

Chapter 2 Practice Test

Indicate whether the statement is true or false.

1. Planets, moons, and stars revolve around the sun, but asteroids and meteoroids do not.
 - a. True
 - b. False

2. Earth's surface is made up of 70 percent water and 30 percent land.
 - a. True
 - b. False

3. Erosion is an external force that is constantly changing the surface of Earth.
 - a. True
 - b. False

4. The biosphere cannot exist without interaction with the atmosphere and hydrosphere.
 - a. True
 - b. False

5. The lithosphere is the part of Earth where life exists.
 - a. True
 - b. False

6. Aquifers are a source of freshwater.
 - a. True
 - b. False

7. Of all of Earth's water, 70 percent is salt water.
 - a. True
 - b. False

8. Desalination is the process of removing pollution from water.
 - a. True
 - b. False

9. Plate tectonics is the theory that the continents were once joined together and then slowly drifted apart.
 - a. True
 - b. False

10. Continental drift is caused by external forces.
 - a. True
 - b. False

11. The only layer of Earth that supports life is the mantle.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Chapter 2 Practice Test

12. Earth is part of a larger physical system that contains other planets, moons, and stars.
 - a. True
 - b. False
13. Subduction is the physical process in which heavy oceanic plates slide under continental plates.
 - a. True
 - b. False
14. Earth's salt water is in large basins called oceans, bays, seas, and gulfs.
 - a. True
 - b. False
15. The amount of water in the water cycle is constantly changing.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Indicate the answer choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

16. Critics of the desalination process argue that desalinated ocean water
 - a. is not safe to drink.
 - b. is not nutritious.
 - c. is expensive to produce.
 - d. is difficult to bottle.
17. Earth's lithosphere consists of
 - a. all the land and water on Earth's surface.
 - b. molten rock and toxic gasses.
 - c. a mix of nitrogen, carbon dioxide, and oxygen.
 - d. the crust, continents, and ocean basins.
18. How does humidity affect the movement of water in the water cycle?
 - a. High humidity accelerates condensation and precipitation.
 - b. High humidity levels increase the amount of water on Earth's surface.
 - c. Low humidity levels increase air temperature.
 - d. Low humidity levels increase water run-off at higher elevations.
19. How does the sun drive the water cycle?
 - a. It provides light for aquatic plant life.
 - b. It evaporates water on Earth's surface.
 - c. It condenses moisture in the air.
 - d. It causes morning rains.

Chapter 2 Practice Test

20. What keeps the planets revolving around the sun?
 - a. the sun's heat
 - b. the sun's gravitational pull
 - c. the sun's inertia
 - d. the sun's energy

21. Why is most of Earth's freshwater supply not available for consumption?
 - a. It is in polluted lakes and rivers.
 - b. It is too far underground.
 - c. It is frozen in glaciers and ice caps.
 - d. It is trapped in the water cycle.

22. Which internal process leads to earthquakes in places like California?
 - a. plating
 - b. weathering
 - c. faulting
 - d. eroding

23. Why are Mercury and Venus scalding hot?
 - a. They are made of hot gasses.
 - b. They are made of semi-solid magma.
 - c. They are closest to the sun.
 - d. They have thin atmospheres.

24. Which external force most likely formed the Great Lakes?
 - a. Plate separation made the ground sink.
 - b. Strong winds wore down the ground.
 - c. Rivers eroded the ground.
 - d. Glaciers scraped the ground.

25. Earth's oceans are
 - a. separate large basins surrounded by landmasses.
 - b. roughly equivalent in size.
 - c. one huge, continuous body of water.
 - d. almost as deep as the tallest mountains are high.

26. Which is the result of faulting?
 - a. The slow folding up of mountains as tectonic plates collide.
 - b. A sudden earthquake as bent tectonic plates release tension.
 - c. A cascade of rock and ash that spews forth along tectonic plate boundaries.
 - d. The destruction of undersea mountains as ocean plates slide under continental plates.

Chapter 2 Practice Test

27. Desalination technology has been developed to resolve the problem of
- scarcity of freshwater.
 - dwindling fish populations.
 - extreme climate changes.
 - global economics.
28. A solar system consists of
- a group of planets revolving around the same sun.
 - a classification system for different types of suns.
 - a process that measures a sun's physical features.
 - a group of stars such as our sun.
29. Life does not exist on other planets in our solar system due to their
- extreme temperatures.
 - size.
 - shape.
 - lack of carbon dioxide.
30. The sun activates the water cycle by
- condensing water in lakes and rivers.
 - causing weather systems to occur.
 - evaporating water from the surfaces of bodies of water.
 - causing precipitation.
31. The main reason for the creation of desalination plants is
- to provide freshwater to support human activities.
 - to promote jobs in high-tech industries and decrease agricultural careers.
 - to expand trade exports of excess salt and brine processing.
 - to provide economic stability to undeveloped countries.
32. Scientists theorize that Earth's largest physical features are created by
- erosion from mountain meltwater.
 - widening of continental shelves.
 - collisions between landmasses.
 - softening of the mantle.
33. Where is Earth's freshwater supply located?
- in bays, rivers, and underground
 - in glaciers, ice caps, lakes, streams, rivers, and underground
 - in lakes, rivers, streams, oceans, ice caps, and underground
 - in streams, lakes, rivers, seas, and bays

Chapter 2 Practice Test

34. The Grand Canyon was slowly created by what kind of external force?
- a. water erosion
 - b. glacial movement
 - c. wind erosion
 - d. rock erosion
35. The three layers of Earth are
- a. the lithosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere.
 - b. the plates, the crust, and the ocean basins.
 - c. the surface, the inner core, and the outer core.
 - d. the core, mantle, and the crust.
36. Why would a geographer think understanding our solar system is important?
- a. to track asteroids and comets so they don't collide with Earth
 - b. to map the positions and orbits of our solar system's planets around the sun
 - c. to understand how Earth fits into this system, much as how different areas of Earth fit together
 - d. to determine which planets may have supported life in the past or be able to sustain life now
37. Most of Earth's freshwater is in
- a. polar ice caps.
 - b. oceans.
 - c. rivers, lakes, and streams.
 - d. vapor in the atmosphere.
38. Of Earth's three structural layers, the hottest is
- a. the core, which includes a solid inner core and liquid outer core.
 - b. the crust, which is heated by solar radiation.
 - c. the atmosphere, which experiences hot summer weather.
 - d. the mantle, which contains the magma that makes volcanoes.
39. Which of Earth's layers is thickest?
- a. the biosphere
 - b. the crust
 - c. the core
 - d. the mantle
40. A continental shelf is
- a. a landform that connects continents.
 - b. a landform that separates continents.
 - c. an underwater extension of alluvial sediment.
 - d. an underwater extension of a coastal plain.

Chapter 2 Practice Test

41. Scientists think that Pangaea separated due to
- climate changes.
 - continental drift.
 - weathering.
 - glaciers.
42. What are moraines?
- compacted layers of snow that turn to ice
 - organic matter moved by wind erosion
 - rounded and weathered mountaintops
 - piles of rocks and debris left when glaciers melt
43. Scientists believe that accretion caused
- the expansion of western North America.
 - the creation of the continents.
 - the transformation of Pangaea.
 - the continental slope.
44. What classifies our solar system's four inner planets as terrestrial?
- They are closest to the sun.
 - They have atmospheres.
 - They have solid, rocky crusts.
 - They have solid, dense cores.
45. How can desalination plants negatively affect the environment?
- Desalination plants emit salt into the atmosphere.
 - Desalination plants will eventually cause lowering of sea levels.
 - Desalination plants produce water that can destroy arable land.
 - Desalination plants burn fossil fuels that contribute to pollution.
46. What does the expression "This year's rain is last year's snow" refer to?
- Rain in the spring can sometimes freeze due to unseasonable temperatures.
 - Snow consists of water in the frozen state and this water becomes rain when subjected to higher temperatures.
 - The amount of water on Earth does not change and is cycled in an unending process despite its changing physical state.
 - The amount of rain and snow changes due to the changing amount of water that cycles through Earth's atmosphere.
47. What provides the energy that drives the water cycle?
- the weather
 - the sun
 - the wind
 - the oceans

Chapter 2 Practice Test

48. What three areas of Earth work together so life in the biosphere thrives?
- the lithosphere, mesosphere, and stratosphere
 - the lithosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere
 - the troposphere, mesosphere, and lithosphere
 - the hydrosphere, mesosphere, and atmosphere
49. The _____ includes all liquid and frozen surface water, ground water, and water vapor.
- lithosphere
 - biosphere
 - hydrosphere
 - atmosphere
50. The Andes Mountains were created by the forces of
- erosion.
 - inversion.
 - precipitation.
 - subduction.
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| a. lithosphere | b. subduction |
| c. aquifer | d. groundwater |
| e. the water cycle | f. plate tectonics |
| g. hydrosphere | h. desalination |
| i. continental drift | j. erosion |
51. an underground layer of rock often saturated with freshwater
52. the process of evaporation, condensation, and precipitation
53. a process in which an oceanic plate dives under a continental plate
54. the effect of an external force such as wind, glaciers, and moving water on Earth's surface
55. a source of freshwater from rain or snow that filtered through soil or rock
56. the surface layer of Earth that includes the crust, continents, and ocean basins
57. the theory that Earth's continents were once joined and then drifted slowly apart
58. the process in which continents move and magma flows to create many of Earth's physical features
59. the process of making ocean water drinkable
60. the location of all of Earth's water

Chapter 2 Practice Test

- a. hydrosphere
 - b. accretion
 - c. subduction
 - d. water cycle
 - e. desalination
 - f. erosion
 - g. plate tectonics
 - h. atmosphere
 - i. biosphere
 - j. continental shelf
61. all water areas of Earth
62. creates many of Earth's physical features through continental drift and magma flow
63. the part of Earth where life exists
64. thin layer of gases that surrounds Earth
65. the process of removing salt from seawater
66. a part of the coastal plain that extends out underneath the ocean
67. oceanic plates slide under continental plates and scrape off seamounts, leaving debris that causes the continents to grow outward
68. the rotation of water from ocean to air to ground and back to the ocean
69. the movement of weathered rock by wind, glaciers, and moving water
70. oceanic plates dive under continental plates and melt, sometimes causing magma to rise and form volcanic mountains on land