

Plate Tectonics

Name: _____

Period: _____

Use Chapter 9, Section 2 of your textbook to answer the questions below. The word banks can be used to fill out the sentences below them.

apart earthquakes fingernails plate boundaries plate tectonics tectonic plates
thousands towards

Section 2: Earth's Changing Continents (p.270)

1. We can feel the surface of Earth move during _____.

Plate Tectonics (p.270)

2. The surface of Earth is broken up into blocks called _____.

_____ 3. What happens as Earth's mantle drags on the bottom of tectonic plates?

- a. The plates move. b. The plates spin. c. The plates sink. d. The plates rise.

4. Most tectonic plates move about as fast as your _____ grow.

5. Throughout Earth's history, plates have moved _____ of miles.

6. The theory of _____ explains how Earth's tectonic plates move and change shape.



Where Tectonic Plates Meet (p.271)

7. The places where two or more tectonic plates meet are called _____.

Convergent Boundaries (p.271)

8. At a convergent boundary, tectonic plates move _____ each other.

_____ 9. What forms if plates of continental lithosphere are forced together?

- a. mountain belts b. a line of volcanoes c. a new sea d. earthquakes

_____ 10. What may form if oceanic lithosphere sinks at a convergent boundary?

- a. mountain belts b. a line of volcanoes c. a new sea d. earthquakes

Divergent Boundaries (p.271)

11. At a divergent boundary, tectonic plates move _____.

_____ 12. What is a giant crack in the lithosphere called?

- a. a volcano b. a fissure c. a fault d. a rift

_____ 13. What forms if a rift tears apart a continent, then widens for millions of years?

- a. mountain belts b. a line of volcanoes c. a new sea d. earthquakes



turn over for more questions

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horizontally San Andreas Fault

Transform Boundaries (p.271)

14. At a transform boundary, tectonic plates move _____ past each other.

_____ 15. What can be caused by the movement of tectonic plates at a transform boundary?

- a. mountain belts b. a line of volcanoes c. a new sea d. earthquakes

16. A very famous transform boundary in California is called the _____ .