

Earth and Life History

Name:

Superposition & Disturbed Rock Layers

Period:

Use Chapter 8, Section 2 of your textbook to answer the questions below.

The Principle of Superposition (p.240)

1. Look at the layers of rock in Figure 3. The oldest rocks will be at the _____ of the layers, and the newest rocks will be at the _____ of the layers.
2. What do scientists know about an undisturbed sequence of rock layers?
 - a. Older rocks lie above younger rocks.
 - b. Younger rocks lie under older rocks.
 - c. Younger rocks lie above older rocks.
 - d. Older rocks have eroded away.
3. The principle of _____ states that younger rocks lie above older rocks in an undisturbed sequence.
4. Thinking about superposition helps scientists to figure out the relative ages of _____.
5. Fossils are usually found in _____ rock.
6. Fossils found in a lower rock layer will be _____ than fossils found in layers above them.

Disturbed Rock Layers

7. Gravity makes sediment get deposited in _____ layers.
8. Which of the following statements about rock sequences is NOT true?
 - a. Some rock sequences are disturbed by forces within Earth.
 - b. All rock sequences have the oldest layers on top.
 - c. Earth's forces can push rocks into a sequence.
 - d. Some rock sequences can be upside down.
9. The bending of rock layers that results from stress is called _____.
10. If rock layers become slanted, this is called _____.
11. Rocks can shift position along a _____, which is a crack in Earth's crust.
12. An _____ is created after hot magma forces its way up through other rocks, then cools off.



turn over for more questions

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Gaps in the Record (p.242)

13. If layers of rock are missing, this makes a _____ in the geologic record.

14. A break or missing part in the geologic record is called an _____ .

15. An unconformity represents _____ time.

_____ 16. Which of the following does NOT form an unconformity?

- a. Deposition stops after a supply of sediment is cut off.
- b. Erosion removes layers.
- c. A break in the geologic record happens.
- d. Gravity causes sediment to form in layers.