

***Living Physical Geography Digital Update 2nd
edition Gervais Test Bank***

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Chapter 01

1. Geography is the study of Earth's _____.
a. weather systems
b. crust
c. life
d. physical, biological, and cultural systems and how they change through space and time

ANSWER: d

2. Physical geography is mainly concerned with _____.
a. the state of the atmosphere at any given moment
b. the study of Earth's living and nonliving physical systems
c. the rigid outer crust of Earth
d. the water in the oceans and in the atmosphere

ANSWER: b

3. Which question would you least likely explore in *Living Physical Geography*?
a. Why is there winter and summer?
b. Why do mountains form and how are they worn down?
c. Why are there no polar bears in the Southern Hemisphere or penguins in the Northern Hemisphere?
d. What is the population of India?

ANSWER: d

4. A system is a _____.
a. set of interacting parts that function as a unit
b. theory that helps scientists understand Earth
c. group of ideas
d. way of mapping Earth's surface

ANSWER: a

5. Which is an example of an anthropogenic phenomenon?
a. Earth's climate system
b. ocean currents
c. croplands
d. tropical rainforest

ANSWER: c

6. Which one of the following would be the best scale to study the coastline of the Namib Desert in Africa?
a. temporal
b. local
c. regional
d. global

ANSWER: c

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7. People depend on Earth's physical systems because they _____.

- a. provide resources for people
- b. are part of Earth's physical geography
- c. occupy space and possess mass
- d. allow us to better understand Earth

ANSWER: a

8. Which is an example of a spatial phenomenon?

- a. the age of a mountain range
- b. the temperature of an ocean
- c. the size of a thunderstorm
- d. the strength of a hurricane

ANSWER: c

9. Which is an example of a temporal phenomenon?

- a. the age of a mountain range.
- b. the temperature of an ocean
- c. the size of a thunderstorm
- d. the strength of a hurricane

ANSWER: a

10. Which is the smallest spatial scale?

- a. a view of Earth
- b. a view of a mountain
- c. a view of a lake
- d. a view of a tree

ANSWER: a

11. Which has the longest temporal scale?

- a. an earthquake
- b. El Niño
- c. forest migration
- d. mountain building

ANSWER: d

12. Energy is _____.

- a. the capacity to change and do work on physical matter
- b. a form of activity
- c. not very important to physical geography
- d. an example of climate change

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ANSWER: a

13. Matter occurs in _____ state(s).

- a. one
- b. two
- c. three
- d. four

ANSWER: c

14. Geothermal energy is energy from _____.

- a. the Sun
- b. living organisms
- c. the atmosphere
- d. Earth's interior

ANSWER: d

15. An example of radiant energy is energy from _____.

- a. the Sun
- b. living organisms
- c. the atmosphere
- d. Earth's interior

ANSWER: a

16. Photosynthesis is the process in which plants, algae, and bacteria _____.

- a. convert solar radiant energy to chemical energy
- b. convert thermal energy to radiant energy
- c. are created
- d. grow

ANSWER: a

17. Which is an example of potential energy?

- a. a boulder perched on a cliff
- b. a falling boulder
- c. electricity
- d. heat

ANSWER: a

18. Which is an example of kinetic energy?

- a. a boulder perched on a cliff
- b. a falling boulder
- c. a taut bowstring

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d. a reservoir behind a dam

ANSWER: b

19. What form of energy is water sitting in a reservoir that will be released to make electricity?

- a. kinetic
- b. chemical
- c. electrical
- d. potential

ANSWER: d

20. The energy to build Earth's surface relief comes from _____.

- a. the Sun
- b. Earth's interior
- c. the rocks
- d. organisms

ANSWER: b

21. The _____ includes the crust and the heated layer below it.

- a. atmosphere
- b. biosphere
- c. lithosphere
- d. hydrosphere

ANSWER: c

22. The _____ is the layer of gases that surrounds Earth.

- a. atmosphere
- b. biosphere
- c. lithosphere
- d. hydrosphere

ANSWER: a

23. Which is not a part of the hydrosphere?

- a. a glacier
- b. a river
- c. a plant
- d. a cloud

ANSWER: c

24. The oceans cover _____ percent of the planet's surface.

- a. 56
- b. 67

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c. 71

d. 85

ANSWER: c

25. The oceans are _____ kilometers deep on average.

a. 4

b. 5

c. 6

d. 7

ANSWER: a

26. The _____ is all life on Earth.

a. atmosphere

b. biosphere

c. lithosphere

d. hydrosphere

ANSWER: b

27. The _____ includes all water on Earth.

a. atmosphere

b. biosphere

c. lithosphere

d. hydrosphere

ANSWER: d

28. The lithosphere extends down to about _____ kilometers.

a. 10

b. 100

c. 200

d. 500

ANSWER: b

29. The crust is broken into _____ large plates.

a. 8

b. 10

c. 12

d. 14

ANSWER: d

30. Which is an example of climate?

a. the average temperature of a region

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- b. a single day of extreme heat
- c. a single day of heavy precipitation
- d. a large tornado

ANSWER: a

31. Geothermal energy drives _____.

- a. the biosphere
- b. plate tectonics
- c. precipitation
- d. climate

ANSWER: b

32. Erosion is the process of _____ rock fragments.

- a. transporting
- b. depositing
- c. making
- d. cementing together

ANSWER: a

33. Which system is not solar powered?

- a. the atmosphere
- b. the biosphere
- c. building up of the lithosphere
- d. erosion of the lithosphere

ANSWER: c

34. Which is not an agent of erosion?

- a. streams
- b. glaciers
- c. chemical reactions
- d. wind

ANSWER: c

35. Ultimately, the energy that drives erosion comes from _____.

- a. Earth's internal heat
- b. organisms
- c. the wind
- d. the Sun

ANSWER: d

36. The frequent recurrence of carbon-dioxide releasing wildfires due to increased global temperatures caused

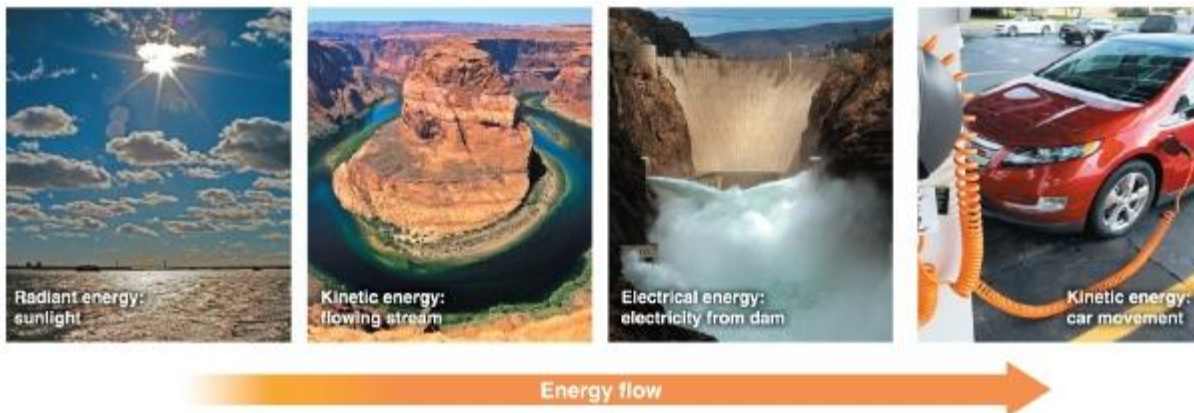
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by fossil fuel combustion that increases atmospheric carbon dioxide is an example of a _____.

- a. positive feedback
- b. warming trend
- c. negative feedback
- d. climate feedback

ANSWER: a

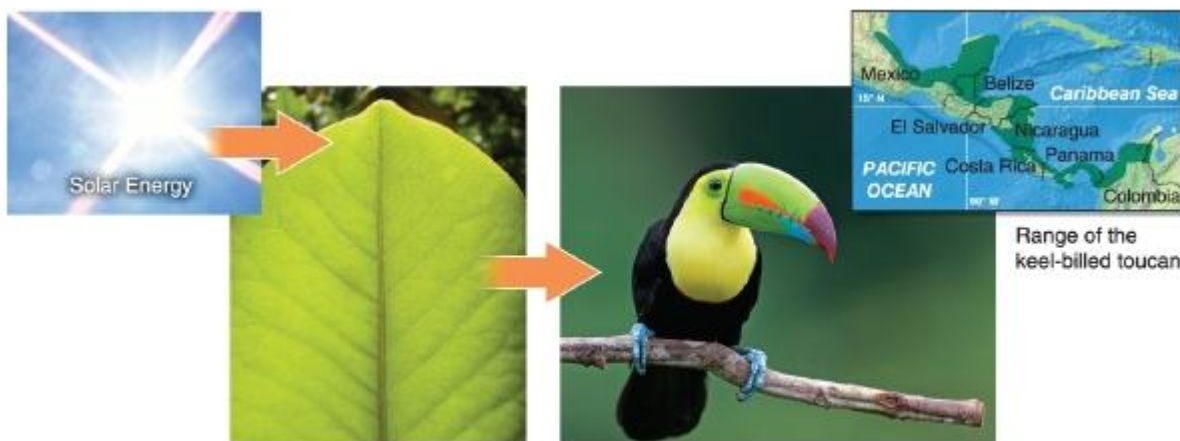
37. Referring to the figure, which statement describes how the Sun provides energy to power this electric vehicle?



1. Evan Kafka/Getty Images; 2. Marco Brivio/Getty Images; 3. U.S. Dept of Interior - Bureau of Reclamation; 4. Rebecca Cook/Reuters/Newscom

- a. Radiant energy is converted to kinetic energy, which is converted to electrical energy that powers the car.
- b. Kinetic energy is converted to radiant energy that powers the car.
- c. Electrical energy is converted to kinetic energy that powers the car.
- d. Electrical energy is converted to radiant energy, which is converted to kinetic energy that powers the car.

ANSWER: a



Left: David McGlynn/Getty Images; center: Bruce Gervais; right: Sue Flood/Getty Images

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38. Which statement describes the transformation of energy shown in this figure?



Top: David McGlynn/Getty Images; left: Dave Reede/Robert Harding Picture Library; right: Gene Rhoden/Weatherpix/Getty Images

- Radiant energy is converted to chemical energy that fuels the biosphere.
- Geothermal energy is converted to kinetic energy that fuels the biosphere.
- Radiant energy is converted to kinetic energy that fuels the biosphere.
- Kinetic energy is converted to radiant energy that fuels the biosphere.

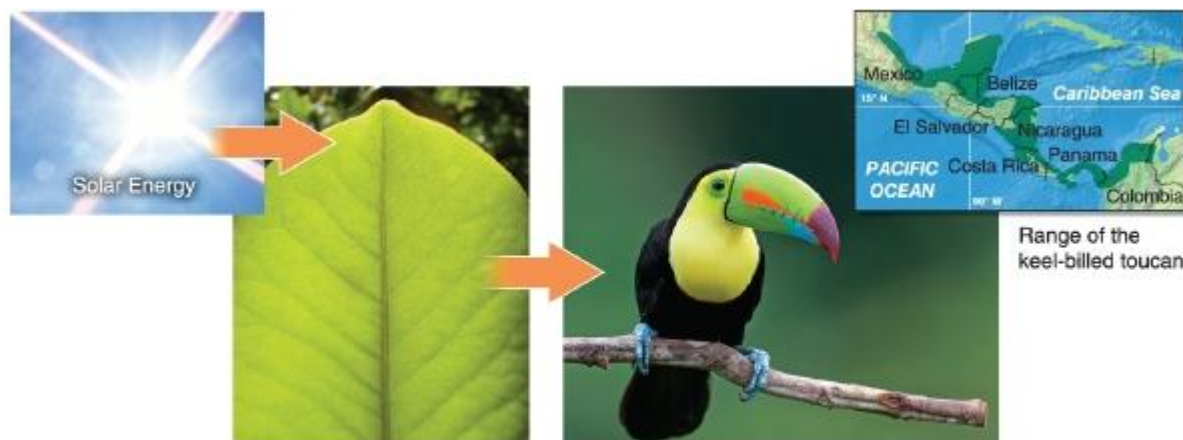
ANSWER: a



Left: Svetoslava Slavova/Getty Images; right: © Michel Detay/Getty Images

39. Which statement describes the transformation of energy shown in this figure?

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Left: David McGlynn/Getty Images; center: Bruce Gervais; right: Sue Flood/Getty Images

- Geothermal energy is converted to chemical energy that builds the lithosphere.
- Geothermal energy is converted to kinetic energy that builds the lithosphere.
- Radiant energy is converted to kinetic energy that builds the lithosphere.
- Kinetic energy is converted to geothermal energy that builds the lithosphere.

ANSWER: b



Left: FabioFilzi/Getty Images; center: David McGlynn/Getty Images; right: Jim Wark/airphotona.com

40. Which statement describes the transformation of energy shown in this figure?

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Left: Svetoslava Slavova/Getty Images; right: © Michel Detay/Getty Images

- Radiant energy is converted to chemical energy that erodes the lithosphere.
- Geothermal energy is converted to kinetic energy that erodes the lithosphere.
- Radiant energy is converted to kinetic energy that erodes the lithosphere.
- Kinetic energy is converted to radiant energy that erodes the lithosphere.

ANSWER: c

41. Which statement describes the transformation of energy shown in this figure?



Left: FabioFilzi/Getty Images; center: David McGlynn/Getty Images; right: Jim Wark/airphotona.com

- Radiant energy is converted to chemical energy that erodes the lithosphere.
- Geothermal energy is converted to kinetic energy that erodes the lithosphere.
- Radiant energy is converted to kinetic energy that erodes the lithosphere.
- Kinetic energy is converted to radiant energy that erodes the lithosphere.

ANSWER: c

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42. The _____ is a coordinate system used to identify locations on Earth's surface.

- a. equator
- b. prime meridian
- c. geographic grid
- d. Global Positioning System

ANSWER: c

43. The _____ divides Earth into two equal halves.

- a. equator
- b. prime meridian
- c. North Pole
- d. South Pole

ANSWER: a

44. The _____ is located at 90 degrees north latitude.

- a. North Pole
- b. South Pole
- c. equator
- d. prime meridian

ANSWER: a

45. The _____ is at 0 degrees longitude.

- a. equator
- b. prime meridian
- c. North Pole
- d. South Pole

ANSWER: b

46. On the equator, meridians are _____ kilometers apart.

- a. 0
- b. 53
- c. 111
- d. 200

ANSWER: c

47. At the South Pole, meridians are _____ kilometers apart.

- a. 0
- b. 53
- c. 111
- d. 200

ANSWER: a

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48. The _____ are found between 23.5 degrees north and south.

- a. tropics
- b. midlatitudes
- c. high latitudes
- d. polar regions

ANSWER: a

49. The _____ are found between 80 and 90 degrees north and south.

- a. tropics
- b. midlatitudes
- c. high latitudes
- d. polar regions

ANSWER: d

50. The _____ are found between 35 and 55 degrees north and south.

- a. tropics
- b. midlatitudes
- c. high latitudes
- d. polar regions

ANSWER: b

51. The _____ are found between 23.5 degrees and 35 degrees north and south.

- a. tropics
- b. subtropics
- c. midlatitudes
- d. high latitudes

ANSWER: b

52. _____ uses satellites to identify the locations on Earth.

- a. The geographic grid
- b. The Global Positioning System
- c. Doppler radar
- d. Sonar

ANSWER: b

53. Which U.S. state is farthest east on the geographic grid?

- a. Alaska
- b. Maine
- c. Vermont
- d. Hawaii

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ANSWER: a

54. A _____ is the shortest distance between two points on the globe.

- a. meridian
- b. parallel
- c. small circle route
- d. great circle route

ANSWER: d

55. Which of these is a great circle?

- a. the equator
- b. the prime meridian
- c. the 55th parallel
- d. the 170th meridian

ANSWER: a

56. The 0 degree meridian is also called the _____.

- a. equator
- b. prime meridian
- c. 55th parallel
- d. 170th meridian

ANSWER: b

57. How many degrees of latitude separate the equator from the North Pole?

- a. 0
- b. 45
- c. 90
- d. 180

ANSWER: c

58. Longitudes run as high as _____ degrees.

- a. 0
- b. 45
- c. 90
- d. 180

ANSWER: d

59. Which location cannot exist?

- a. 1 degree south, 1 degree west
- b. 70 degrees north, 0 degrees east
- c. 140 degrees south, 10 degrees west

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- d. 10 degrees north, 123 degrees east

ANSWER: c

60. An equal-area map projection

- a. preserves the true areas of continents at the expense of their true shapes.
- b. preserves both true shapes and true areas of continents.
- c. preserves the true shapes of continents at the expense of their true areas.
- d. preserves neither true shapes or true areas of continents.

ANSWER: a

61. A conformal map projection

- a. preserves the true areas of continents at the expense of their true shapes.
- b. preserves both true shapes and true areas of continents.
- c. preserves the true shapes of continents at the expense of their true areas.
- d. preserves neither true shapes or true areas of continents.

ANSWER: c

62. Which of the following would be the best map projection to use in order to compare the true size of Alaska compared to Texas?

- a. cylindrical projection
- b. a conformal projection
- c. an equal-area projection
- d. orthographic projection

ANSWER: c

63. Which type of projection creates a tangent that may run the length of the equator?

- a. cylindrical projection
- b. conic projection
- c. azimuthal projection
- d. orthographic projection

ANSWER: a

64. Which type of projection creates a tangent that forms a single point?

- a. cylindrical projection
- b. conic projection
- c. azimuthal projection
- d. orthographic projection

ANSWER: c

65. Which type of projection creates a tangent that traces the path of a small circle?

- a. cylindrical projection

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- b. conic projection
- c. azimuthal projection
- d. orthographic projection

ANSWER: b

66. The distance an object is submerged below the surface of the ocean is referred to as
- a. elevation.
 - b. altitude.
 - c. depth.
 - d. topography.

ANSWER: c

67. The height of an airplane flying above sea level is referred to as
- a. elevation.
 - b. altitude.
 - c. depth.
 - d. topography.

ANSWER: b

68. The height of a car driving in the mountains above sea level is referred to as
- a. elevation.
 - b. altitude.
 - c. depth.
 - d. topography.

ANSWER: a

69. The relative difference in elevation between two or more points on Earth's surface is called
- a. elevation.
 - b. altitude.
 - c. relief.
 - d. topography.

ANSWER: c

70. Isolines never _____.
- a. cross each other
 - b. represent the same value
 - c. repeat values
 - d. loop back

ANSWER: a

71. A(n) _____ is a type of isoline that connects equal values of temperature.

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- a. isobar
- b. contour line
- c. isotherm
- d. isohyet

ANSWER: c

72. Which map scale is still accurate after a map has been reduced or enlarged from its original size?

- a. bar scale
- b. verbal scale
- c. representative fraction scale
- d. map scale

ANSWER: a

73. "One centimeter equals 5 kilometers" is an example of what kind of map scale?

- a. a bar scale
- b. a verbal scale
- c. a representative fraction scale
- d. a measurement

ANSWER: b

74. Which is not among the elements maps generally should have?

- a. border
- b. title
- c. map scale
- d. legend

ANSWER: a

75. Topography is _____.

- a. a geographic locating system
- b. the height of the tallest object in a landscape
- c. the shape and physical character of Earth's surface
- d. a mapping technique

ANSWER: c

76. A contour line is used to show _____.

- a. population
- b. the biosphere
- c. weather
- d. topography

ANSWER: d

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77. If people continue to walk along a contour line, what will eventually happen?

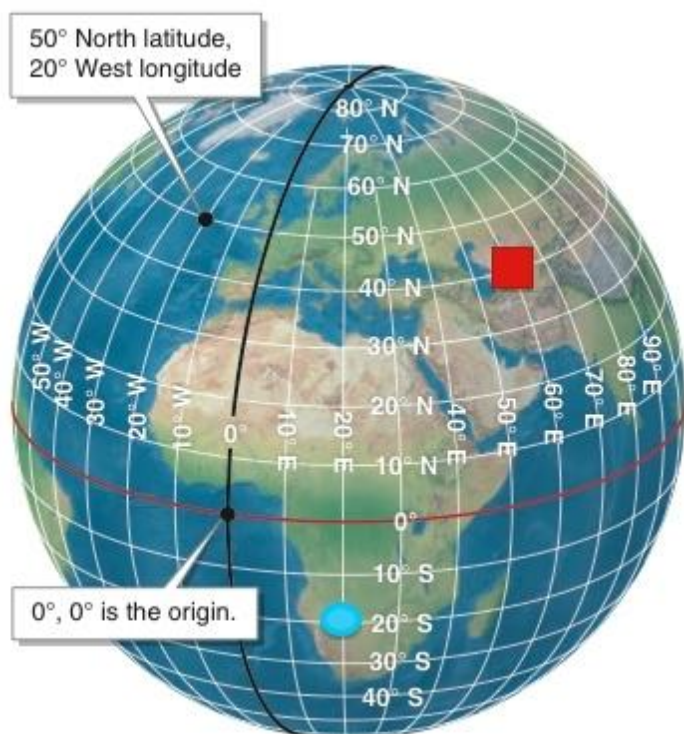
- a. They will experience a wide range of weather conditions.
- b. They will encounter many forms of life.
- c. They will climb uphill.
- d. They will end up where they started.

ANSWER: d

78. Where contour lines are close together on a map, _____.

- a. the slope is steep
- b. the temperature is low
- c. the population is high
- d. the vegetation is changing

ANSWER: a



79. Which set of coordinates locates the red square on this figure?

- a. 60° N, 40° E
- b. 40° S, 60° E
- c. 40° N, 60° E
- d. 0°, 30° W

ANSWER: c

80. Which set of coordinates locates the blue circle on this figure?

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- a. 20° S, 20° E
- b. 10° N, 30° E
- c. 40° S, 20° E
- d. 0°, 30° W

ANSWER: a

81. Which is not an example of remote sensing?

- a. taking soil samples
- b. Doppler radar
- c. sonar
- d. digital photography

ANSWER: a

82. Which technology can be used to map rainfall in a hurricane?

- a. Doppler radar
- b. LIDAR
- c. sonar
- d. lasers

ANSWER: a

83. What remote sensing technology is used to map the seafloor?

- a. Doppler radar
- b. LIDAR
- c. sonar
- d. lasers

ANSWER: c

84. A GIS is what?

- a. a navigation instrument
- b. a tropical storm system
- c. a way to display and analyze spatial data
- d. a map scale

ANSWER: c

85. Which order is a logical sequence of the scientific method?

- a. observations, questions, hypothesis development, hypothesis testing, further inquiry
- b. hypothesis testing, observations, questions, hypothesis development, further inquiry
- c. further inquiry, hypothesis development, observations, questions, hypothesis testing
- d. hypothesis development, observations, questions, hypothesis testing, further inquiry

ANSWER: a

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86. Which European group was the first to find Rapa Nui?

- a. the French
- b. the Spanish
- c. the Dutch
- d. the Portuguese

ANSWER: c

87. The giant statues on Rapa Nui are called what?

- a. ahu
- b. moai
- c. rapa nui
- d. lapita

ANSWER: b

88. When geographers examined the history of Rapa Nui, what key evidence did they find that indicated that the island was once forested?

- a. ancient pollen
- b. ancient insect remains
- c. ancient wood
- d. ancient burial sites

ANSWER: a

89. The loss of Rapa Nui's forests occurred mostly because of what?

- a. fire
- b. poor soils
- c. rats
- d. boat building

ANSWER: c

90. How might the rats brought to Rapa Nui by Polynesians have contributed to the demise of the people of living there?

- a. The rats brought disease to the people.
- b. The rats ate the seeds of trees and the birds that pollinated trees.
- c. The rats ate most of the humans' food stores.
- d. The people starved after the rat populations disappeared.

ANSWER: b

91. Humans have little effect on Earth's physical systems.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

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92. The material goods we use, like cell phones, cars, and computers, are not connected to Earth's physical systems.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

93. Science is fundamental to the study of physical geography.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

94. Temporal scale refers to size, length, distance, or area of an object or process.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

95. Physical geography emphasizes phenomena or processes occurring over scales of meters to the entire planet.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

96. A photo sequence showing progressive deforestation illustrates both temporal and spatial scales.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

97. The crust is the rigid outermost portion of Earth's surface.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

98. The atmosphere consists mostly of nitrogen and carbon dioxide.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

99. Water exists as a solid, a liquid, and a vapor.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

100. When water evaporates, vapor turns to liquid.

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a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

101. Clouds are composed of water vapor.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

102. *Living Physical Geography* is structured around energy flows through Earth's physical systems.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

103. Most life on Earth obtains its energy from the Sun.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

104. The energy for erosion is derived from Earth's heat.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

105. A tornado's energy is derived from the Sun.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

106. An example of a positive feedback would be the following:

Global warming → More water vapor in the atmosphere because the air is warmer → More warming (go back to start)

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: True

107. Positive feedbacks stabilize physical systems.

a. True

b. False

ANSWER: False

108. The origin is found at 0 degrees latitude and 0 degrees longitude.

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- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

109. The equator is 0 degrees latitude.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

110. The prime meridian is 180 degrees longitude.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

111. Cartography is the art and science of map making.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

112. Maps can portray spatial information and temporal information.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

113. A map of a mountain has a relatively smaller map scale than a map of a continent.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

114. The highest point on Earth is Mount Everest at 8,848 meters (29,029 feet).

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

115. The lowest point on Earth is Death Valley at -86 meters (-282 feet).

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

116. Contour lines are used on topographic maps to show changes in elevation.

- a. True
- b. False

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ANSWER: True

117. Radar is a form of passive remote sensing.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

118. Doppler radar is an example of a remote sensing technology.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

119. A digital elevation model is used to show topographic relief.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

120. Digital elevation models can only be developed for surfaces above water.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

121. A GIS is interactive and can be used to analyze spatial data.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

122. A hypothesis is an idea that can be tested and proved incorrect.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

123. The process of science works by first having an idea, then collecting only those data that support the idea.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: False

124. A theory is constructed from many hypotheses that have been tested and supported by scientific data and observations.

- a. True
- b. False

ANSWER: True

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125. If you walked along a parallel, which direction would you be walking?

ANSWER: You would be walking either east or west.

126. What are the basic elements of the scientific method?

ANSWER: The elements of the scientific method include observation, questioning, hypothesis development, data collection, hypothesis testing, and further inquiry.

127. The Rapa Nui said that the large statues “walked” to their present locations along the coast. Explain how this seemingly impossible notion could actually have a scientific basis.

ANSWER: Scientists attempted and succeeded in moving the statues by "walking" a replica statue with a system of ropes tied around the statue's head. Thus, the statues "walked" across the island.

128. What would happen to the biosphere if the Sun were to stop shining?

ANSWER: Almost all life on Earth would perish. Only bacteria and their ecosystems in deep-sea hydrothermal vents and hot springs would survive.

129. What would happen to the atmosphere if the Sun were to stop shining?

ANSWER: If the Sun were to stop shining there would be no solar energy. Solar energy evaporates water and creates wind. Without wind and water vapor, there would be no weather systems.

130. Give three examples of how Earth's physical systems affect one another.

ANSWER: Water evaporates from the hydrosphere to the atmosphere. Organisms in the biosphere put oxygen and carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The lithosphere (volcanoes) puts carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The oceans absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

131. If you were a forest manager and you were assigned the task of finding areas most in need of new tree plantings, what information and technology might be most useful to you?

ANSWER: A geographic information system (GIS) would be most useful. You would need different types of data that would indicate where trees may have been damaged and are in need of replanting. Spatial data on fire activity and bug infestations might be useful for determining where the forest is in need of new trees. Regions of drought might also be of interest. You might need spatial data on tree planting history for the area of interest, as well as temperature and precipitation data to help you decide which species of tree would be most suitable. You could put these layers of data in a GIS and analyze the data to identify areas most in need of plantings.

132. Explain the process by which people convert solar energy to electrical energy to run a computer by using a flowing stream.

ANSWER: The Sun's energy evaporates water. This water condenses and precipitates and flows downslope. People build dams to collect the runoff in a reservoir. A hydroelectric dam generates electricity from the water flowing out the base of the dam. The electricity powers the computer.

133. Explain the history of Rapa Nui from the perspective of our scientific understanding. What happened and why did it happen?

ANSWER: Rats ate the forest tree seeds, preventing the forests from regenerating. Without the forests, the islanders could not build boats (from logs). Nonetheless, the Rapa Nui lived sustainably on the island until first contact with Europeans. Europeans enslaved and brought Old World diseases to the

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islanders, causing their populations to collapse.

134. "Insect outbreaks in western forests occur during warmer winters." Is this a testable hypothesis? If it is, what data would you need to test it?

ANSWER: This is a testable hypothesis. One could statistically compare insect population data with winter temperature data. If a correlation exists, the hypothesis is supported and can be accepted.