

Evidence for Continental Drift

Review

Goal • Use this page to review evidence for continental drift.

1. What is the best explanation for the fact that coal deposits have been found in Antarctica?
 - A. The climate of Earth has cooled.
 - B. A lowering of sea level changed Antarctica to a swamp.
 - C. Antarctica was once nearer the equator.
 - D. Early explorers stored coal.
2. Fossils of *Mesosaurus*, a small freshwater mammal, are found in South America and Africa. Why is *Mesosaurus* useful evidence for continental drift?
 - A. *Mesosaurus* lived all over the world.
 - B. *Mesosaurus* only lived in warm climates.
 - C. *Mesosaurus* lived in rivers and streams of South America and Africa.
 - D. It is unlikely that *Mesosaurus* could swim thousands of kilometres between continents.
3. Where is the true edge of a continent?
 - A. along the oceanic ridge
 - B. at the edge of the continental shelf
 - C. along the current coastline
 - D. in the deepest part of the ocean

4. Why do volcanoes and earthquakes occur at the edges of tectonic plates?

5. Explain how a lava flow can become magnetized.

6. Explain why the crust on either side of the Mid-Atlantic Oceanic Ridge gets gradually older as you move farther away, towards the continents.
