Name _____ Date _____

1. Paleontologists can use the shapes of fossil teeth from animals to find out what kinds of food they might have eaten. Below is a fossil of an animal and its teeth. (5.2.D)

Sharp, Long → Meat

What do the teeth most likely tell paleontologists about this animal?

A. This animal most likely ate plants only. flat teeth
B. This animal was most likely a meat eater.
C. This animal most likely hunted insects. are too small
D. This animal most likely used its teeth to grind leaves. flat teeth

2. At times, scientists have found fish fossils in dry areas. What does this tell scientists about the dry area?

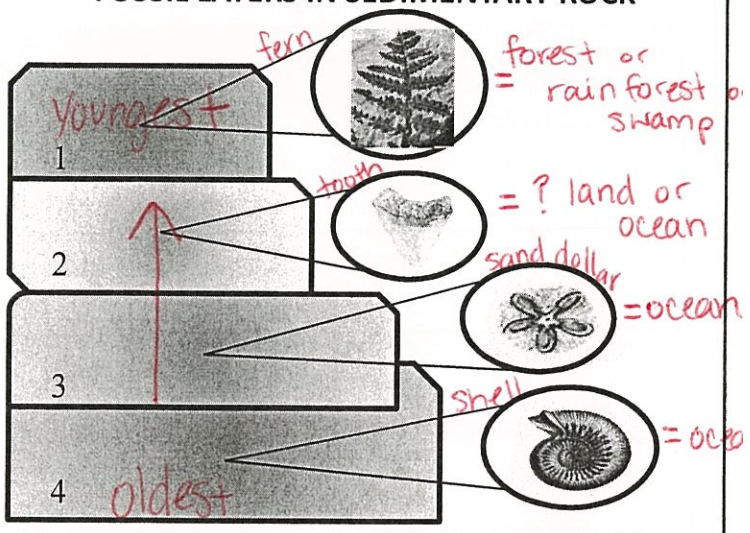
F. The area was once a tundra. cold + dry
G. The area was once a desert. not + dry
H. The fish was moved into that area by someone. Unlikely
J. The area was once covered with water. where fish live

3. Students observe a diagram of rock layers with fossils. They notice that an older layer contains dinosaur fossils but the newer layers do not. What most likely occurred for the dinosaur fossils not to show up in the younger layers of rock? (5.2.D)

A. The dinosaurs were extinct when the new layers were formed. most likely
B. The dinosaur fossils were washed away by a running river. No river mentioned
C. The new layers did not have the proper minerals in the soil to fossilize the dinosaurs. younger = newer, dinosaurs are old
D. The dinosaur fossils dissolved in the new layers. → Nonsolvable

Use the diagram below and your knowledge of science to answer questions 4 and 5.

FOSSIL LAYERS IN SEDIMENTARY ROCK



4. Students were asked to compare the different layers of fossils in the diagram. Some student responses are given below. Which student's response was correct?

F. The fossil in layer 1 is older than the fossil in layer 2. younger
G. The fossil in layer 4 is the youngest of all the fossils. oldest
H. The fossil in layer 4 is the oldest of all the fossils. oldest on bottom
J. The fossils are all the same age.

5. Which statement best explains the environment in which the fossils were most likely formed. (5.2.D)

A. The fossils in layer 1,2, and 3 formed in water. The fossil in layer 4 formed in the desert.
B. The fossils in layer 2,3, and 4 formed in water; the fossil in layer 1 formed in the forest.
C. All the fossils formed in the desert. too dry
D. All the fossils formed in the tundra. too cold

Guided Practice WK 20

power up STAAR to science

Supporting Standard 5.7.D

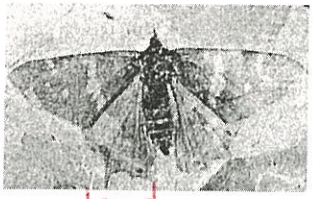
Name _____ Date _____

1. Scientists often get clues about the past from fossils found in sedimentary rock. Information from a sedimentary rock is shown in the chart below. (5.2.D) layers

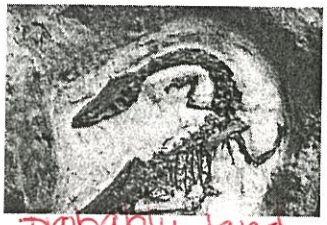
Rock Layer	Environment when layer was formed
1	Dry land; warm temperatures
2	Cold climate; glacial land; dry
3	Freshwater; lake; warm climate
4	Warm humid climate; shallow ocean water

Which fossil was most likely found in rock layer 4?

A. 
water

B. 
land

C. 
land

D. 
probably land

2. Evidence of past living organisms from millions of years ago are found in—

F. volcanic rock
G. igneous rock ?
H. sedimentary rock layers
J. ocean waters

3. The photograph below is a fossilized imprint of a tropical plant found in the very cold climate zone of Antarctica. (5.2.F)

What conclusion can be drawn about how this tropical plant fossil ended up in such a cold climate zone? tropical = warm, wet, humid

A. The land was once a warm climate.
B. The land was once a dry desert. ~~evaporated~~
C. The land was once an ocean. too wet
D. The land was once a forest. not warm enough

4. Scientists have found dinosaur tracks that were made in fresh mud 100 million years ago. The tracks became fossilized in sandstone. What can these footprints tell scientists about dinosaurs?

A. How big it was.
B. How fast it moved.
C. How many legs it walked on. ✓
D. All of the above.

5. All of the following can be considered a fossil EXCEPT— Which is NOT a fossil?

F. animal bones turned to stone ✓
G. petrified wood ✓
H. shells from ancient clams ✓
J. dog's paw imprint in the mud
Not old enough, not changed to stone