

CONTENTS

Ргетасе		page xi	3	The Origin of Earth: From the Beginning			
Acknowledgments		xiv		the Universe to the	Early Earth	49	
				earning Objectives		49	
1	The Grand Canyon: Reading the Rocks	1		troduction		49	
	Learning Objectives	1		1 The Big Bang		49	
	Introduction	1		2 Stars and the Form	nation of the Elements	51	
	1.1 The Grand Canyon: Overview	3		3 Forming Our Solar	⁻ System	53	
	1.1.1 Age of the Grand Canyon	3		4 Formation of the B	Earth–Moon System	55	
	1.2 The Basement: Metamorphic and			5 Early Earth Evoluting	ion	57	
	Igneous Rocks	6		3.5.1 Thermal Evol	ution	57	
	1.2.1 Metamorphic Rocks (Granite Gorg	ge		3.5.2 Earth Structur	re	58	
	Metamorphic Suite)	6		3.5.3 Core Formati	on	60	
	1.2.2 Igneous Rocks: The Zoroaster			3.5.4 Crustal Grow	th	60	
	Plutonic Complex	8		3.5.5 Isostasy and	Topography	60	
	1.3 Sedimentary Rocks in the Grand Cany	on		3.5.6 Early Atmosp	here	62	
	and Principles of Stratigraphy	12		3.5.7 Evolution of t	the Oceans	62	
	1.3.1 Naming Layers	12		6 Summary		64	
	1.3.2 Steno's Laws	12		ey Words		64	
	1.3.3 Unconformities	15		urther Reading and Re	ferences	64	
	1.3.4 Fossils	18		eview Questions		64	
	1.3.5 Environments and Sea Level	20					
	1.4 Deformation	25	4	ne Age of Earth: Hist	orical Versus Modern		
	1.5 Historical Summary of the Grand Cany	on 27		ating Approaches		67	
	Key Words	29		earning Objectives		67	
	Further Reading and References	29		troduction		67	
	Review Questions	30		1 Historical Approac	ches to Estimating the		
				Age of Earth		68	
2	The Philosophies of Geology: Assumption	S		4.1.1 Religion-Base	ed Approaches	68	
	Steer Interpretations	33		4.1.2 Approaches (Considering Observation		
	Learning Objectives	33		and Modeling of th	ne Natural World	69	
	Introduction	33		4.1.3 Problems wit	h Historical Methods	70	
	2.1 The Meaning of Fossils	33		2 Radioactivity and	Geochronology	72	
	2.2 Catastrophism	35		4.2.1 Discovery of	Radioactivity and		
	2.3 Neptunism	38		Kelvin's Dilemma		72	
	2.4 Plutonism	39		4.2.2 Basics of Rad	ioactivity	73	
	2.5 Uniformitarianism	40		3 Requirements of R	Radioisotope Dating	75	
	2.6 Uniformitarianism vs. Actualism:			4.3.1 Knowing the	Rate of Radioactive Decay	/ 75	
	Channeled Scablands	42		4.3.2 Knowing Hov	v Many Daughters Were		
	2.7 The Scientific Method and Geology's			Present at the Beg	inning	75	
	Place in It	44		4 Geochronology of	the Oldest Rocks	77	
	2.7.1 Observation, Hypothesis, Test	44		4.4.1 The First Atte	empts at Isotopic Dating	77	
	2.7.2 The Problem of Geologic Experin	nents 45		4.4.2 The Problems	s of Geochronology of		
	2.8 Summary	46		Older Rocks		78	
	Key Words	47		4.4.3 The Oldest T	errestrial Evidence	79	
	Further Reading and References			4.4.4 Extraterrestria	al Evidence	80	
	Review Questions	47		5 Conclusion		81	



vi

Contents

	4.6 Summary Key Words Further Reading and References Review Questions	81 82 82 82			Models of Evolutionary Change 6.3.1 Natural Selection in Action 6.3.2 Extinction and Speciation 6.3.3 Genes are the Agent of Evolution	126 126 127 129
					Limiting Factors	129
5	Plate Tectonics: Our Unifying	0.5			What Darwin Didn't Know	130
	Geological Concept	85			Summary	130
	Learning Objectives	85		-	Words	131
	Introduction: Up and Down or Side to Side?	85			her Reading and References	131
	5.1 Continental Drift: Alfred Wegener and his	0.4	Review Questions		ew Questions	131
	Big Idea	86	_			
	5.1.1 Reassembling a Supercontinent: The	07	7		Origin of Life: Our Early Atmosphere and	400
	Fit of the Puzzle	87			Rise of Early Life	133
	5.1.2 Early Ideas of Mechanisms for	00			ning Objectives	133
	Continental Drift	89			oduction	134
	5.1.3 Paleomagnetism Confirms	00		7.1	Darwin's Idea: A Warm Little Pond	134
	Seafloor Spreading	89		7.2	When Was the Earth Habitable?	135
	5.1.4 Subduction: Where Oceans are			7.3	Evidence for the Oldest Life	135
	Destroyed – The Independent Observations	07		7.4	Assembling the First Cell: Theory	12/
	of Wadati and Benioff	96			and Experiments	136
	5.2 Plate Tectonics	97			7.4.1 Heterotrophic Theory for the Origin of Life	127
	5.2.1 Control of Earth Structure on Plate	07				137
	Tectonic Mechanisms	97			7.4.2 Experiments on the Origin of Life	139
	5.2.2 Plate Boundaries, Plate Motion	100			7.4.3 Protocells and the Shallow	140
	5.2.3 Hot Spots	104		7 5	Water Hypothesis	140
	5.2.4 Tectonics, Sedimentation, and the	104		7.5	Deep Water Hydrothermal Vents Versus	1.10
	Rock Cycle	104			Shallow Pond Hypotheses	140
	5.2.5 Super-Volcanoes and Other Plate	105			7.5.1 Hydrothermal Deep Water Life	141
	Tectonic Hazards	105			7.5.2 Hydrothermal Vent Versus Shallow	1 1 2
	5.2.6 When did Plate Tectonics Begin?	106		7 4	Hydrothermal Field Hypotheses	142
	5.3 Summary	109		7.6	From the Top Down: The RNA	1 1 2
	Key Words	110		77	World	142
	Further Reading and References Review Questions	110 110		7.7	Origin of Photosynthesis	142 143
	Review Questions	110		7.8	From Prokaryotes to Eukaryotes	143
_	Evolution: Natural Selection and the				7.8.1 Evolutionary History of Eukaryotes	145
6		112		7.0	7.8.2 Fossil Record of Early Eukaryotes	145
	Organization of Life	113 113		7.9	Evolution of Earth's Atmosphere and the	145
	Learning Objectives Introduction: The Observation of Evolution	113		7 10	Great Oxygenation Event Summary	145
	6.1 Darwinian Versus Lamarckian Ideas	113			Words	147
	of Evolution	114		-	her Reading and References	147
					iew Questions	148
	6.2 Evidence of our Shared Ancestry	115		Kevi	ew Questions	140
	6.2.1 Homology and Analogy 6.2.2 Clades	116 117	8	Sn.	whall Farth. A Nagaratarania	
		117	Frozen Planet		wball Earth: A Neoproterozoic	151
	6.2.3 Organization of Life and Genetic	121		Learning Objectives		
	Homology 6.2.4 Molecular Clocks	121			ning Objectives oduction	151 152
		122	8.1 Did the Earth Ever Freeze?			152 152
	6.2.5 Imperfect Adaptations	122			Earth Freezes Over	152
	6.2.6 Vestigial Structures	123		0.2		155
	6.2.7 Vestigial Genes	124			8.2.1 Evidence for Glaciers at the Equator	157
	6.2.8 What Use is Half an Eye?	123			8.2.2 Causes of Global Cooling	13/



Contonto	_
Contents (١

8.3 Out of the Deep Freeze	161	,	194
8.3.1 Volcanoes Change the Balance	161	37	
8.3.2 Cap Carbonates	162	•	
8.4 How Many Glacial Episodes Were There?	164	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	195
8.5 Implications for Life on Earth	164	l l	
8.6 Why Hasn't There Been Another		l l	198
Snowball?	165	, 3	200
8.7 Summary	165	10.3.1 Suspect Terranes	201
Key Words	166	9 1	
Further Reading and References	166	Zipper Tectonics 2	202
Review Questions		10.4 The Stratigraphic Expression of	
		3 ,	204
An Explosion of Life: Ediacaran Experimentatio	n,		207
the Cambrian Explosion, and Ordovician		,	207
Biodiversity	169	,	207
Learning Objectives	169	9	208
Introduction	170	Review Questions 2	208
9.1 Setting up the Cambrian Explosion: The			
Sauk Transgression	170	3	
9.2 When did Metazoans Arise?	170	5	
9.2.1 Molecular Clocks	170	, 3	211
9.2.2 Observations From Modern Biology	171	9 ,	211
9.3 Ediacaran Fauna	173		212
9.3.1 Soft Bodies and Osmotrophs	173		212
9.3.2 Mobile Feeders: Precursors to Animals	175		212
9.3.3 Animals with Hard Parts and		11.1.2 Evolution of Gigantic Insects and	
Ediacaran Extinctions	176	73	213
9.4 The Cambrian Explosion and the		11.1.3 The Earliest Tetrapods: A Fish Out	
Burgess Shale	177		215
9.4.1 The Burgess Shale	178	1	
9.4.2 Burgess Fauna from Weird to Normal	179	· ·	215
9.5 The Great Ordovician		11.1.5 The First Reptiles: Freed From	
Biodiversification Event	183		218
9.6 Modes of Biodiversification	184	3	
9.6.1 The Sepkoski Curve: Patterns of		From Icehouse Forests to Hothouse	
Diversification and Mass Extinction	185		220
9.6.2 Five Mass Extinctions	186	, 3	223
9.6.3 The Ordovician Mass Extinction	187	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	224
9.7 Evolution and the Fossil Record	187		224
9.8 Summary	188	9	
Key Words	189		226
Further Reading and References	189	2 11.3.4 Effects of the Volcanism 2	226
Review Questions	190	31	
		Mass Extinction?	230
lapetus and Pangea: The Lost Ocean and the		,	230
Assembly of a Paleozoic Supercontinent	193	,	230
Learning Objectives	193	,	231
Introduction: The Search for Old Oceans?	194	9	231
10.1 The Age of the Modern Oceans	194	Review Questions 2	232



viii

Contents

12	The A	Age of Dinosaurs: The Triassic, Jurassic,			Key Words	272
	and Cretaceous World				Further Reading and References	273
	Learning Objectives		235		Review Questions	273
	Introduction					
	12.1	The Mesozoic	236	14	Tectonics of Western North America: A Dynan	nic
	12.2	Early Interpretations of Dinosaurs	239		Cretaceous and Cenozoic Landscape	275
		12.2.1 Reconstructing Dinosaurs from Bones	239		Learning Objectives	275
		12.2.2 Evidence of Bipedalism and an			Introduction	276
		Upright Gait	242		14.1 Suspect Terranes	276
	12.3	The First Dinosaurs	243		14.1.1 Geochemistry Reveals Crustal	
	12.4	Dinosaur Adaptations and Behavior	244		Structure	279
	12.5	Were the Dinosaurs Warm-Blooded?	245		14.2 Foreland Basin	279
	12.6	Dinosaur Classification, Are They Really			14.3 Subduction Angle Controls Tectonics:	
		Just Birds?	248		The Laramide Orogeny	283
	12.7	Evolution of Feathers	249		14.4 The Impermanence of Plate Margins	288
	12.8	Gigantism	250		14.4.1 Development of the San Andreas	
		12.8.1 Homeothermy, Hollow Bones, and			Fault System	289
		Avian Respiratory Systems	250		14.4.2 The Basin and Range Province	290
		12.8.2 Response to Gigantic Predators	251		14.5 Hot Spots and Plate Motions	291
		12.8.3 Dinosaurs and Plants	251		14.6 Summary	294
	12.9	Dinosaur Diversity	252		Key Words	294
	12.10	Mammals in the Shadows	253		Further Reading and References	295
		12.10.1 On Being Small	253		Review Questions	295
		12.10.2 Mammalian Diversity	253			
	12.11	End of an Era	255	15	The Indo-Asian Collision: The Formation of	
	12.12	Summary	255		the Himalaya	297
	Key Words		256		Learning Objectives	297
	Further Reading and References		256		Introduction	298
	Revie	w Questions	256		15.1 Before the Collision	299
					15.1.1 Tibet in the Cretaceous	300
13	The C	Cretaceous Extinction: The End of the			15.1.2 The Gangdese Batholith	300
	Age o	of Dinosaurs	259		15.1.3 Ophiolites	302
	Learn	ing Objectives	259		15.2 The Collision Begins	302
	Introduction				15.2.1 Change in Velocity of India	303
	13.1	Scales of Natural and Human-Made			15.2.2 Age of Youngest Marine	
		Disasters versus Mass Extinctions	260		Sedimentary Rocks	303
	13.2	Cretaceous Extinction Hypotheses	260		15.2.3 Age of Youngest Subduction-	
		13.2.1 Cretaceous Super-Eruptions	260		Related Magmatism	304
		13.2.2 Extraterrestrial Impact	262		15.3 The Collision Continues	305
	13.3	The Chicxulub Impact Crater	265		15.3.1 Continental Escape	305
		Magnitude and Immediate Consequences			15.3.2 The Collision Continues: The Rise	
		of the Extraterrestrial Impact	268		of the Himalaya	306
		13.4.1 Environmental Collapse	269		15.4 The Interplay of Tectonics, Erosion,	
		13.4.2 A Slow Recovery	270		and Climate	314
		13.4.3 Are the Dinosaurs really Extinct?	271		15.5 Conclusion	316
	13.5	The Origin of the Cretaceous–Paleogene			15.6 Summary	317
		(K–Pg) Extinction	271		Key Words	317
	13.6	Conclusion	271		Further Reading and References	317
	13.7	Summary	272		Review Questions	317
		•				



Cambridge University Press & Assessment 978-1-108-49852-4 — Earth History Peter Copeland , Janok P. Bhattacharya Table of Contents More Information

Contents

IX

16	The M	essinian Crisis: The Great Drying of the		18	Ice Ag	ges and Sea Level: Quaternary	
	Medite	erranean Sea	319		Enviro	onmental Change	355
	Learnir	ng Objectives	319		Learni	ing Objectives	355
	Introdu	uction: The Grandest Canyon	320		Introd	luction	356
	16.1	Evidence of Desiccation from the Deep			18.1	From Floods to Ice Ages	356
		Sea: Ken Hsu and the Glomar Challenger	321		18.2	Conditions Necessary for Glaciers and	
	16.2	Formation of Evaporites from Seawater	324			Continental Ice Sheets	356
	16.3	Stratigraphic Evidence of				18.2.1 Where Glaciers are Found Today	356
		Mediterranean Evaporation	326			18.2.2 Antarctica and Greenland	358
	16.4	Evidence of Hypersaline Lakes: The			18.3	Continental Glaciers: The Last Icehouse	358
		Lago Mare	328		18.4	Geologic Record of Ice Sheets and How	
	16.5	Plate Tectonics in 1973 and the Depth of				They Move	358
		the Mediterranean Sea	328		18.5	Glacial Termini, Great Lakes, and	
	16.6	Unconformities and Incised Valleys:				Great Floods	360
		Further Evidence for a Massive Drop in			18.6	Milankovitch Cycles: Orbital Control on	
		Sea Level	329			Glacial Episodes	361
	16.7	The Salinity Crisis	330		18.7	Oxygen Isotope Evidence of Global	
	16.8	Tectonic Cause	333			Climate Cycles and Changes of	
	16.9	Consequences of the Crisis	334			Sea Level	361
		Summary	334		18.8	Global Consequences of	
	Key W	•	335			Continental Glaciation	364
	-	r Reading and References	335		18.9	Sea Level and Sedimentation	365
		v Questions	335		10.7	18.9.1 Seismic Stratigraphy and Global	000
	Neview	v Questions	555			Sea-Level Cycles	367
17	Out of	Africa: Human Evolution	337			18.9.2 Sea Level Throughout Earth History	371
17		ng Objectives	337			18.9.3 Orders of Sea Level and	371
		uction: Where Did Humans First Evolve?	338			Their Causes	371
	17.1		330		10 10		373
	17.1	The "Missing Link" and the Ladder of	338			Time's Arrow, Time's Cycle	373
	17.2	Progress: A Eurocentric View	330			Summary	373
	17.2	Piltdown Man: An Example of Twentieth-		Key Words			
		Century Bias in Established Scientific	220			er Reading and References	374
	47.0	Views on the Origin of Humans	339		Kevie	w Questions	374
	17.3	The Primate Family Tree	340			w 110 1	277
	17.4	The First Primates: Life in the Trees	340	19 A Human World: Our Impact in the Holocene			377
	17.5	Our Greatest Evolutionary Step (Meet	0.40			ing Objectives	377
	4- 7	Lucy)	342			luction	378
	17.6	Important Environmental Changes	344			The Holocene	378
	17.7	How Smart was Lucy? Evolution of the Brain	345			Earth's Surface Temperature	379
	17.8	Early Humans and the First Tools	346			19.2.1 Earth's Energy Balance	379
	17.9	Neanderthals vs. Sapiens	347			19.2.2 The Greenhouse Effect	381
	17.10	Homo sapiens	348			19.2.3 Atmospheric Composition	381
	17.11	The Naked Ape: Neoteny				19.2.4 Greenhouse Gases and Their	
		and Paedomorphosis	348			Effects	381
	17.12	Conclusion	350			Observations of Change	384
		Summary	351			Modeling Global Change	386
	Key W		351			19.4.1 Climate Versus Weather	386
	Further Reading and References		352			19.4.2 Numerical Models of	
	Review	v Questions	352			Chaotic Systems	386



x

Contents

19.5	The Sixth Extinction?	389	Further Reading and References	392
19.6	Global Change in a Deep		Review Questions	392
	Time Perspective	390		
19.7	Summary	391	Glossary	393
Key Words		392	Index	406