Earth and Life History Name:

Looking at Fossils Period:

Use Chapter 9, Section 1 of your textbook to answer the questions below. The word banks can be used to fill out the sentences below them.

amber decay hard ice age organism sediment sticky wood

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 (p.264)

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

Fossils in Amber (p.264)

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

Frozen Fossils (p.265)

4. Fossils can be frozen from the last _____ .

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

Fossils in Asphalt (p.265)

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

Petrification (p.265)

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

burrow coprolite footprint trace fossil

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 (p.266)
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

Earth and Life History Name:

Looking at Fossils Period:

age ammonite date index ocean older trilobites younger

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 (p.267)

16. Imagine you find marine fossils on the top of a mountain. Despite where you found them, these fossils had to have formed at the bottom of an _____ .

_____ 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 (p.268)

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 (p.268)

21. _____ fossils appear all around the world in certain rock layers.

22. Index fossils can be used to _____ rock layers.

Trilobites as Index Fossils (p.268)

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 _____ .