

Middle School Archaeology Basics

Archaeology · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which of the following is the primary goal of archaeology?

- A) To discover hidden treasure chests
- B) To study past human cultures through material remains**
- C) To find evidence of aliens
- D) To predict future human behaviour

2. What is an artifact?

- A) A natural geological formation
- B) A fossilised dinosaur bone
- C) An object made or modified by humans**
- D) A description of a past event written in a book

3. The process of digging up archaeological sites is called:

- A) Geology
- B) Paleontology
- C) Excavation**
- D) Cartography

4. Stratigraphy is the study of:

- A) The layers of rock and soil at an archaeological site**
- B) The types of tools used by ancient peoples
- C) The languages spoken by different cultures
- D) The construction methods of ancient buildings

5. Which of these is a common dating method used in archaeology to determine the age of organic materials?

- A) Thermoluminescence
- B) Radiocarbon dating**
- C) Dendrochronology
- D) Potassium-argon dating

6. What does the term 'site' refer to in archaeology?

- A) A museum where artifacts are displayed
- B) A location where past human activity is evident**
- C) A written record of ancient events
- D) A scientist who studies ancient objects

7. The Rosetta Stone, discovered in 1799, was crucial for understanding which ancient civilisation?

- A) Mesopotamian
- B) Roman
- C) Greek
- D) Egyptian**

8. What is the primary difference between an artifact and a feature in archaeology?

- A) Artifacts are natural, features are man-made
- B) Artifacts are mobile objects, features are immobile structures or modifications to the landscape**
- C) Artifacts are always made of stone, features are always made of wood
- D) Artifacts are found above ground, features are found underground

9. Which of the following is an example of a 'feature' at an archaeological site?

- A) A pottery shard
- B) A stone tool
- C) A hearth or fireplace**
- D) A bone fragment

10. The study of ancient plant remains is called:

- A) Archaeozoology
- B) Paleobotany**
- C) Geomorphology
- D) Anthropology