

AP Environmental Science: Unit – 4 - Earth Systems and Resources Practice Test

Question 1

An area beneath the ocean floor where tectonic plates move away from each other is known as a

- A. Subduction zone
- B. Seafloor spreading
- C. Divergent plate boundary
- D. Convergent plate boundary
- E. Transform fault boundary

Question 2

Which of the following layers of the earth is entirely liquid?

- A. Inner core
- B. Outer core
- C. Mantle
- D. Asthenosphere
- E. Lithosphere

Question 3

The loss of some or all of a soil's ability to support plant growth is called

- A. Erosion
- B. Soil degradation
- C. Physical weathering
- D. Chemical weathering
- E. Base saturation

Question 4

Which body of water has been significantly reduced in size due to water diversion?

- A. The Baltic Sea
- B. The Aral Sea
- C. Lake Huron
- D. Lake Huron

E. The Nile River

Question 5

If a deep well pumps water from an aquifer more rapidly than it can be regenerated, which of the following may form?

- A. Cone of depression
- B. Saltwater intrusion
- C. Confined aquifer
- D. Unconfined aquifer
- E. Flood plain

Question 6

Which of the following lists the correct order of *increasing* organic content in soil?

- A. Young soil, Immature soil, Mature soil
- B. Immature soil, Young soil, Mature soil
- C. Mature soil, Immature soil, Young soil
- D. Mature soil, Young soil, Immature soil
- E. Young soil, Mature soil, Immature soil

Question 7

Which type of plate interaction occurs when plates move sideways past each other?

- A. Fault zone
- B. Divergent plate boundary
- C. Convergent plate boundary
- D. Transform plate boundary
- E. Volcanoes

Question 8

Which type of rocks form when mud, sand or gravel is compressed by overlying materials?

- A. Intrusive igneous rock
- B. Extrusive igneous rock
- C. Sedimentary rock
- D. Metamorphic rock
- E. Coal

Question 9

Where is the greatest amount of fresh water located on Earth?

- A. Water bodies, such as rivers, lakes and ponds
- B. The Atmosphere
- C. Below the earth's surface
- D. Oceans
- E. Ice and glaciers

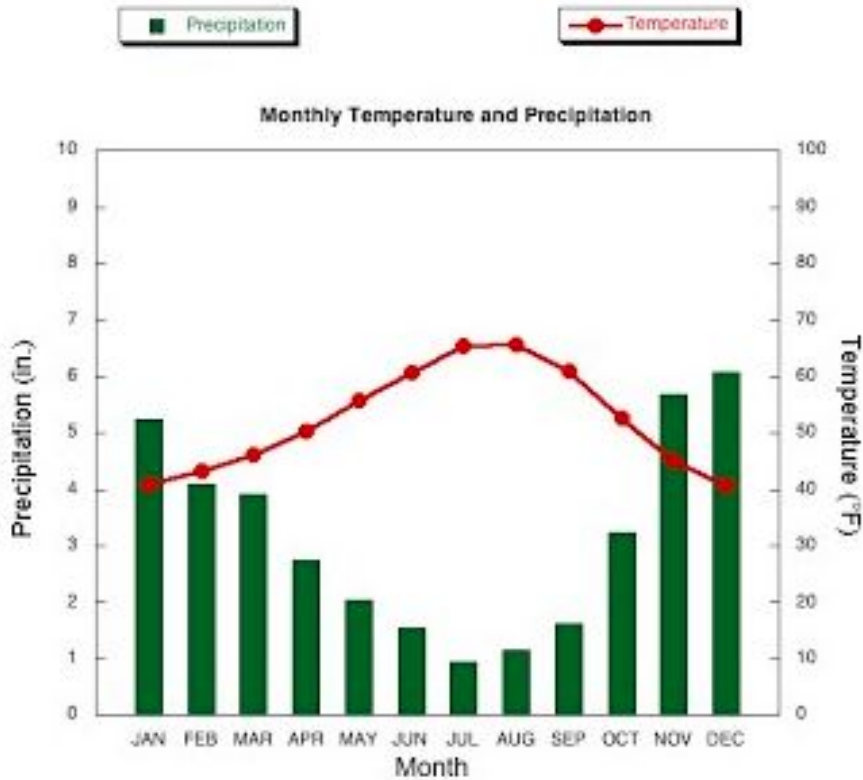
Question 10

What is the most efficient agricultural irrigation technique?

- A. Drip irrigation
- B. Furrow irrigation
- C. Flood irrigation
- D. Spray irrigation
- E. Mechanical irrigation

Question 11

Where is this biome located?



- A. Northern Hemisphere, Temperate
- B. Northern Hemisphere, Tropical
- C. Southern Hemisphere, Temperate
- D. Southern Hemisphere, Tropical

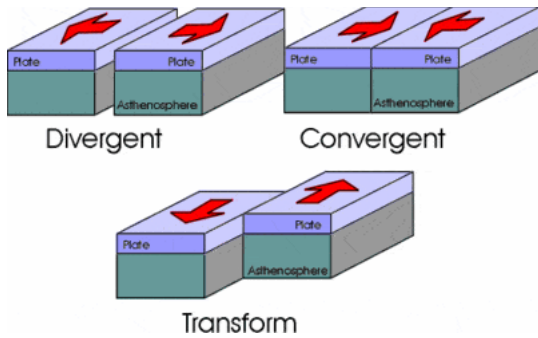
Question 12

Which statement is false?

- A. The equator is a low pressure zone.
- B. Winds are named by where they originate.
- C. Deserts form near high pressure zones.
- D. Deserts are typically located around 60 degrees north or south of the equator.

Question 13

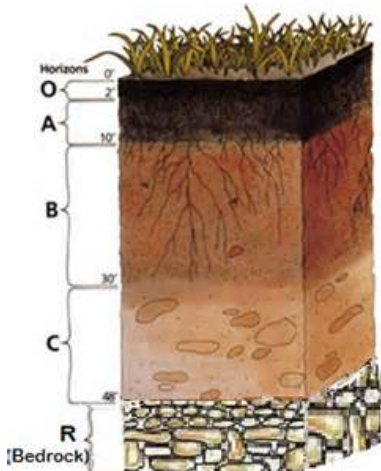
The San Andrea's Fault in California is which type of boundary?



- A. Convergent
- B. Divergent
- C. Subductive Zone
- D. Transform

Question 14

Which horizon is made up of partially weathered rocks?



- A. Horizon A
- B. Horizon B
- C. Horizon C
- D. Horizon D or R

Question 15

In which layer do all the pressure, wind, and precipitation changes occur?

- A. Outer space

- B. stratosphere
- C. troposphere
- D. mesosphere

Question 16

The Coriolis Effect is a result of the Earth's

- A. gravitation
- B. temperature
- C. rotation
- D. curvature

Question 17

The atmospheric zone where most weather events occur is the

- A. Stratosphere
- B. Thermosphere
- C. Troposphere
- D. Mesosphere

Question 18

When an area of the Earth's surface becomes very hot, the air above it

- A. Condenses and cools
- B. Warms, expands and rises
- C. Expands and sinks
- D. Condenses and sinks

Question 19

Which of the following changes in eastern Pacific Ocean food webs is typically associated with La Niña events?

- A. Decreased populations of squid

- B. Decreased populations of anchovies
- C. Increased phytoplankton concentrations
- D. Increased famine among sea lions and seals

Answer Key

- 1. C
- 2. B
- 3. B

4. B
5. A
6. B
7. D
8. C
9. E
- 10.A
- 11.A
- 12.D
- 13.D
- 14.C
- 15.C
- 16.C
- 17.B
- 18.C