

Pioneers and Discoveries in Geology

Geology · Practice Test · 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