

Prelab + Plate Movements

Contents

I Prelab	2
A Prefix	2
B The laws of exponents	2
C Unit conversion	2
D Years before present: Geologic Time	3
II Plate boundaries	3
A Three types of plate boundaries	3
B Hotspot	3
III Questions	4
IV Help making contour lines for bonus point	4



Figure 1: At Field Museum in Chicago, Nov. 2008

I Prelab

A Prefix

T [tera-] (10^{12}), **G** [giga-] (10^9), **M** [mega] (10^6), **k** [kilo] (10^3), **c** [centi-] (10^{-2}), **m** [milli-] (10^{-3}), nano (10^{-9})

Conventionally, 1 metric ton = 1000 kg. 1 ml = 1 cm^3 . 1 G = one billion.
1 M = one million.

$$1 \text{ mm} = 1 \times 10^{-3} \times m = 0.001 \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ km} = 1 \times 10^3 \times m = 1000 \text{ m}$$

$$1 \text{ cm} = 1 \times 10^{-2} \times m = 1 \times \frac{1}{10^2} \times m = 0.01m$$

B The laws of exponents

Know the difference between 10×3 and 10^3 .

$$10 \times 3 = 10 + 10 + 10 = 30$$

$$10^3 = 10 \times 10 \times 10 = 1000$$

EX. Which offer should you get?

\$10 × 10 or \$10¹⁰?

$$\$10 \times 10 = \$100$$

$$\$10^{10} = \$10 \text{ 000 000 000} = 10 \text{ billion dollar!! — It's your call.}$$

C Unit conversion

The idea is multiply by 1—unwanted unit for denominator.

Ex. 75 mi/hour is equal to how many km/hour?

$$75 \frac{\text{mi}}{\text{hour}} \times \frac{1.609 \text{ km}}{1 \text{ mi}} = 120.675 \frac{\text{km}}{\text{hour}}$$

D Years before present: Geologic Time

- Combine SI symbols with "a" for annum (years before present).

$$65 \text{ Ma} = 65 \times 10^6 \text{ years ago} = 65,000,000 \text{ years ago}$$

II Plate boundaries

A Three types of plate boundaries

Mountain building, volcanoes, and earthquakes are mostly concentrated along plate boundary. **movie**

- **Divergent** boundaries: Plates are moving apart.
ex. **Mid-ocean ridges, rift zones**
- **Convergent** boundaries: One plate subducts under the other. ex. **Sumatra.**
- **Transform fault** boundaries: Plates slide pass one another.
ex. **San Andreas Fault.**

B Hotspot

Hotspot: A "gigantic" volcanic source that is fixed in the location for millions of years. **movie**

III Questions

Question Set

Do all questions of each question set. Words in parentheses are hints. Show the calculation processes or you get zero point.

- **89** [p. 176] (Negative values mean convergence.)
 - v. Don't do this.
- **90** [p. 178]
 - ii, iii (Time period used to calculate the rates are different)
- **97** [p. 191]
 - ii (This is a misleading question; Volcanism actually doesn't move, but the plate does. Make sure that the unit is cm/yr. The answer should be about 9 cm/yr.)
 - iii (Basically it's asking how you explain the formation of Hawaiian island chains)
- **98** [p. 194]
 - i-a Don't do this.
 - i c. The answer should be about 8 cm/yr.
 - iii. Don't do this.

IV Help making contour lines for bonus point