

UK Earth Science Facts

Earth Science · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. Which geological era is characterized by the formation of the majority of the UK's oldest rocks, such as the Lewisian Gneiss of Scotland?

- A) Mesozoic
- B) Paleozoic
- C) Precambrian
- D) Cenozoic

2. The Great Glen Fault, a major strike-slip fault, runs diagonally across which part of the UK?

- A) South West England
- B) Northern Ireland
- C) Central Wales
- D) Scotland

3. What is the primary geological process responsible for the formation of the Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland?

- A) Glacial erosion
- B) Volcanic activity
- C) Sediment deposition
- D) Metamorphism

4. Which of the following is the deepest lake in the UK?

- A) Loch Ness
- B) Lake Windermere
- C) Loch Morar
- D) Ennerdale Water

5. The White Cliffs of Dover are primarily composed of what sedimentary rock?

- A) Sandstone
- B) Limestone
- C) Shale
- D) Granite

6. During the Pleistocene epoch, the UK was significantly impacted by glaciation. Which of the following features is a direct result of glacial deposition?

- A) The Cheddar Gorge
- B) The Pennines
- C) The Fenlands
- D) The Peak District

7. The North Sea oil and gas fields are located within which major geological basin?

- A) Weald Basin
- B) South Permian Basin
- C) Moray Firth Basin
- D) Bristol Channel Basin

8. Which region of the UK is known for its significant coal mining history, with deposits formed during the Carboniferous period?

- A) The Lake District
- B) The Scottish Highlands
- C) South Wales and the Midlands
- D) Cornwall

9. The UK experiences a temperate maritime climate. What is the primary ocean current influencing this?

- A) The Gulf Stream
- B) The California Current
- C) The Kuroshio Current
- D) The Humboldt Current

10. Fossilised remains of Jurassic marine reptiles, such as Ichthyosaurs and Plesiosaurs, are commonly found along which stretch of the English coast?

- A) The Norfolk Coast
- B) The Jurassic Coast
- C) The Northumberland Coast
- D) The Lancashire Coast

11. What type of igneous rock forms the bulk of the Cuillin Hills on the Isle of Skye?

- A) Basalt
- B) Granite
- C) Gabbro
- D) Rhyolite

12. The Mendip Hills in Somerset are characterized by extensive karst topography. What geological process is primarily responsible for this?

- A) Aeolian erosion
- B) Chemical weathering of soluble rocks
- C) Physical weathering of hard rocks
- D) Volcanic erosion

13. Which major river system in England is known for its tidal bore, a phenomenon caused by the incoming tide being funnelled into a narrowing estuary?

- A) River Thames
- B) River Severn
- C) River Mersey
- D) River Tyne

14. The process of isostatic rebound is still occurring in parts of the UK, particularly Scotland. What is this rebound a consequence of?

- A) Tectonic plate collision
- B) Volcanic uplift
- C) Melting of past ice sheets
- D) Erosion by rivers

15. What is the approximate average annual rainfall for the UK, often cited in meteorological contexts?

- A) 500 mm
- B) 750 mm
- C) 1150 mm
- D) 1500 mm