

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

Directions: Fill in the blanks to complete the sentences.

1. Fossils are the remains, _____, or traces of prehistoric organisms.
2. The relative age of something is its age _____ to other things.
3. The _____ is the age, in years, of a rock or other object.
4. _____ uses the half-life of an object to determine its age.
5. The _____ of an isotope is the time it takes for half of the atoms in the isotope to decay.
6. In the process of _____, some isotopes are unstable and break into other isotopes and particles, giving off energy.

Directions: Determine whether the statements below are **true** or **false**. Rewrite the underlined word(s) in the false statements to make them correct.

- _____ 7. Fossils are evidence of not only when and where animals once lived, but also how they lived.

- _____ 8. Coal provides a good fossil resource.

- _____ 9. For a fossil to be an index fossil, it must be spread over a wide area, and the organism must have lived over a long period of time.

- _____ 10. The principle of superposition states that in undisturbed layers of rock, the oldest rocks are at the top.

- _____ 11. Gaps in rock sequence are called radioactive decay.

- _____ 12. Hydrogen is useful for dating bones, wood, and charcoal up to 75,000 years old.

- _____ 13. Uniformitarianism states that Earth processes occurring today are similar to those that occurred in the past.
