

Unit 4

THE DYNAMIC EARTH

Chapters 17-20-Glencoe

Ch. 17 Plate Tectonics**Chapter Preview**

Before you read the chapter, use the “What I Know” column to list three things you know about plate tectonics. Then list three questions you have about plate tectonics in the “What I Want to Find Out” column.

What I Know	What I Want to Find Out
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Main Idea - Skim Ch. 17 of your text. Use the checklist below as a guide.

- Read all the headings.
- Read all bold words.
- Read all tables and graphs.
- Look at all the pictures and read their captions.
- Think about what you already know about plate tectonics.

Section 17.1 Drifting Continents?

A. Vocabulary-define these words.

1. fossil
2. continental drift
3. Pangaea

B. In your textbook, read about continental drift. Circle the letter of the choice that best completes each statement.

1. Early mapmakers thought continents might have moved based on their observations of
 - a. Gondwanaland.
 - b. rock and fossil evidence.
 - c. matching coastlines.
 - d. earthquakes and floods.
2. Pangaea was an ancient supercontinent made up of
 - a. South Africa, India, Australia, and South America.
 - b. the United States, Greenland, and Europe.
 - c. Antarctica, India, and South America.
 - d. all of Earth’s continents.
3. To support his hypothesis of continental drift, Alfred Wegener did NOT use
 - a. ancient climatic evidence.
 - b. magnetic field data.
 - c. data on ancient reptiles and ferns.
 - d. evidence from rock formations.
4. Fossil evidence that supported Wegener’s idea of continental drift included
 - a. land-dwelling animals.
 - b. ocean plants.
 - c. ocean mammals.
 - d. tropical flowers.
5. Fossils of aquatic reptiles found in freshwater rocks suggested to Wegener that these reptiles
 - a. swam the great distances between continents.
 - b. probably did not cross the oceans.
 - c. ate Glossopteris.
 - d. once lived in Earth’s oceans.
6. Based on observations of fossils of Glossopteris, Wegener concluded that
 - a. magnetic reversals had occurred in Earth’s past.
 - b. continental rocks containing these fossils had once been joined.
 - c. Earth’s continents were never joined.
 - d. Glossopteris grew only in the tropics.