

Palaeontology and Cosmic Origins

Palaeontology · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. What is the study of fossils called?

- A) Astronomy
- B) Palaeontology
- C) Botany
- D) Meteorology

2. Earth is the only planet in our solar system currently known to support life, which is preserved as what?

- A) Stars
- B) Fossils
- C) Gas clouds
- D) Moon dust

3. How are fossils primarily formed?

- A) Sediment burial
- B) Solar flares
- C) Space travel
- D) Volcanic lightning

4. Which planet is the closest neighbor to Earth, though it lacks fossil evidence?

- A) Jupiter
- B) Mars
- C) Saturn
- D) Neptune

5. What is the name of the era during which dinosaurs lived, long after Earth formed?

- A) Mesozoic
- B) Galactic Era
- C) Lunar Period
- D) Stellar Age

6. Fossils provide evidence for how life changed over long periods of time on which planet?

- A) Venus
- B) Earth
- C) Mars
- D) Mercury

7. Which celestial body has a major impact on Earth's tides, influencing coastal sediment where fossils are often found?

- A) The Sun
- B) The Moon
- C) Jupiter
- D) Pluto

8. What do palaeontologists use to determine the age of rocks and fossils?

- A) Stellar mapping
- B) Radiometric dating
- C) Telescopes
- D) Sunspots

9. The Sun provides the energy required for photosynthesis, the process that supports the food chain that eventually results in fossils. What is the Sun?

- A) A planet
- B) A star
- C) A comet
- D) An asteroid

10. Which layer of the Earth, where fossils are discovered, is located beneath our feet?

- A) The Crust
- B) The Core
- C) The Atmosphere
- D) The Exosphere

11. What is the term for a space rock that strikes Earth and can alter the climate, potentially leading to mass extinctions?

- A) Meteorite
- B) Planetoid
- C) Satellite
- D) Galaxy

12. Fossils are most commonly found in what type of rock, which forms from layers of particles?

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

13. The study of the history of the universe is called cosmology, while the study of ancient life on Earth is called what?

- A) Palaeontology
- B) Astrophysics
- C) Chemistry
- D) Geography

14. Roughly how old is the Earth, providing the massive timescale for evolution and fossilization?

- A) 4.5 billion years
- B) 1 million years
- C) 10,000 years
- D) 500 years

15. What type of ancient organisms lived in Earth's oceans long before humans existed?

- A) Trilobites
- B) Space aliens
- C) Moon rovers
- D) Solar drones