The Theory of Plate Tectonics

Introduction (p. 158)

1. The lithosphere is broken into separate sections called ___________.

2. Is the following sentence true or false? Plates can carry continents or parts of the ocean floor but not both. ___________

How Plates Move (p. 159)

3. State the theory of plate tectonics.
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

4. Is the following sentence true or false? The theory of plate tectonics explains the formation, movement, and subduction of Earth’s plates. ___________

Plate Boundaries (pp. 160–162)

Match the term with its definition.

Term
  5. ____ plate boundary
  6. ____ fault
  7. ____ rift valley

Definition
  a. Deep valley that forms where two plates pull apart
  b. Line where the edges of Earth’s plates meet
  c. Break in Earth’s crust where rocks have slipped past each other
8. How are the movement of plates at divergent boundaries and at sliding boundaries similar?
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________________

9. Is the following sentence true or false? Crust is neither created nor destroyed along a sliding boundary. ______________

10. Most spreading boundaries occur along ________________________.

11. When two plates collide, what determines which plate comes out on top?
    __________________________________________________________
    __________________________________________________________

Mark (T) true or (F) false about colliding boundaries for questions 12 to 15.

12. _____ Where two plates carrying oceanic crust meet, subduction does not take place.

13. _____ An oceanic plate sinks beneath a continental plate when the two plates collide.

14. _____ Where two plates meet, the one that is more dense sinks under the other.

15. _____ Mountain ranges form where two plates carrying continental crust collide.

16. Was Pangaea the only supercontinent to have existed? Explain your answer.
    __________________________________________________________
    __________________________________________________________

17. Is the following sentence true or false? The pieces of the supercontinent Pangaea began to drift apart about 225 million years ago. ______________

Corrected by: ______________________          Score: 17 - _______ = ___