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Chapter 02 Atoms, Elements, and Minerals

True / False Questions

1. A mineral is defined as a crystalline solid that is naturally occurring, has a specific chemical composition and forms through geologic processes. **TRUE**

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

2. The innermost energy level in the standard model of an atom is full when it possesses eight electrons.

<u>FALSE</u>

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

3. The atomic mass number is equal to the number of neutrons in an atom. **FALSE**

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4. The atomic number of an element is equal to the number of protons in each atom. **TRUE**

5. Rocks are defined as naturally-formed aggregates of minerals or mineral-like substances. **TRUE**

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6. The number of neutrons in an atom controls the chemical behavior of an element. **FALSE**

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7. Silica is a term for oxygen combined with silicon. **TRUE**

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8. It is clear that exposure to white asbestos causes cancer among non-smoking asbestos workers. **FALSE**

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9. Both graphite and diamond are made of carbon. **TRUE**

10. All of the most common rock-forming minerals in Earth's crust are silicate minerals. **TRUE**

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11. Clay minerals are very common in the Earth's upper mantle. **FALSE**

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12. Calcite (calcium carbonate) is the most common non-silicate mineral in the Earth's crust. **TRUE**

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13. Non-silicate minerals are more abundant in the deeper parts of Earth's crust than in the crust as a whole. **FALSE**

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14. The quality and intensity of light that is reflected from the surface of a mineral is termed luster. **TRUE**

15. A mineral specimen with a Mohs hardness of 5 can scratch a mineral specimen with a hardness of 3. **TRUE**

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

16. Minerals that have the same chemical composition but have different crystalline structures exhibit polymorphism **TRUE**

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

17. Color is the least reliable physical property in mineral identification. **TRUE**

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

18. Diamond has no cleavage. **FALSE**

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19. Specific gravity is the ratio of a mass of a substance to the mass of an equal volume of air. **FALSE**

20. The crystal form of a mineral is a set of faces that have a definite geometric relationship to one another.

TRUE

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Multiple Choice Questions

21. In order for a particular type of material to be classified as a mineral, it must _____.

- A. be a solid
- B. occur naturally
- C. have a crystalline structure
- D. have a definite chemical composition
- **E.** All of the answers are correct.

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22. The atomic number of an element equals the number of _____ in each atom.

- A. electrons
- B. neutrons
- <u>C.</u> protons
- D. Answers neutrons and protons are both correct; answer a is not correct.
- E. Answers electrons, neutrons and protons are all correct.

23. The atomic mass number of an atom is the total number of _____ in the atom.

- A. electrons
- B. neutrons
- C. protons
- **D.** protons and neutrons
- E. protons, neutrons, and electrons

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24. _____ of an element are atoms containing different numbers of neutrons but the same number of protons.

A. Ions

B. Classes

C. Particles

D. Isotopes

E. Varieties

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

25. The atomic mass number of common oxygen is 16 because it has ____ protons and ____ neutrons.

A. 7; 9 <u>B.</u> 8; 8 C. 9; 7

D. 5; 11

E. 10; 6

26. Carbon-14 has eight ___.
A. protons
B. nuclei
C. neutrons
D. isotopes
E. atoms

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

27. The isotope composition of _____ in foraminifera shells from sediment cores are used to determine climate change in Earth history.

<u>A.</u> oxygen

B. carbon

C. uranium

D. lead

E. helium

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Climate, Weather, and Their Influences on Geology Topic: Earth Materials

28. The two most abundant elements in Earth's crust are ____.

A. iron and magnesium

B. carbon and hydrogen

C. carbon and oxygen

D. hydrogen and oxygen

E. oxygen and silicon

29. When seawater evaporates, its sodium and chlorine are electronically attracted to one another and crystallize into ____.

A. quartz

- **<u>B.</u>** halite
- C. clay
- D. calcite
- E. hematite

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

30. The mineral _____ reacts with weak hydrochloric acid to produce carbon dioxide gas, i.e., it effervesces (fizzes) in dilute acid.

A. calcite

B. feldspar

C. quartz

D. biotite

E. amphibole

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

31. The _____ group and the ____ group are sheet silicates characterized by one direction of cleavage.A. amphibole; pyroxene

- B. feldspar; quartz
- C. olivine; plagioclase

D. mica; clay

E. carbonate; sulfide

32. Two examples of framework silicates are _____ and _____.

A. calcite; dolomite

B. olivine; pyroxene

<u>C.</u> quartz; feldspar

D. biotite; muscovite

E. amphibole; olivine

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

33. _____ is the ability of a mineral to break, when struck or split, along preferred planar directions.

<u>A.</u> Cleavage

B. Crystal form

C. Facets

D. Planes

E. Form

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34. A silica tetrahedron is composed of four atoms of the element ____ and one atom of ___.

A. silicon; aluminum

B. silicon; oxygen

C. silicon; iron

<u>D.</u> oxygen; silicon

E. aluminum; silicon

35. The common mineral _____ is an example of an isolated silica tetrahedron structure.

A. amphibole

B. feldspar

C. olivine

D. pyroxene

E. mica (biotite, muscovite, etc.)

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36. Five of the six minerals collectively known as asbestos contain single chains of silica tetrahedral and belong to the _____.

A. amphiboles

B. feldspars

C. olivines

D. pyroxenes

E. micas

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

37. The _____ group of minerals is characterized by two parallel chains of silica tetrahedra in their structure.

A. amphibole

B. feldspar

C. olivine

D. pyroxene

E. mica (biotite, muscovite, etc.)

38. The _____ group of minerals are sheet silicates.

A. amphibole

B. feldspar

C. olivine

D. pyroxene

E. mica

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

39. Non-silicate minerals include the halides like _____.
A. calcite
B. halite
C. magnetite
D. pyrite
E. gypsum

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

40. The mineral _____ is an example of a native element.

A. quartz

B. feldspar

C. calcite

D. graphite

E. halite

41. A pulverized mineral (usually on a piece of white unglazed porcelain) gives a color called its _____, that is usually more reliable than the color of the specimen itself.

A. dust

B. chroma

- C. streak
- D. smear
- E. powder

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

42. The softest mineral on Mohs' hardness scale is _____.

- A. gypsum
- **<u>B.</u>** talc
- C. diamond
- D. quartz
- E. mica

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

43. What is the special property of the mineral halite?

- A. It has 5 directions of cleavage.
- B. It has a hardness of -3.
- C. It can transmit electricity.

D. It tastes like salt.

E. It has an extremely high melting temperature.

44. _____ has the property of generating electricity when squeezed in a certain crystallographic direction.

- A. Copper
- B. Mica
- C. Amphibole
- D. Gold
- E. Quartz

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

45. The hardest mineral has a hardness of _____ on Mohs' relative hardness scale.
A. 1 **B.** 10
C. 100
D. 1000

E. 10000

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

46. Calcite has <u>direction of cleavage</u>.

A. 1 B. 2 <u>C.</u> 3 D. 4

E. 6

47. In some minerals the bonds are equally strong in all directions, therefore they have no cleavage but instead ______ along irregular surfaces that are commonly curved.

A. luminesce

B. chip

C. flatten

D. bend

E. fracture

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

48. The third most abundant element in the Earth's crust is _____; it is more common than iron.

A. magnesium

<u>B.</u> aluminum

C. calcium

D. fluorine

E. tin

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

49. The mineral _____ is strongly magnetic.

A. calcite

B. pyrite

<u>C.</u> magnetite

D. magnesite

E. quartz

50. _____ and sapphire are both varieties of the common mineral corundum.

A. Emerald

B. Turquoise

<u>C.</u> Ruby

D. Beryl

E. Peridot

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

51. _____ is an expansive (swells when wet) clay mineral.

A. Quartz

B. Olivine

C. Pyroxene

D. Montmorillonite

E. Mica

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

52. _____ is the most common element in the Earth's crust.

<u>A.</u> Oxygen

B. Iron

- C. Magnesium
- D. Hydrogen
- E. Fluorine

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember

53. Some minerals have the same chemical composition but different crystal structures, a phenomenon termed _____.

A. alteration

B. recrystallization

- C. metamorphism
- D. isotopes
- <u>E.</u> polymorphism

Bloom's Level: 2. Understand Topic: Earth Materials

54. _____, a Danish naturalist, was the first to note that the angle between two adjacent faces of a crystal of quartz is always exactly the same.

A. Einstein

- **<u>B.</u>** Steno
- C. Plummer

D. McGeary

E. Carlson

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

55. Specific gravity is the ratio of the mass of a mineral to the mass of an equal volume of ____. <u>A.</u> liquid water

- B. solid water
- C. quartz
- D. diamond
- E. air

56. Plagioclase feldspar commonly exhibits ___, straight, parallel lines on the flat surfaces of one of the two cleavage directions.

A. parallelograms

- B. grooves
- C. lamitations
- **D.** striations
- E. laminations

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

57. _____ elements make up 98% of the Earth's crust.

- A. Fourteen
- B. Ninety-two
- C. Two
- D. Twenty
- **E.** Eight

Bloom's Level: 1. Remember Topic: Earth Materials

58. _____ are the smallest electrically neutral assemblies of matter and energy that we know of in the universe.

- A. Isotopes
- **<u>B.</u>** Atoms
- C. Ions
- D. Electrons
- E. Protons

59. The most common minerals in the Earth's crust are the _____.

A. silicates

B. carbonates

C. halides

D. sulfides

E. sulfates

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60. On Mohs' scale of hardness your fingernail has a value of _____. A. 12 B. 5 <u>C.</u> 2¹/₂ D. 6¹/₂ E. 9