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## Uniformitarianism vs Catastrophism

18 Questions

NAME : \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS : \_\_\_\_\_

DATE : \_\_\_\_\_

1. What is a principal that states that geologic processes that occurred in the past can be explained by current geologic processes.  
 a) Catastrophism  b) Unconformity  
 c) Uniformitarianism  d) Angular Unconformity
2. A fossilized mark that is formed in soft sediment by the movement of an animal.  
 a) Mold  b) Cast  
 c) Index Fossil  d) Trace Fossil
3. A fossil that is found in the rock layers of only one geologic age and that is used to establish the age of the rock layers.  
 a) Trace Fossil  b) Index Fossil  
 c) Mold  d) Cast

4. Any method of determining whether an event or object is older or younger than other events or objects.
- a) Relative Dating                       b) Absolute Dating
- c) Isotope                                       d) Speed Dating
5. A break in the geologic record created when rock layers are eroded or when sediment is not deposited for a long period of time.
- a) Disconformity                               b) Monoconformity
- c) Unconformity                               d) Angular Unconformity
6. Any method of measuring the age of an event or object in years.
- a) Absolute Dating                               b) Relative Dating
- c) Speed Dating                               d) Isotope
7. An atom that has the same number of protons as the other atoms of the same element but has a different number of neutrons.
- a) Radio Active Decay                               b) Isotope
- c) Half-life                                       d) Full-life

8. The process in which a radioactive isotope tends to break down into a stable isotope of the same element or another element.
- a) Radioactive Decay                       b) Isotope
- c) Half-life                                       d) Full-life
9. The scientific study of fossils.
- a) Geology                                       b) Paleontology
- c) Biology                                         d) Anthropology
10. A method of determining the age of an object by estimating the relative percentages of a radioactive isotope and a stable isotope.
- a) Half-life                                       b) Radiometric dating
- c) Isotope                                         d) Periodic Table of the Elements
11. A mark or cavity made in a sedimentary surface by a shell or other body.
- a) Mold     b) Cast
- c) Trace Fossil                                    d) Index Fossil

12. The remains or physical evidence of an organism preserved by geological processes.
- a) Fossil  b) Amber  
 c) Rock  d) Mineral
13. The time needed for half of a sample of a radioactive substance to undergo radioactive decay.
- a) isotope  b) half-life  
 c) full-life  d) biological decay
14. A principle that states geologic change occurs suddenly.
- a) Catastrophe  b) Castrophism  
 c) Uniformitarianism  d) Uniform
15. A type of fossil that forms when sediments fill in the cavity left by a decomposed organism.
- a) Mold  b) Cast  
 c) Trace Fossil  d) Index Fossil

16. A principle that states that younger rocks lie above older rocks if the layers have not been disturbed.
- a) geology  b) The geologic column
- c) The fossil record  d) Superposition
17. Check all examples of uniformitarianism
- a) erosion  b) weathering
- c) tectonic plate movement  d) deposition
- e) volcanic eruption
18. Check all of the examples of catastrophism
- a) weathering  b) erosion
- c) tornado  d) volcanic eruption
- e) hurricane

**Answer Key**

- |      |       |       |             |
|------|-------|-------|-------------|
| 1. c | 6. a  | 11. a | 16. d       |
| 2. d | 7. b  | 12. a | 17. a,b,c,d |
| 3. b | 8. a  | 13. b | 18. c,d,e   |
| 4. a | 9. b  | 14. b |             |
| 5. c | 10. b | 15. b |             |