

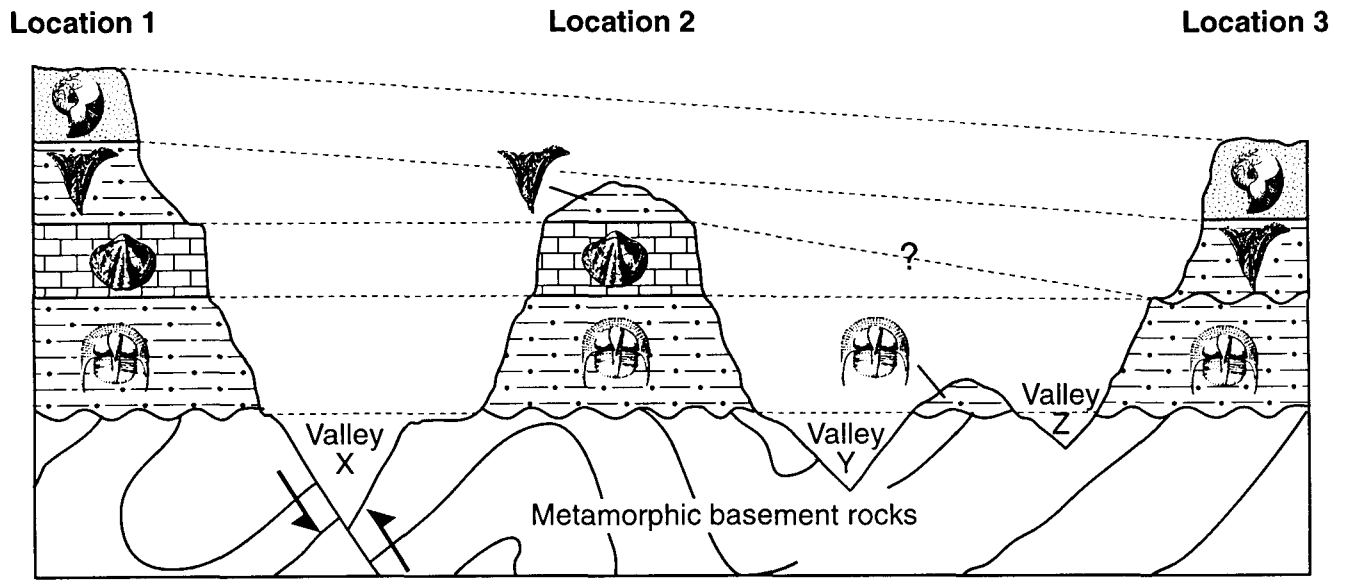
Part 2: Geologic History

- ____ 14. Studies of the rock record suggest that
- A) the earliest humans lived at the same time as the dinosaurs
 - B) humans first appeared at the time of the intrusion of the Palisades sill
 - C) evidence of the existence of humans is present over much of the geologic past
 - D) the period during which humans have existed is very brief compared to geologic time
- ____ 15. Approximately how many years ago did the solar system originate?
- A) 570,000,000
 - B) 1,000,000,000
 - C) 4,500,000,000
 - D) 10,000,000,000
- ____ 16. The fossil record indicates that most of the plants and animals that lived on Earth in the past
- A) appeared during the Cambrian Period
 - B) became index fossils
 - C) have become extinct
 - D) lived on land
- ____ 17. From the study of fossils, what can be inferred about most species of plants and animals that have lived on the Earth?
- A) They existed during the Cambrian Period.
 - B) They are still living today.
 - C) They have become extinct.
 - D) They are unrelated to modern life forms.

- ____ 18. Trilobite fossils may be found in Cambrian rocks. Which statement best explains why trilobite fossils are missing in Triassic rocks?
- A) Sedimentary rock did not form during Triassic time.
 - B) Widespread volcanic activity during Triassic time melted Triassic trilobite fossils.
 - C) Uplift and erosion destroyed Triassic trilobite fossils.
 - D) Trilobites became extinct before Triassic time.
- ____ 19. When did the Jurassic Period end?
- A) 190 million years ago
 - B) 163 million years ago
 - C) 144 million years ago
 - D) 66 million years ago
- ____ 20. The largest meteorite impact crater in North America formed approximately 1,850 million years ago, which was during the
- A) Middle Archean Era
 - B) Late Cretaceous Period
 - C) Early Jurassic Period
 - D) Early Proterozoic Era
- ____ 21. Which event occurred at the start of the Mesozoic Era?
- A) the extinction of the mastodont
 - B) the extinction of the armored fishes
 - C) the appearance of the reptile
 - D) the appearance of the dinosaur

Practice

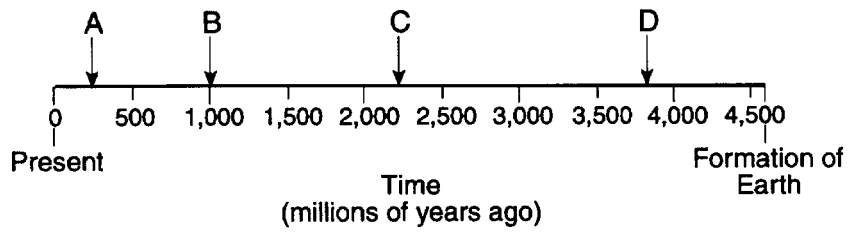
22. Base your answer to the following question on the geologic cross section below, which shows a view of rock layers at Earth's surface. The dashed lines connect points of the same age. Major fossils contained within each rock layer are shown. The valleys are labeled X, Y, and Z.



Which fossil would most likely be found in the same siltstone layer as the *Cryptolithus* fossil?



23. The time line below represents the geologic history of Earth. Letters A, B, C, and D represent specific times in Earth's history.

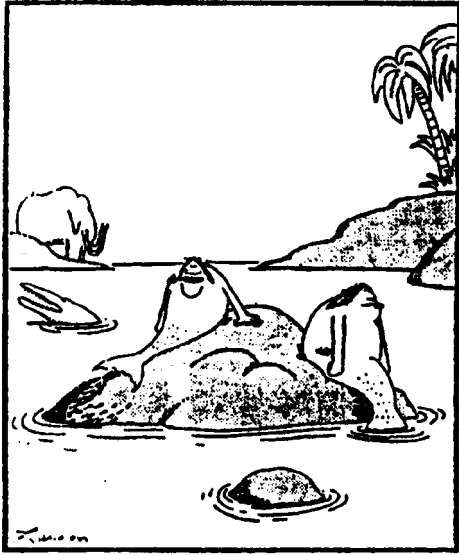


Which letter best indicates when trilobites became extinct?

- A) A
- B) B
- C) C
- D) D

Practice

24. The cartoon below is a humorous look at geologic history.



Early Pleistocene mermaids

If Early Pleistocene mermaids had existed, their fossil remains would be the same age as fossils of

- A) trilobites
- B) mastodonts
- C) dinosaurs
- D) armored fish

25. Geologic time is divided into specific periods and epochs based on

- A) fossil evidence of Earth organisms
- B) uplift and erosion of New York State bedrock
- C) rock types found in mountainous areas
- D) inferred positions of Earth landmasses

**Practice
Answer Key**

14. D

15. C

16. C

17. C

18. D

19. C

20. D

21. D

22. D

23. A

24. B

25. A
