



Uniformitarianism vs Catastrophism

18 Questions

NAME : _____

CLASS : _____

DATE : _____

1. What is a principal that states that geologic processes that occurred in the past can be explained by current geologic processes.
☐ a) Catastrophism ☐ b) Unconformity
☐ c) Uniformitarianism ☐ d) Angular Unconformity

2. A fossilized mark that is formed in soft sediment by the movement of an animal.
☐ a) Mold ☐ b) Cast
☐ c) Index Fossil ☐ d) Trace Fossil

3. A fossil that is found in the rock layers of only one geologic age and that is used to establish the age of the rock layers.
☐ a) Trace Fossil ☐ b) Index Fossil
☐ c) Mold ☐ d) Cast

4. Any method of determining whether an event or object is older or younger than other events or objects.
- ☐ a) Relative Dating ☐ b) Absolute Dating
- ☐ c) Isotope ☐ d) Speed Dating
5. A break in the geologic record created when rock layers are eroded or when sediment is not deposited for a long period of time.
- ☐ a) Disconformity ☐ b) Monoconformity
- ☐ c) Unconformity ☐ d) Angular Unconformity
6. Any method of measuring the age of an event or object in years.
- ☐ a) Absolute Dating ☐ b) Relative Dating
- ☐ c) Speed Dating ☐ d) Isotope
7. An atom that has the same number of protons as the other atoms of the same element but has a different number of neutrons.
- ☐ a) Radio Active Decay ☐ b) Isotope
- ☐ c) Half-life ☐ d) Full-life

8. The process in which a radioactive isotope tends to break down into a stable isotope of the same element or another element.
- ☐ a) Radioactive Decay ☐ b) Isotope
- ☐ c) Half-life ☐ d) Full-life
9. The scientific study of fossils.
- ☐ a) Geology ☐ b) Paleontology
- ☐ c) Biology ☐ d) Anthropology
10. A method of determining the age of an object by estimating the relative percentages of a radioactive isotope and a stable isotope.
- ☐ a) Half-life ☐ b) Radiometric dating
- ☐ c) Isotope ☐ d) Periodic Table of the Elements
11. A mark or cavity made in a sedimentary surface by a shell or other body.
- ☐ a) Mold ☐ b) Cast
- ☐ c) Trace Fossil ☐ d) Index Fossil

12. The remains or physical evidence of an organism preserved by geological processes.
- ☐ a) Fossil ☐ b) Amber
- ☐ c) Rock ☐ d) Mineral
13. The time needed for half of a sample of a radioactive substance to undergo radioactive decay.
- ☐ a) isotope ☐ b) half-life
- ☐ c) full-life ☐ d) biological decay
14. A principle that states geologic change occurs suddenly.
- ☐ a) Catastrophe ☐ b) Castrophism
- ☐ c) Uniformitarianism ☐ d) Uniform
15. A type of fossil that forms when sediments fill in the cavity left by a decomposed organism.
- ☐ a) Mold ☐ b) Cast
- ☐ c) Trace Fossil ☐ d) Index Fossil

16. A principle that states that younger rocks lie above older rocks if the layers have not been disturbed.

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ a) geology | ☐ b) The geologic column |
| ☐ c) The fossil record | ☐ d) Superposition |

17. Check all examples of uniformitarianism

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ a) erosion | ☐ b) weathering |
| ☐ c) tectonic plate movement | ☐ d) deposition |
| ☐ e) volcanic eruption | |

18. Check all of the examples of catastrophism

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ a) weathering | ☐ b) erosion |
| ☐ c) tornado | ☐ d) volcanic eruption |
| ☐ e) hurricane | |

Answer Key

- | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------------|
| 1. c | 6. a | 11. a | 16. d |
| 2. d | 7. b | 12. a | 17. a,b,c,d |
| 3. b | 8. a | 13. b | 18. c,d,e |
| 4. a | 9. b | 14. b | |
| 5. c | 10. b | 15. b | |