

Physical Geography Foundations

Physical Geography · Practice Test · 25 Questions

1. Which layer of the Earth is composed primarily of semi-molten rock and causes tectonic plate movement?

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

2. What is the primary factor that determines the classification of a region as a desert?

- A) High temperatures
- B) Lack of vegetation
- C) Low annual precipitation
- D) Distance from the ocean

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

- A) Igneous
- B) Sedimentary
- C) Metamorphic
- D) Conglomerate

4. The imaginary line that divides the Earth into the Northern and Southern Hemispheres is known as the:

- A) Prime Meridian
- B) Tropic of Capricorn
- C) Arctic Circle
- D) Equator

5. Which process involves the breakdown of rocks into smaller particles by wind, water, or ice?

- A) Erosion
- B) Weathering
- C) Deposition
- D) Subduction

6. What is the name of the supercontinent that existed approximately 300 million years ago?

- A) Gondwana
- B) Laurasia
- C) Pangaea
- D) Rodinia

7. Which of the following is a result of the Earth's rotation on its axis?

- A) The seasons
- B) Day and night
- C) Tectonic plate shifts
- D) Global warming

8. Where are the majority of the world's active volcanoes located?

- A) The Ring of Fire
- B) The Mid-Atlantic Ridge
- C) The Sahara Desert
- D) The Himalayan Range

9. Which gas makes up the largest percentage of Earth's atmosphere?

- A) Oxygen
- B) Carbon Dioxide
- C) Nitrogen
- D) Argon

10. A delta is a landform created at the mouth of a river by the process of:

- A) Erosion
- B) Transportation
- C) Deposition
- D) Weathering

11. The process where water vapor turns back into liquid water to form clouds is called:

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

12. Which of these is considered a non-renewable natural resource?

- A) Solar energy
- B) Coal
- C) Wind energy
- D) Tidal power

13. What is the term for the height of land above sea level?

- A) Latitude
- B) Longitude
- C) Altitude
- D) Gradient

14. Which ocean is the largest by surface area on Earth?

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

15. The Richter scale is used to measure the intensity of which natural phenomenon?

- A) Hurricanes
- B) Earthquakes
- C) Tsunamis
- D) Volcanic eruptions

16. What type of plate boundary occurs when two tectonic plates slide past each other horizontally?

- A) Convergent
- B) Divergent
- C) Transform
- D) Subduction

17. Which climate zone typically experiences high temperatures and high rainfall throughout the year?

- A) Tropical
- B) Arid
- C) Polar
- D) Temperate

18. What is the name of the layer of gases that surrounds the Earth?

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

19. Which of these is a direct consequence of global sea-level rise?

- A) Coastal flooding
- B) Increased volcanic activity
- C) Drier inland climates
- D) Stronger tectonic plates

20. What is the primary source of energy that drives the Earth's water cycle?

- A) Geothermal heat
- B) The Moon's gravity
- C) The Sun
- D) Tidal friction

21. Which feature is typically found at a divergent plate boundary?

- A) Mountain range
- B) Deep-sea trench
- C) Mid-ocean ridge
- D) Volcanic island arc

22. The study of the distribution and patterns of plants and animals across the globe is known as:

- A) Meteorology
- B) Biogeography
- C) Geomorphology
- D) Hydrology

23. Which mineral is the most common component of sand on most beaches?

- A) Quartz
- B) Calcite
- C) Feldspar
- D) Mica

24. What is the name of the process by which glaciers carve U-shaped valleys into mountains?

- A) Glacial deposition
- B) Glacial scouring
- C) Glacial retreat
- D) Glacial ablation

25. Which of these factors most significantly influences the salinity of ocean water?

- A) Wind speed
- B) Depth of the water
- C) Rate of evaporation
- D) Presence of coral reefs