

# *Construction and Industry*

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*National Association of State Boards of Geology Examination (ASBOG)*



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## Question: 1

What is the total amount of gold in a 500,000 tons ore deposit if the gold grade is 1.4 parts per million?

- A. 700 kg
- B. 357.000 tonnes
- C. 357 kg
- D. 700 tonnes

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The amount 1.4 parts per million (ppm) is equivalent to 1.4 grams/tonne, so a 500,000 tonne ore deposit would contain 700,000 grams of gold or 700 kg.

## Question: 2

Which type of sand dune commonly forms in areas with multiple wind directions?

- A. Barchan
- B. Longitudinal
- C. Transverse
- D. Star

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Star dunes form their characteristic shapes due to multiple wind directions.

## Question: 3

In a 100 m interval of core through granitic rock, the total length of core pieces with individual lengths > 100 mm is 31 m. In terms of rock quality designation, what is the rock mass quality of the cored interval?

- A. Hard
- B. Fresh
- C. Weathered
- D. Intact

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**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The rock quality designation (RQD) is the total length of individual core pieces >100 mm, divided by the length of the cored interval. RQD is low for weathered rocks and high for fresh rocks. In this case the RQD is 31%, which corresponds with a rock mass quality of "weathered."

### Question: 4

Which of the following is a correct name for a contact between Triassic granite and Devonian limestone

- A. Angular unconformity
- B. Disconformity
- C. Nonconformity
- D. Intrusive

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

An intrusive contact is one between an intrusive rock (e.g., granite or gabbro) and another rock type that is older than the intrusive rock.

### Question: 5

A pale seismology trench is dug across an active fault at the site of a planned development. Mapping of the walls of the trench reveals evidence for six earthquakes along the fault over the last 2,400 years. What is the average earthquake recurrence interval of the fault at this location?

- A. 400 years
- B. 14,400 years
- C. 144 years
- D. 40 years

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The recurrence interval is the average duration between events, in this case earthquakes. If there were six earthquakes along the fault over a span of 2,400 years, then the average amount of time between earthquakes is 400 years.

### Question: 6

The vases zone is a region of the subsurface that separates

- A. the water table from bedrock
- B. the ground surface from the water table.
- C. the ground surface from bedrock
- D. the capillary fringe from the saturated zone.

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The vases zone is that area between the ground surface and the water table. Below the water table is the zone of saturation.

### Question: 7

Which type of geophysical survey is most useful for locating a buried steel pipeline?

- A. Gravity
- B. Refraction seismic
- C. Magnetics
- D. Reflection seismic

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

A magnetics survey would be most useful in this case. The other techniques are unlikely to achieve the spatial resolution necessary to locate a relatively small object such as a pipe.

### Question: 8

A sample of granite from an outcrop produces a zircon U-Pb age of 1,000 Ma, a muscovite  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age of 500 Ma and an apatite (U-Th)/He age of 495 Ma. When was this granite exhumed to near the surface?

- A. Mesoproterozoic
- B. Neoproterozoic
- C. Archean
- D. Cambrian

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Based on this information, the granite most likely crystallized 1,000 Ma (the Mesoproterozoic/Neoproterozoic boundary) but did not cool through the muscovite  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  and apatite (U-Th)/He closure temperatures until 500-495 Ma, which is during the late Cambrian.

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### Question: 9

What type of drainage pattern is most likely to develop around the flanks of a modern stratovolcano?

- A. Rectangular
- B. Radial
- C. Trellis
- D. Dendritic

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

Radial drainage patterns frequently form around conical topographic features such as stratovolcanoes. Rectangular drainage patterns are often associated with bedrock that has a strong orthogonal jointing pattern, and trellis drainage often forms in regions with alternating more- and less-resistant bedrock units. Dendritic drainage patterns tend to form in areas where the bedrock is roughly uniformly resistant to erosion.

### Question: 10

Which of the following is NOT a typical response of a coal seam on a geophysical wireline log?

- A. Low resistivity
- B. Low gamma
- C. Low velocity
- D. Low density

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Coal seams are normally characterized by high resistivity relative to the rocks above and below them. Coal is also marked by low gamma, low velocity, and low density.

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