

Name: _____

Date: _____ Period: _____

Plate Tectonics

The Physical Setting: Earth Science

Worksheet: Earthquakes II

1. Earthquakes generate compressional waves (P-waves) and shear waves (S-waves). Compared to the speed of shear waves in a given earth material, the speed of compressional waves is
 - a. always faster
 - b. always slower
 - c. always the same
 - d. sometimes faster and sometimes slower
2. What happens to P-waves and S-waves from an earthquake when they reach the outer core?
 - a. S-waves are transmitted through the outer core, but P-waves are not transmitted.
 - b. P-waves are transmitted through the outer core, but S-waves are not transmitted.
 - c. Both P-waves and S-waves are transmitted through the outer core.
 - d. Neither P-waves nor S-waves are transmitted through the outer core.
3. The time that an earthquake occurs can be inferred by knowing the
 - a. distances between seismograph stations
 - b. epicenter distance and arrival time of the P-waves
 - c. travel time of the S-waves
 - d. arrival time of P-waves
4. If the epicenter of an earthquake is located near Massena, New York, where would the greatest difference in arrival times of the P- and S-waves for this earthquake occur?
 - a. Utica, New York
 - b. Binghamton, New York
 - c. Plattsburgh, New York
 - d. Albany, New York
5. An earthquake occurred at 5:00:00 a.m. According to the Earth Science Reference Tables, at what time would the P-wave reach a seismic station 3,000 kilometers from the epicenter?
 - a. 5:04:30 a.m.
 - b. 5:05:40 a.m.
 - c. 5:01:40 a.m.
 - d. 5:10:15 a.m.
6. A huge undersea earthquake off the Alaskan coastline could produce a
 - a. tsunami
 - b. cyclone
 - c. hurricane
 - d. thunderstorm
7. Which statement best characterizes the arrival times of the seismic waves at station?
 - a. The P-wave and S-wave arrived at the same time.
 - b. The S-wave arrived first.
 - c. Only the S-wave arrived.
 - d. The P-wave arrived first.

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8. The inference that the inner core of the Earth is solid is based on analysis of
- seismic data
 - crustal rock
 - radioactive data
 - meteorite composition

Questions 9 through 12 refer to the following:

An earthquake originated in New York State. The P-wave travel time for this earthquake was recorded in the data table below for four widely separated seismic stations, A, B, C, and D.

Seismic Station	P-wave Travel Time
A	8 min 20 sec
B	0 min 31 sec
C	12 min 18 sec
D	3 min 20 sec

9. If the first P-wave arrived at seismic station A at 10 hrs: 22 min: 30 sec, what was the origin time for the earthquake?
- 02 hrs: 02 min: 30 sec
 - 10 hrs: 30 min: 50 sec
 - 10 hrs: 14 min: 10 sec
 - 10 hrs: 22 min: 30 sec
10. If it takes 50 seconds for the P-wave to arrive at Buffalo, about how long would it take for the S-wave from this same earthquake to arrive at Buffalo?
- 0 min: 50 sec
 - 6 min: 40 sec
 - 4 min: 00 sec
 - 1 min: 40 sec
11. What is the approximate distance between the earthquake's epicenter and station A?
- 7,500 km
 - 1,130 km
 - 5,100 km
 - 2,400 km
12. Which seismic station could be located in New York State?
- D
 - C
 - B
 - A