

Tectonic Plates Quiz Answer Key PDF

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Which type of boundary is the San Andreas Fault an example of?

- A. Convergent
- B. Divergent
- C. Transform ✓**
- D. Subduction

Which major tectonic plate is the largest?

- A. African Plate
- B. Pacific Plate ✓**
- C. Eurasian Plate
- D. North American Plate

Which type of plate boundary is characterized by plates moving apart?

- A. Convergent
- B. Divergent ✓**
- C. Transform
- D. Static

Describe the process of sea-floor spreading and its significance in plate tectonics.

Sea-floor spreading occurs at mid-ocean ridges where magma rises to create new oceanic crust, pushing older crust away from the ridge, which is crucial for understanding plate tectonics.

Which plates are involved in the formation of the Himalayas? (Select all that apply)

- A. Pacific Plate
- B. Indian Plate ✓**

C. Eurasian Plate ✓

D. African Plate

What evidence supports the theory of continental drift proposed by Alfred Wegener?

The evidence supporting Wegener's theory includes the jigsaw-like fit of continents, identical fossils found on widely separated landmasses, matching geological structures across continents, and paleoclimatic indicators that suggest continents were once positioned differently.

Compare and contrast oceanic and continental crust in terms of composition and thickness.

Oceanic crust is thinner and denser, primarily made of basalt, while continental crust is thicker and less dense, primarily composed of granitic rocks.

How do tectonic plates influence the occurrence and distribution of earthquakes globally?

Earthquakes primarily occur along tectonic plate boundaries due to the movement and interaction of these plates, which can cause stress to build up and eventually release.

Which of the following are major tectonic plates? (Select all that apply)

A. Pacific Plate ✓

B. Nazca Plate

C. Indo-Australian Plate ✓

D. Cocos Plate

What geological feature is commonly formed at convergent boundaries?

A. Ocean trenches

B. Mid-ocean ridges

C. Earthquakes

D. Mountain ranges ✓

What phenomena are commonly associated with tectonic plate boundaries? (Select all that apply)

A. Earthquakes ✓

B. Hurricanes

C. Volcanic eruptions ✓

D. Mountain building ✓

What is the Earth's lithosphere composed of?

A. Only the crust

B. Only the mantle

C. The crust and upper mantle ✓

D. The core and mantle

What are tectonic plates?

A. Layers of the atmosphere

B. Large pieces of the Earth's lithosphere ✓

C. Types of ocean currents

D. Forms of weather patterns

What is the primary cause of tectonic plate movement?

A. Ocean currents

B. Gravitational pull

C. Convection currents in the mantle ✓

D. Wind patterns

Explain how convection currents in the mantle contribute to the movement of tectonic plates.

Convection currents in the mantle contribute to the movement of tectonic plates by creating a cycle of rising hot material and sinking cooler material, which generates forces that drive the plates apart or together.

Which of the following are minor tectonic plates? (Select all that apply)

A. Nazca Plate ✓

B. South American Plate

C. Cocos Plate ✓

D. Antarctic Plate

Discuss the impact of tectonic plate movement on the Earth's surface and ecosystems.

The impact of tectonic plate movement on the Earth's surface includes the creation of geological features such as mountains and valleys, as well as natural disasters like earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, which can drastically change ecosystems and biodiversity.

Which of the following statements about divergent boundaries are true? (Select all that apply)

- A. Plates move towards each other
- B. New crust is formed ✓**
- C. They are associated with mid-ocean ridges ✓**
- D. Plates slide past each other

Which scientist is credited with the theory of continental drift?

- A. Charles Darwin
- B. Alfred Wegener ✓**
- C. Isaac Newton
- D. Marie Curie

What are characteristics of transform boundaries? (Select all that apply)

- A. Plates slide past each other ✓**
- B. New crust is created
- C. Earthquakes are common ✓**
- D. Volcanic activity is frequent