

Plate Tectonics Questions

Name _____

Date _____ Per _____

1. What did Alfred Wegener notice about the outlines of the continents?
2. What was Pangaea?
3. What is Continental Drift?
4. What did Wegener notice about fossils on different continents?
5. What did Wegener propose after looking at rock sequences on different continents?
6. What are glacial striations?
7. What were the two choices Wegener saw concerning climate zones of the past?
8. What was the major problem with Wegener's ideas?
9. What is thermal convection?
10. Describe the Earth's core. What is the asthenosphere? What is the lithosphere?
11. Is oceanic crust or continental crust denser?
12. Where is new crust formed? Where does old crust go?
13. What observation has been made about the age of the basalt that forms a mid ocean ridge?
14. What causes the magnetic striping noticed about mid ocean ridges?
15. Where are most of the world's earthquakes and volcanoes located?
16. Describe divergent plate boundaries.
17. Describe convergent plate boundaries. Name the three types.
18. Describe transform plate boundaries.
19. What is a rift zone?
20. What is a mid ocean ridge?
21. What is a subduction zone?
22. What happens when plates slide past each other?
23. What type of convergent plate boundary is found along the west coast of South America where there is an ocean trench offshore and the Andes Mountains onshore?
24. What type of plate boundary occurs along the western part of California running from San Francisco to Baja California?
25. What type of convergent plate boundary is found along the southern part of the Himalayas where the plate with the country of India at its northern end has smashed itself against Asia?
26. What type of plate boundary is located nearly halfway between South America and Africa?
27. What type of convergent plate boundary is found in the western Pacific Ocean east of Australia where the Mariana's Trench is as much as 35,000 feet below sea level?
28. What type of plate boundary occurs at the Red Sea (African Rift Valley)?
29. What type of plate boundary joins mid ocean ridge segments?
30. What type of convergent plate boundary creates a volcanic island arc system?