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1. The major components of outgassing process

简答题 (5 分) (难易度: 易)

答题数据分析 最高分: 5 最低分: 3 平均分: 4.2

2. Which method can you use to determine the seafloor features, why? 简答题 (10 分) (难易度: 中)

答题数据分析 最高分: 10 最低分: 2 平均分: 6.8

Please list the Five Oceans and at least five seas

简答题 (5 分) (难易度: 易)

答题数据分析 最高分: 5 最低分: 5 平均分: 5

4. Principles to determine the relative age

简答题 (10 分) (难易度:中)

答题数据分析 最高分: 10 最低分: 5 平均分: 9.4

5. Please state the decay product, half-life, determination range, and applications of radiocarbon dating. 简答题 (15 分) (难易度: 中)

答题数据分析 最高分: 15 最低分: 5 平均分: 10.8

6. Typical features of convergent plate boundaries and divergent plate boundaries.

简答题 (15 分) (难易度: 中)

答题数据分析 最高分: 15 最低分: 8 平均分: 9.8

7. The behavior of seismic waves within Earth's interior.

简答题 (30 分) (难易度: 难)

答题数据分析 最高分: 25 最低分: 10 平均分: 16.2 _(氏标题)

8. How could you distinguish reverse fault and normal fault? 简答题 (10 分) (难易度: 中)

答题数据分析 最高分: 10 最低分: 7 平均分: 9.2

Continental Drift & Sea-Floor Spreading

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I. <u>Continental Drift</u>

Proposed by Alfred Wegener ~1912

Evidences: 1)Outlines of continents fit very well together





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Super-continent before ~ 200 million ago: Pangaea

2) similar sequences of rock types, ages, and structures in mountain belts across continents when they are fit together





3) Similar fossils across continents when they are fit together

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Evidence:

4) Similar paleo-climate condition when continents are fit together







Pangea: supercontient at ~ 225 million ago



PRESENT DAY

Mechanical problem

: both continental crust and ocean crust are brittle

Continents can't drift over ocean crust without breaking into small pieces



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SEA-FLOOR SPREADING



Sercementi-O-MEMB.com



II. Sea-Floor Spreading (~1962 by Adm. Harry H. Hess)

-- sea-floor is NOT permanent

- -- created at mid-ocean ridge (MOR) and spreads away from MOR; then recycled
- -- cause by thermal convection of mantle





Hess calculated the **spreading rate**: ~ 2.5 cm/year across the Mid-Atlantic Ridge

If correct, the whole Atlantic Ocean floor would be created in ~ 180 million years ago

Seafloor Spreading <u>Vine-Matthews' interpretations</u>

Symmetrical magnetic pattern about the ridge crest



Geomagnetism- Earth's magnetic field : causes by **thermal convection** in **liquid outer core**



Compass needles // magnetic lines of force

- -- horizontal at equator
- -- vertical at the geomagnetic poles
- -- angle of magnetic inclination reflects magnetic latitude



North magnetic pole

Inclination of

magnetic lines of force within the Earth's

magnetic field

Paleomagnetism: magnetic field of the Earth in the PAST preserved by magnetic minerals in rocks



de-magnetization



Paleomagnetism study on the locations of the **earth's poles**

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Apparent Polar Wander

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Based on paleomagnetism, the earth's poles show apparent motions at various paths



True Polar Wander



Magnetic reversals: periodic changes in the polarity of the earth's magnetic field

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Present orientation of Earth's magnetic field



Geomagnetism

Magnetic

Axis of rotation

axis

S

N



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"Magnetic Polarity Time Scale"

Magnetic anomalies of ocean rocks

Patterns of **alternating stripes** of above-average & below average magnetism **around ridge crest**





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Magnetic



After Mankinen, E., and Dalrymple, G. B., 1979.

Magnetic properties of ocean-floor rocks match the patterns of magnetic reversals known on the continents

-- can be used to determine the age of the ocean floor (age: 0 to ~200 my)

-- age of the sea floor become older toward the trench



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-- can calculate spreading rate



Magnometer



Magnetic reversal





Plate Tectonics

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Plate Tectonics

Tectonics: from Greek "tekton" --> "builder" Plates: large, rigid, mobile segments of the lithosphere Plate Tectonics: study the movement & deformation of tectonic plates



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- lithosphere moving horizontally over the asthenosphere





Plate Boundaries: Convergent, Divergent, and Transform Boundaries

1) **Divergent plate boundaries**

: 2 plates move apart from each other tensional forces; normal faults e.g., **Mid-ocean ridge (spreading center)**



Divergent plate boundaries

Continental Rift

- Normal faults
- Breaking up of a continent
- Thinning of continental crust



A Continent undergoes extension. The crust is thinned and a rift valley forms.



a) Rifting stagee.g., East African Rift Valley



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Continental rift valley e.g., Shanxi Graben



GSA Special Paper 425 2007, Mian Liu et. al.

Active tectonics and intracontinental earthquakes in China: The kinematics and geodynamics

Divergent plate boundaries

Continental Rift

b) small sea stage: e.g., Red Sea



C Continental sediments blanket the subsiding margins to form continental shelves. The ocean widens and a mid-oceanic ridge develops, as in the Atlantic Ocean.



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Photo by Jeff Schmaltz, MODIS Rapid Response Team, NASA/GSFC (http://visibleearth.nasa.gov/)

Divergent plate boundaries Continental Rift (c) Mid-ocean Ridge as a spreading center e.g., Atlantic Ocean



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 ${\bf C}$ Continental sediments blanket the subsiding margins to form continental shelves. The ocean widens and a mid-oceanic ridge develops, as in the Atlantic Ocean.

Types of Plate Boundaries2) Convergent Plate Boundary

- : two plates move toward each other (compressive forces)
- Recycling of
 lithosphere
 reverse & thrust
 faults





Ocean-Continent Convergence (Subduction Zones) -- down-going slab = oceanic lithosphere -- deep trench on the ocean side -- magmatic arc on the continent side



Ocean-Continent Convergence -- forarc basin

-- backarc thrust belt

-- sedimentary basin inland



Ocean-Continent convergence

e.g.,

Cascade Range





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Ocean-Continent Convergence e.g., Andes





Convergent Plate Boundary

Ocean - Ocean Convergence (Subduction Zones) -- down-going slab = older oceanic lithosphere -- deep trench; island arcs; forearc basin & backarc basin



Motion at convergent boundaries



Ocean - Ocean Convergence e.g., Western Pacific

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Many major mountain belts near subduction zones

e.g., Cordillera mountain belt : largest mountain belt in N. America



Convergent Plate Boundary

Continent - Continent Convergence Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. Permission required for reproduction of display.



Suture zone marks the old boundary



-- thrust belts and basins occur on both sides of the original magmatic arc

-- old magmatic arc become inactive

-- crustal shortening & thickening

-- granite intrusion & intense metamorphism



From Zhang, et al. Continuous deformation of the Tibetan Plateau from global positioning system data. Geology 2004 Vol. 32, No. 9, pp. 809-812.









3) Transform plate boundaries

- : 2 plates slide past each other
- -- no creation or destruction of lithosphere





Transform fault boundary

e.g.,

Siqueiros and Clipperton Transform faults along East Pacific Rise





Transform fault boundary

e.g.,

San Andreas Fault separates Pacific Plate &

North American Plate



Driving mechanisn

a) whole mantle convection

b) two-tiered convection

Subduction Some River Core mantle Boundary Provide New Plume Core mantle Boundary Provide Stand Chain NOLTEN CORE

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c) push-pull theory



Driving force of plate tectonics



Video: Plate Tectonics: An Introduction



Features on Ocean Floor & Continental Margins - Tectonic Perspective



Features on Ocean Floor & Continental Margins

Mid-Ocean Ridges



Mid-Ocean Ridges



Divergent plate boundary

- Tensional forces
- Normal faults
- Shallow earthquakes
- Spreading center
- Undersea volcanic eruptions





<u>Rift Valley</u> at Mid-Ocean Ridges





Mid-Atlantic Ridge









Mid-Atlantic Ridge- slow spreading rate



East Pacific Rise - fast spreading rate




Features on Ocean Floor & Continental Margins <u>Fracture Zones</u>

- Offset mid-ocean ridge





Transform Boundary -horizontal movement -Strike slip fault

Continental Margins

1) Active Continental Margins

Continental shelf, Continental slope, Ocean trench



Oceanic Trenches in the Pacific Ocean



Active Continental Margin



Convergent plate boundary Ocean-Ocean convergence (subduction zone)



(b)

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Features on the Seafloor Volcanic island arcs (near trenches)



e.g., Aleutian island chain



Active Continental Margin



Upper part of a Benioff zone of earthquakes

Trench

Convergent plate boundary -compressive forces -reverse & thrust faults -recycling of lithosphere -Arc volcanoes -Trench marks the subduction zone -Shallow to deep earthquakes (Wadati-Benioff zone)

Continental Margins

2) Passive Continental Margins

Continental shelf, Continental slope, Continental rise



TASA Graphic Arts, 2002

a) Continental rift



River Fault blocks

b) Small sea stage

c)<u>MOR & Passive</u> <u>Continental margin</u>



Passive continental margins



Atlantic Ocean Floor and Passive Continental Margins



Pacific Ocean Floor and Active continental margins









Farallon Plate

→Juan de Fuca Plate + Cocos Plate

+ San Andreas Fault

Plates can change in size

e.g.,

N. America plate: growing in size Nazca plate: getting smaller







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PRESENT DAY

50 million Years in Future



650 million year in 1 minute 20 seconds





Wilson Cycle of Ocean Basins

Stage, showing cross-sectional view	Motion	Physiography	Example
EMBRYONIC	Uplift	Complex system of linear rift valleys on continent	East Africa rift valleys
JUVENILE	Divergence (spreading)	Narrow seas with matching coasts	Red Sea
MATURE	Divergence (spreading)	Ocean basin with continental margins	Atlantic and Arctic Oceans
DECLINING	Convergence (subduction)	Island arcs and trenches around basin edge	Pacific Ocean
	Convergence (collision) and uplift	Narrow, irregular seas with young mountains	Mediterranean Sea
SUTURING	Convergence and uplift	Young to mature mountain belts	Himalaya Mountains

Wilson Cycle





NB: Crust and Lithosphere thickness not to scale

1. Typical features of Ocean-Ocean convergence

2. The pros and cons of continental drift

3. If you were Alfred Wegener who was trying to persuade people to believe continental drift, where would you go to find evidence, and what phenomenon would you expect to find?

- Homework:
- Please describe the mechanisms (hypotheses), characteristics, and typical fields of Oceanic crust **obduction**.