

Geological Time Scale 8.5

Last name _____, First _____

1. How Old is the Earth? _____ years old.
 - a. Let one sheet of paper equal one day. How tall would the paper stack be for the entire Earth's history? Hint: A paper ream of 500 sheets = 5 cm.

2. **What is the geological time scale?** _____

3. Why is the geological time scale needed to describe Earth's history? _____

4. Interpret the **geological time scale chart**
 - a. The geological time scale is first divided into **EONS**. Since the Earth's formation there have been two eons, the **Precambrian** and the **Phanerozoic**. The Phanerozoic is divided into three sub groups the Paleozoic, the Mesozoic, and the Cenozoic. These three blocks of time are known as _____
 - b. How are **ERAS** divided? _____

5. **PRECAMBRIAN EARTH**
 - a. Describe the Precambrian Earth surface. _____

 - b. How do you think the atmosphere was formed? _____
 - c. What bombarded the surface? _____
 - d. What were the seas like? _____
 - e. What kind of critters were around near the end of the Precambrian EON?

6. **PALEOZOIC ERA**
 - a. What was the major event happening in the 1st Paleozoic Era? _____

7. **Cambrian Explosion**
 - a. What was the Cambrian explosion? _____

8. **First Vertebrates**
 - a. What period did the first vertebrates appear? _____

9. **Silurian Period**
 - a. What major event occurs during the Silurian Period? _____

 - b. In what period did land plants become abundant? _____

10. **Devonian Period**
- What type of vertebrates invade the land during the Devonian Period?

 - What is the name of the armored fish fossil found from the Devonian period?

11. **Carboniferous Period**
- Where does coal come from? _____
 - What type of animal evolves during this period? _____
12. **Permian Period and Pangaea**
- How were the continents arranged during the **Permian** period? _____

13. **Mass Extinction**
- What event marks the end of the Paleozoic Era? _____

14. **THE MESOZOIC ERA**
- The Mesozoic Era is referred to as the age of what? _____
15. **Triassic Period**
- What kind of animals survive the 1st mass extinction and thrive during the Triassic period? _____

 - What kind of trees grow during this period? _____
16. **Jurassic Period**
- What was the dominant type of animal during the Jurassic period?

17. **Cretaceous Period**
- What type of animals competed for places in the sky during the Cretaceous period? _____
18. **Mass Extinction #2**
- Describe the mass extinction #2 _____

19. **CENOZOIC ERA**
- The Cenozoic Era is referred to as the age of what? _____
20. **Tertiary Period**
- Describe the animals, plants and climate of the Tertiary period. _____

21. **Quaternary Period**
- Describe the environment, animals, and climate of the Quaternary period. _____

22. What's your prediction for the next Era? _____

