



Canarygeog Worksheet

Plate Tectonics - Answers

1. Why do tectonic plates move ?

The tectonic plates move because they are pushed along by the convection currents that take place in the mantle, these convection currents are produced by the heat in the core.

2. Explain the differences between oceanic and continental plates.

- Oceanic Plate is made of basalt, very dense and about 5-10 km. thick.
- Continental Plate has less density and is about 25-100 km. thick.

3. What plate is Canada on ?

The North American Plate

4. What plate is Spain on ?

The Eurasian Plate

5. Why are Canada and Spain getting further apart ?

Because they are part of two plates on a constructive plate boundary in the mid-atlantic.

6. Name 2 plates which are moving towards each other.

- Nazca and South America
- Eurasia and Africa
- Eurasia and Indo-Australia

7. Name 2 plates which are separating from each other.

Nazca and Pacific

Pacific and Caribbean

Eurasian and North American

8. Name 2 plates which are sliding past each other.

North America and Pacific

Africa and Indo-Australia

9. State what evidence there is that the South American continent and African continent were once joined.

- Fossils of plants and animals of the same families
- Geological strata and mountain ranges

10. What does the term plate boundary mean?

It's the edge of a plate, in other words the place where two plates meet.

11. What are the names of the four types of plate boundary?

- Constructive
- Destructive
- Conservative
- Collision

12. What landforms would you expect to find at a constructive plate boundary ?

- Mid-ocean ridge.
- Sea volcanoes
- Volcanic Islands
- Faults

13. What landforms would you expect to find at a destructive plate boundary ?

- Fold Mountains
- Ocean Trench
- Volcanoes

14. At which plate boundaries will you find Earthquakes ?

- Constructive
- Destructive
- Conservative
- Collision

15. At which plate boundaries will you find Volcanoes ?

- Constructive
- Destructive