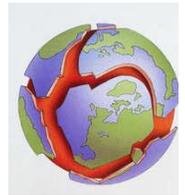




Plate Tectonics / Chapter 5

Definitions



Directions: Read the definition and record the vocabulary word that goes with that definition on notebook paper. Draw a simple picture to illustrate each vocabulary word. Number your notebook paper 1-34.

1. The outer, solid part of the earth that includes the crust and the top part of the mantle; broken into plates that move a few centimeters per year.
2. The “middle” part of the mantle found under the lithosphere; has hot “plastic” rock that moves in convection currents.
3. Vibrations that move through the earth when an earthquake occurs; there are three types that move in different ways through the earth; some move through both solid and liquid; some move only through solids
4. An igneous rock that is dense, gray and forms most oceanic crust.
5. An igneous rock that is less dense, has coarse texture and forms most continental crust.
6. The name given to the “super continent” or single landmass that existed about 300 million years ago
7. The German Scientist who proposed Continental Drift and wrote a book in 1915 called *The Origin of Continents and Oceans* in which he included evidence for continental drift.
8. Alfred Wegener proposed this hypothesis that stated that continents were once joined together in a single landmass and that the continents had gradually moved over the past 300 million years
9. The name given to the huge slabs of solid rock that sit on top of the asthenosphere and move a few centimeters per year; the outer rigid surface of the earth is broken into about 15-17 of these slabs
10. A place where two lithospheric plates are moving toward each other
11. A place where two lithospheric plates are moving away from each other
12. A place where two lithospheric plates are sliding/grinding past each other in opposite direction
13. The process that occurs at a convergent boundary where the denser plate sinks under the less dense plate.
14. The deepest depression in the earth (6.8 miles); found in the Pacific Ocean; created by subduction at a convergent boundary
15. A huge crack in the earth that is thousands of miles long; found in east Africa; created at a divergent boundary; many volcanoes are associated with this area
16. A transform boundary that extends 810 miles through California; many earthquakes in CA are associated with this
17. Mountain chains found in all oceans where magma rises at divergent boundaries creating new sea floor; mountains are often described as volcanic since magma is spewing from them.
18. The theory that states that new ocean floor is created at divergent boundaries (mid ocean ridges) and is moving in an outward direction so that newer crust is found near the ridge and older crust is found further away
19. The thinnest and least dense layer of the earth
20. The crust which is mostly made of granite and is found above sea level
21. The crust which is mostly made of Basalt and is found on the sea floor
22. The thickest layer of the earth that is divided into three sections (solid, plastic, solid)
23. The only truly liquid layer of the earth that moves in convection currents; made of nickel and iron
24. The most dense layer of the earth; has highest temperature (10,000 F) and most pressure; solid Fe
25. The transfer of energy through space; objects are not touching; sunburns are caused by this form of heat transfer
26. Heat transfer by the movements of currents in a fluid or gas
27. Heat transfer within a material or between materials that are touching.
28. A measure of the amount of mass there is in a certain amount of space; the amount of mass per volume; a measure of how tightly or loosely packed molecules are
29. The flow that transfers heat within a fluid
30. An underwater canyon where ocean floor sinks back down into the mantle; this happens at convergent boundaries where subduction is taking place
31. States that the outer layer of the earth is broken into pieces called lithospheric plates and that these plates are in slow, constant motion, driven by the convection currents in the mantle.
32. A crack in the earth where plate movement occurs.
33. Created when magma rises to the surface of the earth and expelled from the crust
34. Created when rocks or plates are hung up on each other and trying to move; tension builds as plates try to move past each other; when they finally break free, tension and energy is released to surrounding rock

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