

Introduction to Palaeontology

Palaeontology · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. What is the study of fossils called?

- A) Geology
- B) Biology
- C) Palaeontology**
- D) Archaeology

2. Which of these is a common material that fossils are made from?

- A) Wood
- B) Plastic
- C) Rock**
- D) Metal

3. Fossils are most commonly found in which type of rock?

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

4. Dinosaurs lived during which geological era?

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

5. What is the process by which living organisms are replaced by minerals over time, turning them into fossils?

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

6. Which of these is a famous fossil site known for early human ancestors?

- A) The Great Barrier Reef
- B) The Serengeti
- C) The Cradle of Humankind**
- D) The Amazon Rainforest

7. What is a fossilized footprint called?

- A) Fossil bone
- B) Fossil shell
- C) Trace fossil**
- D) Fossil leaf

8. Which group of animals are often called 'living fossils' because they have changed very little over millions of years?

- A) Butterflies
- B) Sharks**
- C) Frogs
- D) Ants

9. The extinction of the non-avian dinosaurs is believed to have been caused by what event?

- A) A massive volcanic eruption
- B) A sudden ice age
- C) An asteroid impact**
- D) A global flood

10. Which ancient marine reptile is known for its long neck and small head?

- A) Ichthyosaur
- B) Mosasaur
- C) Plesiosaur**
- D) Tylosaurus

11. What is the scientific term for the preserved remains or traces of ancient organisms?

- A) Artifacts
- B) Minerals
- C) Fossils**
- D) Relics

12. The study of ancient plant life through fossils is called:

- A) Zoology
- B) Botany
- C) Paleobotany**
- D) Mycology

13. Which era is known as the 'Age of Mammals'?

- A) Mesozoic
- B) Paleozoic
- C) Cenozoic**
- D) Hadean

14. Fossil evidence helps scientists understand Earth's past _____.

- A) Technology
- B) Languages
- C) Environments**
- D) Societies

15. What type of organism is commonly found as fossils in ancient seas, often having a spiral shell?

- A) Ammonite**
- B) Trilobite
- C) Dinosaur
- D) Mammoth