

Geological Milestones and Measurements

Geology · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. In what year did Alfred Wegener first publish his detailed hypothesis on continental drift, titled 'The Origin of Continents and Oceans'?

- A) 1912
- B) 1915**
- C) 1920
- D) 1924

2. Approximately how many years ago did the Great Oxidation Event, a significant increase in atmospheric oxygen, begin?

- A) 1.2 billion
- B) 2.4 billion**
- C) 3.6 billion
- D) 4.5 billion

3. What is the approximate number of tectonic plates that make up the Earth's lithosphere today?

- A) 5 to 7
- B) 15 to 20**
- C) 30 to 40
- D) over 100

4. The Mohorovicic discontinuity, which marks the boundary between the Earth's crust and mantle, was discovered in what year?

- A) 1889
- B) 1909**
- C) 1929
- D) 1949

5. How many primary 'spheres' or layers of the Earth are traditionally defined in basic internal structure models (e.g., crust, mantle, core)?

- A) 2
- B) 3**
- C) 5
- D) 7

6. The Richter scale for measuring earthquake magnitude was developed by Charles Richter and Beno Gutenberg in which decade?

A) 1910s

B) 1930s

C) 1950s

D) 1970s

7. According to the standard geological time scale, how many millions of years ago did the Permian-Triassic extinction event, the 'Great Dying', occur?

A) 66 million

B) 150 million

C) 252 million

D) 400 million

8. James Hutton, often called the father of modern geology, published his seminal work 'Theory of the Earth' in which year?

A) 1785

B) 1795

C) 1805

D) 1815