

# Chapter 9 Plate Tectonics Wordwise Answers

Chapter 9 Plate Tectonics Wordwise Answers Chapter 9 Plate Tectonics Wordwise Answers This document will provide answers to a hypothetical Wordwise activity focusing on the topic of Plate Tectonics. The answers will be presented in a structured format following the typical structure of a Wordwise activity:

- 1 Vocabulary Definitions of key terms related to plate tectonics
- 2 Fill in the blanks Sentences with gaps to be filled with appropriate vocabulary terms
- 3 True or False Statements about plate tectonics to be evaluated as true or false
- 4 Matching Matching terms with their definitions
- 5 Short Answer Questions requiring brief explanations related to plate tectonics

Note: This document assumes a hypothetical Wordwise activity. If you provide specific questions or tasks, I can tailor the answers accordingly.

Vocabulary:

- 1 Plate Tectonics: The theory that Earth's outer layer is made up of large, rigid plates that move and interact with each other.
- 2 Lithosphere: The rigid outer layer of Earth, composed of the crust and the uppermost part of the mantle.
- 3 Asthenosphere: The semimolten layer of the mantle beneath the lithosphere, allowing the plates to move.
- 4 Continental Drift: The theory that continents have moved over time, proposed by Alfred Wegener in the early 20th century.
- 5 Seafloor Spreading: The process by which new oceanic crust is formed at midocean ridges and spreads away from them.
- 6 Subduction: The process where one tectonic plate slides beneath another, typically occurring at convergent plate boundaries.
- 7 Convergent Plate Boundary: A boundary where two tectonic plates collide, resulting in mountain formation, volcanic activity, or subduction.
- 8 Divergent Plate Boundary: A boundary where two tectonic plates move apart, creating new oceanic crust or rifts.
- 9 Transform Plate Boundary: A boundary where two tectonic plates slide past each other horizontally, causing earthquakes.
- 10 Fault: A fracture in the Earth's crust where there has been movement.
- 11 Earthquake: A sudden release of energy in the Earth's crust, causing vibrations that can travel through the Earth.
- 12 Volcano: A vent in the Earth's crust through which molten rock

ash and gases erupt 13 MidOcean Ridge An underwater mountain range where new oceanic crust is formed 14 Trench A deep narrow depression in the ocean floor formed at convergent plate boundaries 15 Hotspot A localized area of volcanic activity that is not associated with a plate boundary FillintheBlanks 1 The theory of Plate Tectonics explains the movement and interaction of Earths lithospheric plates 2 The Asthenosphere a layer of the mantle below the lithosphere behaves like a viscous fluid allowing the plates to move 3 Continental Drift was a theory proposed by Alfred Wegener suggesting that continents had once been joined together 4 Seafloor Spreading occurs at midocean ridges creating new oceanic crust 5 Subduction happens when one plate slides beneath another often leading to volcanic activity 6 Convergent Plate Boundaries are zones where tectonic plates collide resulting in mountain ranges volcanic arcs or subduction zones 7 Divergent Plate Boundaries are areas where tectonic plates move apart creating new oceanic crust or rift valleys 8 Transform Plate Boundaries are characterized by the horizontal sliding of tectonic plates often leading to earthquakes 9 The San Andreas Fault is a famous example of a Transform Plate Boundary 10 Volcanoes are often found at convergent plate boundaries where magma rises to the 3 surface True or False 1 True The Earths crust is composed of large rigid plates called tectonic plates 2 False Plate tectonics is a relatively new theory developed in the mid20th century 3 True The movement of tectonic plates is driven by convection currents in the mantle 4 False The Earths magnetic field is generated by the movement of molten iron in the Earths core not by plate tectonics 5 True Earthquakes are often caused by the sudden release of energy along fault lines 6 False Volcanoes can be found at both convergent and divergent plate boundaries as well as hotspots 7 True Midocean ridges are underwater mountain ranges where new oceanic crust is created 8 False Trenches are the deepest parts of the ocean and are formed at convergent plate boundaries not divergent boundaries 9 True Hotspots are areas of volcanic activity that are not associated with plate boundaries 10 True The Hawaiian Islands were formed by a hotspot Matching Match the term with its correct definition Term Definition Lithosphere The rigid outer layer of Earth composed of the crust and the uppermost part of the mantle Asthenosphere The semimolten layer of the mantle beneath the lithosphere Continental Drift The theory that

continents have moved over time Seafloor Spreading The process by which new oceanic crust is formed at midocean ridges Subduction The process where one tectonic plate slides beneath another Short Answer 1 What are the three types of plate boundaries The three types of plate boundaries are convergent divergent and transform 4 2 Explain the process of seafloor spreading Seafloor spreading occurs at midocean ridges where magma rises from the mantle and cools creating new oceanic crust The new crust then spreads away from the ridge pushing older crust further away 3 How do earthquakes occur Earthquakes occur when tectonic plates move past each other causing a sudden release of energy along a fault line This energy travels through the Earth in the form of seismic waves 4 What are some of the geological features formed by plate tectonics Plate tectonics is responsible for many geological features including mountain ranges volcanic arcs trenches midocean ridges rift valleys and fault lines 5 Why is the study of plate tectonics important Understanding plate tectonics is crucial for predicting earthquakes volcanic eruptions and other natural disasters It also helps us to understand the formation of continents oceans and other geological features Note This is a sample Wordwise activity and answers You can modify the questions and answers based on your specific needs and the level of your students You can also add additional questions and tasks related to plate tectonics to make it more challenging

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