

Pioneers and Milestones in Geology

Geology · Practice Test · 15 Questions

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

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

2. Which scientist is credited with first proposing the theory of continental drift in 1912?

- A) Harry Hess
- B) Alfred Wegener
- C) Arthur Holmes
- D) Beno Gutenberg

3. What is the name of the scale created by Friedrich Mohs in 1812 to measure the hardness of minerals?

- A) Richter Scale
- B) Mercalli Scale
- C) Mohs Scale
- D) Fujita Scale

4. Which 17th-century scientist is known as the 'Father of Stratigraphy' for formulating the laws of superposition?

- A) Nicolaus Steno
- B) William Smith
- C) Georges Cuvier
- D) Charles Lyell

5. Who published 'Principles of Geology' in the 1830s, which popularized the theory of uniformitarianism?

- A) Louis Agassiz
- B) Charles Lyell
- C) John Wesley Powell
- D) James Hall

6. William Smith created the first ever what in 1815, revolutionizing how we understand rock layers?

- A) Seismograph
- B) Geological map
- C) Topographic globe
- D) Rock classification system

7. In 1935, which scientist developed the magnitude scale used to measure the strength of earthquakes?

- A) Charles Richter
- B) Hiroo Kanamori
- C) Giuseppe Mercalli
- D) Thomas Jaggar

8. Which female scientist is credited with discovering the Earth's solid inner core in 1936?

- A) Marie Tharp
- B) Inge Lehmann
- C) Florence Bascom
- D) Mary Anning

9. Mary Anning, a famous early 19th-century collector, is best known for her pioneering discoveries of what?

- A) Gold deposits
- B) Marine reptile fossils
- C) Volcanic vents
- D) Magnetic poles

10. The first person to prove that fossils were the remains of ancient living organisms was which scientist?

- A) Robert Hooke
- B) James Hutton
- C) George Lyell
- D) Carl Linnaeus

11. What was the first mineral to be officially named and classified using the Mohs hardness scale?

- A) Diamond
- B) Talc
- C) Quartz
- D) Calcite

12. Which oceanographer produced the first comprehensive map of the ocean floor in the 1950s?

- A) Marie Tharp
- B) Sylvia Earle
- C) Robert Ballard
- D) Jacques Cousteau

13. What concept, proposed by Harry Hess in the 1960s, helped explain the movement of continents?

- A) Seafloor spreading
- B) Glacial erosion
- C) Radioactive decay
- D) Crustal melting

14. Which explorer led the first geological survey of the Grand Canyon in 1869?

- A) John Wesley Powell
- B) Ferdinand Hayden
- C) Clarence King
- D) George Wheeler

15. Who first observed that the Earth's crust is divided into large moving plates, leading to plate tectonics?

- A) John Tuzo Wilson
- B) Walter Alvarez
- C) Luis Alvarez
- D) Dan McKenzie