



Directed Reading for  
Content Mastery

Section 2 ■ Mineral  
Identification  
Section 3 ■ Uses of Minerals

**Directions:** Use the chart to answer the questions below.

Mohs Hardness Scale		Hardness of common objects	
	soft		
Talc	1		
Gypsum	2	—	fingernail (2.5)
Calcite	3	—	piece of copper (2.5 to 3.0)
Fluorite	4	—	iron nail (4.5)
Apatite	5	—	glass (5.5)
Feldspar	6	—	steel file (6.5)
Quartz	7	—	streak plate (7.0)
Topaz	8		
Corundum	9		
Diamond	10		
	hard		

1. Name one mineral that you can scratch with your fingernail.

Talc OR Gypsum

2. Which mineral can scratch anything?

DIAMOND

3. Which object can scratch feldspar but not quartz?

Steel File

4. Which object can scratch apatite but not feldspar?

Glass

**Directions:** Write T for true or F for false before each statement below.

T

5. A gem is a highly prized mineral that is rare and beautiful.

T

6. An ore is a mineral or rock that contains a useful substance that can be mined at a profit.

T

7. Vein minerals are metal deposits that occur in the cracks of rocks.

F

8. Ilmenite and rutile are iron ores.