Brainpop—Fossils

Name:

Period:

Watch the Brainpop on fossils, then answer the questions below. You can also check p.300 and Chapter 9, Section 1 of your textbook if you are getting stuck.

_____ 1. In order to form a fossil, an organism must usually _____ quickly after it dies.

a. decompose
b. go extinct
c. rot
d. be buried

_____ 2. Which of the following is an example of a body fossil?

a. a perfect mold of a dinosaur bone
b. a carbon print left by a leaf
c. the skull of a mammoth that fell into a tar pit
d. a dinosaur footprint

_____ 3. Why are deserts, tar pits, and ice good places to find body fossils?

a. most ancient organisms lived in these environments
b. bacteria and other decomposers cannot thrive in these environments
c. many ancient organisms traveled to these places to die
d. the largest ancient organisms lived in these environments

_____ 4. Which of the following terms best describes body fossils?

a. rare
b. widespread
c. made of stone
d. mummified

_____ 5. Which of the following is an example of a trace fossil?

a. a skeleton preserved in a tar pit
b. a footprint of an extinct animal
c. a mummy buried in ice
d. an insect preserved in amber

_____ 6. What can you conclude from the fact that so many fossils involve shells, skeletons, and teeth?

a. most organisms on earth have shells, skeletons, or teeth
b. bacteria and decomposers consume these parts first after an animal dies
c. these parts decay slower than other body parts
d. these parts are more likely to be buried in ice than other body parts

_____ 7. A mold fossil is most similar to...

a. an eggshell with no egg inside
b. a replica of your teeth made at a dentist's office
c. a bone your dog buries in your backyard
d. an insect trapped in tree sap

_____ 8. Although a cast fossil looks like an original bone or shell, how is it different?

a. it's made of rock
b. it contains skin, hair, and other remnants
c. it has been liquified
d. it is completely colorless

_____ 9. What can you infer from the fact that fossil fuels are carbon-based?

a. over time, flesh turns into carbon
b. most life on Earth is made from carbon
c. trees are made from carbon, but animals are not
d. swampy environments are carbon-poor environments

_____ 10. What two forces can turn fossils into fossil fuels?

a. lift and thrust
b. wind and rain
c. temperature and pressure
d. motion and time

Look at the cartoon from the video. Why are there so many different kinds of fossil types?

Work: 13 points, Assessment: 2 points

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Match the type of fossil from the list below with its description.

body cast mold trace

_____ A triceratops uses its horns to gouge a chunk out of a log. The log gets fossilized, with the gouges intact.

_____ A prehistoric beetle falls into a pool of mud. The mud hardens around the beetle's body, which decays away.

_____ The space left behind by the beetle fills in with minerals, which harden over time into the beetle's shape.

_____ A small mammal falls into a tar pit, where it is entirely preserved.

List 4 places a body fossil might be created:

1.

2.

3.

4.

List 4 types of trace fossils:

1.

2.

3.

4.

List 3 types of fossil fuels:

1.

2.

3.

Work: 13 points, Assessment: 2 points