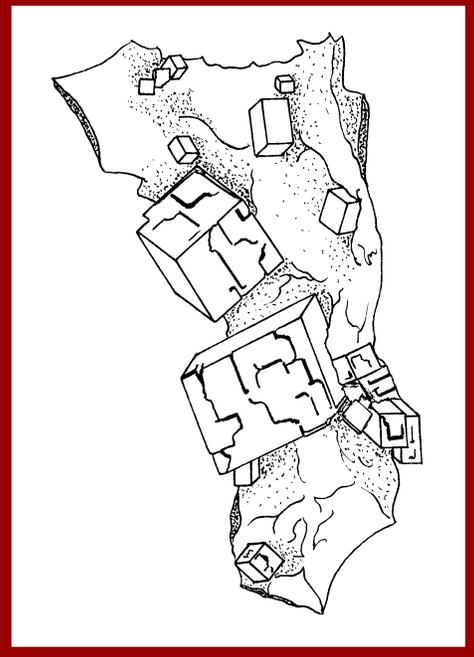
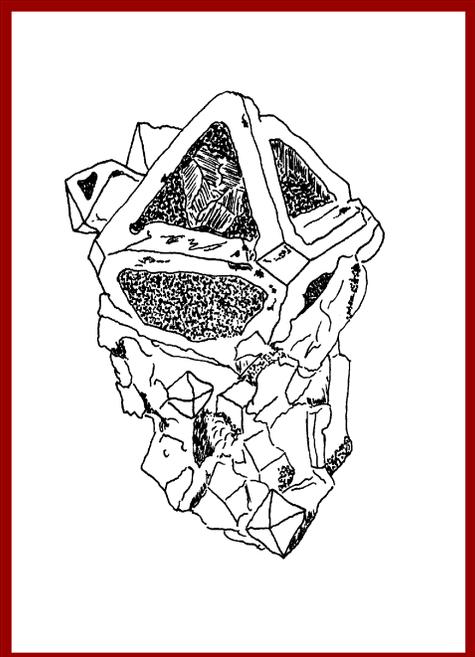
Mercury is an element. It is a metal. It is the only element (and the only metal) that is a liquid at room temperature. Because it is silvery, metallic and it rolls like a drop of water, it is also called "Quicksilver."

MAGNETITE

Magnetite is a natural magnet. It is made of iron and oxygen.

When it crystallizes, it can form dodecahedral crystals like the ones pictured here.

It can also form octahedral crystals.



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