

# Exploring Our Earth: Physical Geography Quiz

Physical Geography · Answer Key · 25 Questions

---

**1. What is the largest type of landform on Earth, characterized by a vast, flat area?**

- A) Volcano
- B) Mountain Range
- C) Plateau
- D) Plain**

**2. Which natural process is responsible for shaping mountains over millions of years through the movement of Earth's crust?**

- A) Erosion
- B) Volcanic Activity
- C) Tectonic Plate Movement**
- D) Glacier Formation

**3. What is the term for the continuous movement of water on, above, and below the surface of the Earth?**

- A) Ocean Currents
- B) Water Cycle**
- C) Atmospheric Circulation
- D) Groundwater Flow

**4. Which type of landform is created when molten rock erupts from the Earth's interior and cools?**

- A) Canyon
- B) Delta
- C) Volcano**
- D) Island Arc

**5. What is the outermost solid shell of a rocky planet, such as Earth, called?**

- A) Mantle
- B) Core
- C) Crust**
- D) Atmosphere

**6. Which large body of saltwater covers most of the Earth's surface?**

- A) Lake
- B) River
- C) Ocean**
- D) Sea

**7. What is the primary force that causes erosion by wind, water, and ice to wear down landforms?**

- A) Gravity**
- B) Solar Radiation
- C) Earth's Magnetic Field
- D) Atmospheric Pressure

**8. Which layer of the Earth is the hottest and is made up of solid iron and nickel?**

- A) Inner Core**
- B) Outer Core
- C) Mantle
- D) Crust

**9. What is a large area of land that is much higher than the land around it, often with steep sides?**

- A) Valley
- B) Hill
- C) Mountain**
- D) Mesa

**10. Which part of the water cycle involves water vapor turning into liquid water, forming clouds?**

- A) Evaporation
- B) Transpiration
- C) Condensation**
- D) Precipitation

**11. What is a long, narrow valley with steep sides, often carved by a river over a very long time?**

- A) Fjord
- B) Canyon**
- C) Gorge
- D) Ravine

**12. Which type of rock is formed from the cooling and solidification of magma or lava?**

- A) Sedimentary
- B) Metamorphic
- C) Igneous**
- D) Fossiliferous

13. What are large, naturally formed masses of ice that move slowly over land?

- A) Icebergs
- B) Glaciers**
- C) Snowfields
- D) Ice Caps

14. Which of the following is a natural disaster caused by the sudden release of energy in the Earth's crust, creating seismic waves?

- A) Tornado
- B) Hurricane
- C) Earthquake**
- D) Flood

15. What is the layer of gases that surrounds the Earth, providing air for us to breathe?

- A) Hydrosphere
- B) Lithosphere
- C) Atmosphere**
- D) Biosphere

16. Which term describes the process by which plants release water vapor into the atmosphere?

- A) Photosynthesis
- B) Respiration
- C) Transpiration**
- D) Evaporation

17. What is a large, flat-topped elevated area of land with steep sides, smaller than a plateau?

- A) Butte
- B) Monadnock
- C) Inselberg
- D) Mesa**

18. Which major ocean is the largest and deepest on Earth?

- A) Atlantic Ocean
- B) Indian Ocean
- C) Arctic Ocean
- D) Pacific Ocean**

**19. What is the process by which rocks are broken down into smaller pieces by physical or chemical means?**

- A) Deposition
- B) Compaction
- C) Weathering**
- D) Sedimentation

**20. Which type of landform is created by the deposition of sediment carried by a river as it enters a larger body of water?**

- A) Alluvial Fan
- B) Delta**
- C) Estuary
- D) Marsh

**21. What are vast, treeless plains in cold regions, characterized by frozen subsoil?**

- A) Savanna
- B) Taiga
- C) Tundra**
- D) Steppe

**22. Which layer of the Earth is a thick layer of hot, semi-solid rock located between the crust and the core?**

- A) Lithosphere
- B) Asthenosphere**
- C) Outer Core
- D) Inner Core

**23. What is the process of soil, rock, and other material being moved from one place to another?**

- A) Accumulation
- B) Erosion**
- C) Formation
- D) Compaction

**24. Which are large, flat, elevated areas of land that are significantly higher than the surrounding terrain?**

- A) Valleys
- B) Hills
- C) Plateaus**
- D) Depressions

**25. What is the solid, rocky outer layer of the Earth, including the crust and the upper part of the mantle?**

A) Core

B) Mantle

**C) Lithosphere**

D) Asthenosphere