

Earth and Life History

Name:

Looking at Fossils

Period:

Use Chapter 9, Section 1 of your textbook to answer the questions below.

Section 1: Looking at Fossils (p.264)

Fossilized Organisms

1. A fossil is the trace or remains of an _____ that lived long ago.



Fossils in Rocks

2. If a dead organism is quickly buried in _____, its _____ parts can be preserved.

Fossils in Amber

3. If an insect is caught in tree sap, when the tree sap hardens it turns into _____.

Frozen Fossils

4. Fossils can be frozen from the last _____.

5. The cold temperatures of ice slow down the _____ of animals like mammoths.

Fossils in Asphalt

6. At the La Brea Tar Pits, animals were trapped because the tar they wandered into was _____.

Petrification

7. Petrified _____ is created when a tree's tissues are replaced by minerals.

Other Types of Fossils (p.266)

Trace Fossils

8. Any fossilized evidence of an animal's activity is a _____.

9. A trace fossil that can show how big an animal was and how fast it moved is a _____.

10. A trace fossil of a shelter made by an animal is a _____.

11. A trace fossil made of preserved animal dung is called a _____.

Molds and Casts

Match the correct description with the correct term. Write the letter in the space provided.

_____ 12. an impression left in rock where a plant or animal was buried a. cast

_____ 13. an object formed when sediment fills a mold and becomes rock b. mold

turn over for more questions

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Using Fossils to Interpret the Past (p.267)

The Information in the Fossil Record

- _____ 14. What kind of ancient organisms do scientists know the most about?
- a. organisms with soft bodies
 - b. organisms with hard bodies
 - c. organisms that were eaten
 - d. organisms that were not discovered
- _____ 15. Why does the fossil record give only part of the history of life on Earth?
- a. The fossil record is incomplete.
 - b. All fossils have been discovered.
 - c. All environments are good for fossils.
 - d. No more fossils will ever be made.

A History of Environmental Changes

- _____ 16. Where were marine fossils found on mountains formed?
- a. in a forest
 - b. in a desert
 - c. at an ocean bottom
 - d. in asphalt
- _____ 17. What can be learned about the climate of Antarctica from fossils of freshwater organisms?
- a. Antarctica used to be warmer.
 - b. Antarctica used to be colder.
 - c. Antarctica used to be a desert.
 - d. Antarctica used to be mountains.

A History of Changing Organisms (p.268)

- _____ 18. What can scientists learn by comparing similarities between fossils and living organisms?
- a. Life has never changed.
 - b. All life forms are alike.
 - c. Life has changed over time.
 - d. Life changes have been continuously recorded.

Dating the Fossil Record

19. Paleontologists put fossils in order based upon _____ .
20. Fossils found in the _____ layers of rock lived more recently than those found in _____ layers of rock.

Using Fossils to Date Rocks

21. _____ fossils appear all around the world in certain rock layers.
22. Index fossils can be used to _____ rock layers.

Trilobites as Index Fossils

23. Extinct relatives of spiders, scorpions, and horseshoe crabs are the _____ .

Ammonites as Index Fossils (p.269)

24. An extinct relative of the squid is a _____ .