

Pioneers and Discoveries in Geology

Geology · Answer Key · 20 Questions

1. Who is widely considered the 'Father of Modern Geology' for his work on deep time?

- A) James Hutton**
- B) Charles Darwin
- C) Isaac Newton
- D) Alfred Wegener

2. What is the name of the scale used to measure the hardness of minerals, created in 1812?

- A) Richter Scale
- B) Mohs Scale**
- C) Beaufort Scale
- D) Kelvin Scale

3. Which scientist first proposed the theory of continental drift in 1912?

- A) Harry Hess
- B) Alfred Wegener**
- C) James Cook
- D) Louis Agassiz

4. The study of fossils is scientifically known as what?

- A) Archaeology
- B) Paleontology**
- C) Biology
- D) Zoology

5. Which tool was invented to measure the intensity of earthquakes?

- A) Thermometer
- B) Seismograph**
- C) Barometer
- D) Spectrometer

6. What is the oldest known type of rock found on Earth?

- A) Sedimentary
- B) Igneous**
- C) Metamorphic
- D) Fossilized

7. Which English geologist published the influential book 'Principles of Geology' in 1830?

A) Charles Lyell

B) Gregor Mendel

C) Robert Hooke

D) Carl Linnaeus

8. What concept describes the idea that the Earth's processes today are the same as those in the past?

A) Uniformitarianism

B) Catastrophism

C) Evolution

D) Big Bang

9. Which gas, released by volcanoes, is a primary component of Earth's early atmosphere?

A) Oxygen

B) Carbon Dioxide

C) Argon

D) Neon

10. In 1801, William Smith created the first what?

A) Geological map of a country

B) Global temperature record

C) Database of stars

D) Chart of ocean depths

11. Which layer of the Earth was the first to be theorized as molten?

A) Crust

B) Mantle

C) Outer Core

D) Inner Core

12. What mineral was the first to be classified using the Mohs hardness scale?

A) Talc

B) Diamond

C) Quartz

D) Calcite

13. The first person to correctly identify that fossils were once living organisms was likely who?

A) Leonardo da Vinci

B) Albert Einstein

C) Nikola Tesla

D) Galileo

14. What scientific term refers to the preserved remains or traces of ancient life?

A) Artifacts

B) Fossils

C) Minerals

D) Crystals

15. Which tectonic plate boundary was first identified as a place where plates slide past each other?

A) Transform

B) Divergent

C) Convergent

D) Subduction

16. The first deep-sea drilling project to provide evidence for seafloor spreading was called what?

A) Project Mohole

B) Apollo Program

C) Voyager

D) Deep Sea Drilling Project

17. Which famous 19th-century naturalist studied volcanic islands like the Galápagos?

A) Charles Darwin

B) Sigmund Freud

C) Marco Polo

D) Alexander von Humboldt

18. What was the name of the supercontinent that existed about 335 million years ago?

A) Gondwana

B) Pangaea

C) Laurasia

D) Rodinia

19. Which instrument is used to determine the direction of the Earth's magnetic field?

A) Compass

B) Telescope

C) Microscope

D) Hydrometer

20. The first successful measurement of the Earth's circumference was performed by whom?

A) Eratosthenes

B) Aristotle

C) Plato

D) Socrates