

**Chapter
Test B****Clues to Earth's Past****I. Testing Concepts**

Directions: Match the terms in Column I with their descriptions in Column II. Write the letter of the correct descriptions in the blank at the left.

Column I

- _____ 1. cast
- _____ 2. carbonaceous film
- _____ 3. index fossils
- _____ 4. fossil
- _____ 5. half-life
- _____ 6. principle of superposition
- _____ 7. absolute dating
- _____ 8. mold
- _____ 9. radioactive decay
- _____ 10. relative dating
- _____ 11. unconformities
- _____ 12. radiometric dating
- _____ 13. uniformitarianism
- _____ 14. permineralized remains

Column II

- a. produced when sediments fill in a cavity made when an object decayed
- b. cavity in rock made when an organism decayed
- c. principle that Earth's processes occurring today are similar to those that occurred in the past
- d. process that uses the properties of atoms in rocks and other objects to determine their ages
- e. states that in a sequence of undisturbed rocks, the oldest rocks are on the bottom and the rocks become progressively younger toward the top
- f. gaps in rock records made when agents of erosion remove existing rock layers
- g. method by which a geologist can calculate the absolute age of the rock by knowing the half-life of an isotope
- h. time it takes for half of an isotope's atoms to decay
- i. fossil of thin layer of carbon atoms and molecules
- j. formed when original materials in skeletal remains are replaced by minerals
- k. method by which order of events or age of rocks is determined by examining the position of rocks in a layer
- l. remains, imprints, or traces of once-living organisms
- m. process that occurs when the number of protons in an atom is changed and a new element is formed
- n. fossils of species that existed for short periods and were widespread