

**Continental Drift** (p. 272 – 275)**I. Evidence For Continental Drift**

1. Who developed the theory of continental movement?

Alfred Wegener (VAY guh nur)The Origin of Continents + Oceans

2. In which year was the hypothesis developed?

1912

3. State Wegener's hypothesis about how Earth's continents have moved.

All the continents were once joined together in a single landmass and have since drifted apart.

4. Define the term continental drift.

Continental Drift – hypothesis that the continents slowly moved over Earth's surfacep. 272

5. Wegener named his supercontinent \_\_\_\_\_

PangaeaRodinia  
↳ 760 my.a.

6. What did Wegener think had happened to this supercontinent?

Over millions of years, Pangaea began to break apart. Pieces moved slowly to current-day locations and became the continents.

7. Wegener's continental drift hypothesis was easily accepted by scientists of the time.

Circle One :

True

FalseEx.- Mesosaurus  
- Lystrosaurus  
- Labyrinthodont

8. How did Wegener explain similar fossils on different continents?

p. 273The organism lived on a single landmass that has since split apart

9. Wegener believed that continental drift explained fossils of tropical plants found in places that today have a polar climate.

Circle One :True

False

Ex.- Glossopteris  
- Giant Ferns → Canada  
- Shark Teeth → Arizona  
- Basilosaurus → Tethys Seap. 274

10. Circle the letter of each sentence that supports Wegener's hypothesis.

- a. Some continents match up like jigsaw puzzle pieces.
- b. Different rock structures are found on different continents.
- c. Fossils of tropical plants are found near the equator.
- d. Continental glaciers once covered South Africa.

← kit kats

11. Give an example of evidence from land features that supported Wegener's hypothesis.

1. Africa / S. American boundaries

2. Matching European + N. American coal fields

## II. How Could Continents Drift?

1. Wegener could provide evidence for why continental drift was occurring.

Circle One :

True

False

Could provide evidence, but not explain why, how, or when

2. Wegener believed that the spin of the Earth was the force propelling the continents.

Circle One :

True

False

3. Into what landmasses did Pangaea split into starting 225 million years ago? (Not in book.)

p. 225

