

Introduction to Palaeontology

Palaeontology · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. What is the primary scientific discipline that studies fossils?

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

2. What type of fossil preservation occurs when an organism's original material is replaced by minerals?

- A) Mould
- B) Cast
- C) Permineralisation**
- D) Carbonisation

3. Which of these is NOT a type of fossil commonly found in the fossil record?

- A) Imprints
- B) Whole organisms
- C) Fossilised DNA**
- D) Footprints

4. The study of the age of rocks and fossils is called:

- A) Stratigraphy
- B) Chronology
- C) Geochronology**
- D) Paleoclimatology

5. What is the most common material that replaces organic matter in fossilisation?

- A) Iron
- B) Silica**
- C) Calcium carbonate
- D) Pyrite

6. Which geological era is known as the 'Age of Dinosaurs'?

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

7. What is a trace fossil?

- A) The preserved remains of an organism's body
- B) A fossil formed from minerals
- C) Evidence of an organism's activity, like footprints or burrows**
- D) A fossil formed from plant matter

8. What geological principle states that in undisturbed rock layers, the oldest layers are at the bottom and the youngest are at the top?

- A) Principle of Lateral Continuity
- B) Principle of Superposition**
- C) Principle of Cross-Cutting Relationships
- D) Principle of Faunal Succession