

AQA, OCR, Edexcel

GCSE Science

GCSE Biology

Fossils Answers

Name:

M M E

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Total Marks: /23

Q1: What is a fossil?

A= Remains of organisms from millions of years ago

(1 mark)

Q2: Explain how a fossil is formed.

A= 1 mark for each of the following points:

- Conditions for decay after death not present – e.g. ice
- Impression of animal left as minerals fill in the organisms shape/ Calcification

(2 marks)

Q3: Why can't scientists be sure of how life on earth began?

A= 1 mark for each of the following:

- Soft bodied organisms
- No trace left
- No fossils

(3 marks)

Q4: How have scientists obtained information on how dinosaurs lived?

A= Fossils

(1 mark)

Q5: Give an example of how an animal can be preserved almost intact.

A= Accept one of the following:

- Ice
- Peat

(1 mark)

Q6: What can fossils show us when comparing modern species to ancient species?

A= Evolution of animals

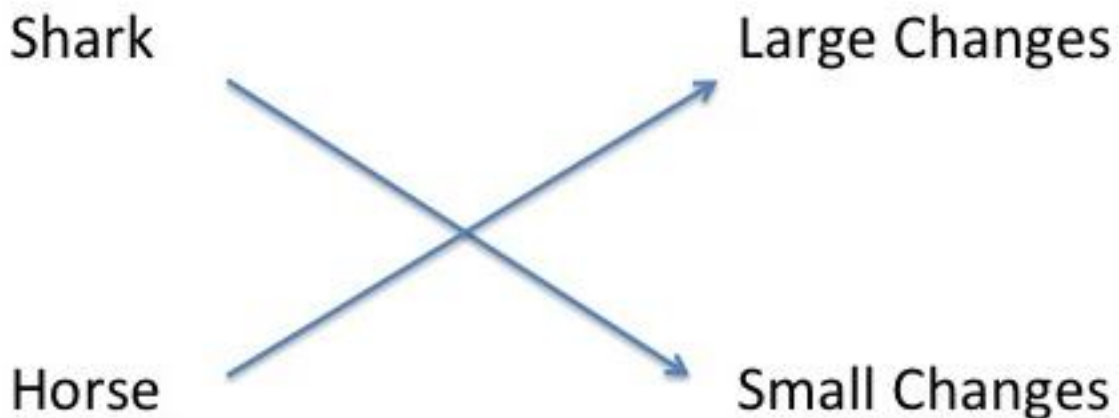
(1 mark)

Q7: Why is the study of fossils limited?

A= Rarely get a whole skeleton

(1 mark)

Q8: Using the species below draw a line to show, which has little, or significant evolutionary changes.



(2 marks)

Q9: Explain why the shark has changed very little.

A= 1 mark for 1 of the following:

- Early evolution – suited to environment
 - Almost perfectly adapted to environment
- Environment remained fairly constant (1)

(2 marks)

Q10: What term is used to describe the study of fossils?

A= Palaeontology

(1 mark)

Q11: How long ago do scientists believe life on earth began?

A= 3-4 Billion years

(1 mark)

Q12: What is the most common type of fossil formation?

A= Mould Fossils

(1 mark)

Q13: Explain how ice fossils are formed.

A= 4 marks for following points, 1 mark continuous prose:

- Animal dies
- Little to no oxygen present
- No bacterial break down of animal
- Preserves almost condition animal died in
- Rare

(5 marks)

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Q14: What can ice fossils tell scientists that a mould fossil cant?

A= what the animal has been eating

(1 mark)