

Fossils Quiz

Name:	
Date:	
Class:	

1. 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

2. 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

3. Which of the following terms best describes body fossils?

- a. Rare
- b. Widespread
- c. Made of stone
- d. Mummified

4. 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

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

- a. Decompose
- b. Go extinct
- c. Rot
- d. Be buried

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.



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 liquefied.
- d. It is completely colorless.

8. A mold fossil is most similar to:

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

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