

Earth and Life History

Name: _____

Superposition & Disturbed Rock Layers

Period: _____

Use Chapter 8, Section 2 of your textbook to answer the questions below. The word banks can be used to fill out the sentences below them.

bottom fault folding fossils horizontal intrusion older rock layers
 sedimentary superposition tilting top

The Principle of Superposition (p.240)

Superposition in Rock Layers

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 both _____ and _____.
5. Fossils are usually found in a type of rock called _____ rock.
6. Fossils found in a lower rock layer will be _____ than fossils found in layers above them.

Disturbed Rock Layers (p.241)

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.



Processes That Disturb Rock Layers (p.241)

9. Figure 4 shows the bending of rock layers that results from stress, called _____.
10. Figure 4 shows what happens when rock layers become slanted; this is called _____.

Features That Cut Across Rock Layers (p.241)

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

gap missing unconformity

Gaps in the Record (p.242)

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

Unconformities (p.242)

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

15. An unconformity represents _____ time.

_____ 16. Look at Figure 5. 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.