

# Questions on Plate Tectonics

## Video: Birth of a Theory

### Physical Geology

1. Who was Alfred Wegener?

- When did he develop his theory?
- What were three things he observed?
- What was his theory?
- What was the biggest problem with his theory?

2. Who was Harry Hess?

- What technology was developed during World War II that he used? How did he use it?
- What is a guyot? Where were the deepest guyots?
- What mechanism did he propose for continental drift?

3. Who were Vine and Matthews?

- What is paleomagnetism?
- How was paleomagnetism used to support plate tectonic theory?
- How did Vine and Matthews test their predictions?

4. Who were Wilson and Sykes?

- What did they observe?
- What did they predict?
- How did they test their prediction?

5. What pattern is present in the age of rocks relative to mid-oceanic spreading centers?

6. How is the emergence of the theory of plate tectonics an example of the scientific method?

7. What role do skeptics play in the development of science?