



Geological Society of India

EARTH SCIENCE OLYMPIAD – Entrance Test



Date: January 16, 2016; Time: 10.30 am to 12.00 noon

INSTRUCTIONS

1. You have to be present in the examination hall well before the commencement of the test.
2. You will not be permitted to enter the examination hall 30 minutes after the commencement of the test.
3. You will not be permitted to leave the examination hall until after 30 minutes of commencement of the test.
4. If you have any paper/chit with you, surrender them to the invigilator now.
5. All are multiple-choice questions.
6. Please use a BLACK/BLUE ball point pen to mark your answers. DO NOT use pencil.
7. This sheet should not be folded or crushed
8. Choose the MOST appropriate answer.
9. Darken the circle corresponding to the answer of your choice.
10. Do not use stray marks on the sheet. An Example

Question	Answer			
The shape of the Earth is	A	B	C	D
(A) Spherical (B) Spheroidal (C) Ovoid (D) Ellipsoidal	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

- Marks will not be awarded if more than one answer is chosen.
 - Your answer must be given only in the answer sheet (overleaf) and handover the answer sheet to the invigilator
7. Please enter your Registration No. and affix your signature on the answer sheet before starting to answer the questions.
8. **The answer keys will be published in Geological Society's Web site:**
<http://www.geosocindia.org/index.php/ieso> on 18th January 2016

Dear Student

We appreciate your interest in the International Earth Science Olympiad. Please spend a minute to let us know how you learnt about the IESO-Entrance Test (can choose more than one option).

- From my school / college*
- IESO Poster*
- From a friend*
- From Geological Society's Web site*
- From other source, specify*

Please send your comments on the question paper within a week by email (hachyuthan@yahoo.com) with copy endorsed to gsocind@gmail.com, or by regular mail to: Prof. Hema Achyuthan, Head, Department of Geology, Anna University, Chennai – 600 025.



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Date: January 16, 2016; Time: 10.30 pm to 12.00 pm



Name of the Candidate: _____ Regn No.: _____

Name of the School & Class: _____

Name of the Test Center: _____

Student's Signature: _____ Signature of the Invigilator

ANSWER SHEET

Q.No.	A	B	C	D	Q.No.	A	B	C	D	Q.No.	A	B	C	D	Q.No.	A	B	C	D
1	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	26	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	51	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	76	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	27	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	52	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	77	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	28	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	53	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	78	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	29	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	54	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	79	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	30	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	55	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	80	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	31	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	56	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	81	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	32	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	57	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	82	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	33	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	58	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	83	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	34	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	59	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	84	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	35	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	60	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	85	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	36	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	61	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	86	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
12	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	37	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	62	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	87	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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23	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	48	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	73	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	98	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
24	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	49	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	74	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	99	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	50	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	75	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	100	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



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16 January-2016

Time: 90 minutes ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS Total 100 questions. Marks: 100



1. What is the thickness of the Earth's atmosphere?
a. 100 km b. 50 km c. 10 km d. 1000 km
2. What is the third largest constituent of Earth's atmosphere?
a. Oxygen b. Nitrogen c. Argon d. Krypton
3. What is the largest constituent of the atmosphere of Venus and Mars?
a. Oxygen b. Nitrogen c. Argon. d. Carbon-dioxide
4. What is the maximum water vapour content of Earth's atmosphere?
a. 100% b. 50% c. 25% d. 3%
5. What is the typical monsoon rainfall over India?
a. 100cm b. 50cm c. 100mm d. 50mm
6. Which of the following states receives the maximum monsoon rainfall?
a. Meghalaya b. Kerala c. Tamil Nadu d. Karnataka
7. Western disturbance occurs during...
a. March b. June c. August d. September
8. Most depression that causes rain over the Indo-Gangetic belt form in the
a. Southern Bay of Bengal b. Northern Bay of Bengal
c. Southern Arabian Sea d. Northern Arabian Sea
9. An anemometer measures
a. rainfall b. humidity c. wind speed d. wind direction
10. Sun emits maximum power at the wavelength of
a. green b. blue c. red d. ultraviolet
11. The average value of the Solar Constant is
a. 1400 W/m^2 b. 1300 W/m^2 c. 1360 W/m^2 d. 1460 W/m^2
12. Wien's displacement law is useful in calculating the
a. Surface temperature of stars b. total power radiated by stars
c. core temperature of stars d. Planck's constant

13. Power radiated by a star is proportional to the _____ power of its surface temperature
 a. First b. second c. third d. fourth
14. Typical glaciated forms are
 a. Cuestas and hogbacks b. Horns and Arêtes
 c. Alluvial fans and cones d. Strath and fill terraces
15. A small flat-topped hill bounded by cliffs is known as
 a. Plateau b. Terrace c. Mesa d. Abrasion platform
16. Given the same climatic conditions, drainage density values will be lowest on
 a. Shale b. Phyllite c. Granite d. Gabbro
17. Sea cliffs are not associated with
 a. Shore platform b. Caves c. Natural Arches d. Pediments
18. A broad, flat area of desert covered with wind-swept sand with little or no vegetative cover is
 a. Hamada b. Bajada c. Erg d. Playa
19. The Dead Sea, Lake Tanganyika and Lake Nyasa (Malawi) are examples of
 a. Volcanic lakes b. Lakes formed by landslides
 c. Lakes of tectonic origin d. Artificial lakes
20. Frost action is a type of
 a. Physical weathering b. Chemical weathering
 c. Biological weathering d. Bio-chemical weathering
21. One of the following rivers does not flow into the Atlantic Ocean
 a. Zambezi b. Congo or Zaire c. Orinoco d. Orange
22. The best example of bird's foot or digitate delta is provided by _____ river
 a. Nile b. Rhine c. Mississippi d. Niger
23. One of the following drainage patterns provides an evidence of river capture
 a. Annual pattern b. Barbed pattern
 c. Trellis pattern d. Radial pattern
24. One of the following is not associated with accelerated soil erosion.
 a. development of rills b. development of gullies
 c. thickening of soils horizons d. increase in sediment yield
25. The marine influence upon climate acts to
 a. increase the annual temperature range. b. increase the annual precipitation total.
 c. suppress the annual temperature range. d. cause extreme aridity.

34. In which of the following environment would you expect to find Oscillation Ripple marks?

- a. Alluvial
- b. Beach
- c. Deep sea
- d. Estuary

35. Which of the following will not make a fossil?

- a. Decomposed organic material
- b. Plant impressions
- c. Animal footprints
- d. Loose animal bones

36. What scientific avenue of investigation gave scientists the best estimate of the age of the Earth?

- a. Dating of fossils
- b. Archeological dating
- c. Radiometric dating
- d. Carbon dating

37. In which Phylum Trilobite belongs to _____

- a. Arthropod
- b. Protozoa
- c. Bryozoans
- d. Chordates

38. Petrified fossil is formed

- a. When minerals replace all or part of a plant
- b. Solid copy of the shape of an organism
- c. An extremely thin coating of carbon on rock
- d. An extremely thick coating of carbon on rock

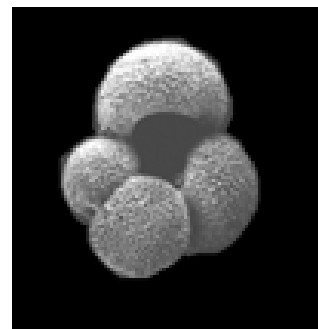
39. Which phylum this fossil belongs to?



- a. Phylum : Brachiopod
- b. Phylum : Bryozoa
- c. Phylum : Mollusca
- d. Phylum : Chordata

40. Is this fossil planktic, benthic, neritic, terrestrial foraminifera?

- a. Planktic
- b. benthic
- c. neritic
- d. terrestrial



41. What is Coprolite?
- Fossilized Dung
 - Vertebrate fossil
 - Microfossil
 - Fossilized animal
42. Ventral valve is larger than dorsal valve with pedicle opening. Identify the fossil from the given options;
- Turbo
 - Turretella
 - Terebratula
 - Trinucleus
43. Choose the sediment texture from order of largest to smallest
- Boulder-Cobble-Gravel-Sand-Silt-Clay
 - Boulder-Sand-Gravel-Cobble-Clay
 - Sand-Boulder-Gravel-Clay
 - Clay-Sand-Boulder-Gravel
44. What is the depth range of the oceans?
- 0 to 400 m
 - 0 to 11000 m
 - 0 to 40,000 m
 - 0 to 4000 cm
45. What is the average salt content (salinity) of the ocean?
- 35%
 - 3.5%
 - 0.35%
 - 0.035%
46. What is the major dissolved cation in the ocean?
- Potassium
 - Sodium
 - Magnesium
 - Calcium
47. What is the major dissolved anion in the ocean?
- Chloride
 - Sulphide
 - Nitrate
 - Phosphate
48. Which one of the following gases is not dissolved in the ocean?
- Oxygen
 - Carbon dioxide
 - Nitrogen
 - Hydrogen
49. What is the typical temperature of the oceans in the equatorial region?
- 30°C
 - 15°C
 - 10°C
 - 50°C
50. Which zonal belt of the oceans has the highest salinity?
- Equator
 - 30°N and 30°S
 - 10°N & 10°S
 - Poles
51. During upwelling deeper waters come to the surface. This **does not** cause one of the following.
- Cooling of the surface ocean
 - Supplying nutrients to the surface ocean
 - Reducing the pH of the surface ocean
 - Reducing chlorophyll content of the surface ocean
52. If a tsunami has a speed of 100 m/s, what is the water depth where it travels?
- 100m
 - 10m
 - 1000m
 - 1m

53. Which of the following oceanic regions **does not** exhibit a thermocline?
 a. Polar b. Tropical c. Mid-latitude d. Equatorial
54. Which of the following is a marine plant?
 a. Coccoliths b. Foraminifera c. Radiolarian d. Copepods
55. Which of the following organisms make a siliceous test?
 a. Foraminifera b. Diatoms c. Coccoliths d. Pteropods
56. How the age of marine microfossils determined?
 a. Counting rings b. Counting x-ray boards
 c. Radio carbon dating d. Amino acid racemization
57. Which of the following features are associated with volcanically derived rocks
 1. Vesicles 2. Amygdules 3. Ropy lava 4. Glass
 a. (1 and 2)
 b. (2 and 3)
 c. (3 and 4)
 d. (1, 2, 3 and 4)
58. Identify the most abundant rock of the crust of the earth
 a. Slate b. Marble c. Phyllite d. None of the above
59. Identify the type of boundaries associated with the Indian plate
 1. Convergent 2. Divergent 3. Island-arc 4. Passive
 a. (1) b. (1 and 2) c. (1, 2 and 3) d. (1, 3 and 4)
60. Two tectonic plates moving towards each other give rise to the formation of:
 1. Subduction zone 2. Island-arc 3. Trench 4. Mid-oceanic ridge
 a. (1) b. (1 and 2) c. (1, 3 and 4) d. (1, 2 and 3)
61. Fragments of the erstwhile ocean floor found to occur on land present in orogenic belts are:
 1. Obducted oceanic crust 2. Ophiolites 3. Sheared serpentinites and pillow lavas 4. Mélange
 a. (1, 4)
 b. (2 and 3)
 c. (1 and 3)
 d. (1, 2, 3 and 4)
62. Average composition of the Upper Continental Crust of the Earth is
 a. Granitic b. Basaltic c. Granodioritic d. Ultramafic
63. Lherzolites are the most abundant rocks in the Earth's
 a. Crust b. Mantle c. Outer core d. Inner core

64. A rock which is composed of quartz and feldspar as essential minerals is called
- a. Granite b. Syenite c. Gabbro d. Norite
65. A rock composed of pyroxene and plagioclase is known as:
1. Granite 2. Gabbro 3. Basalt 4. Syenite
- a. (1)
b. (2)
c. (2 and 3)
d. (3 and 4)
66. A homogeneous crystalline solid of variable composition is said to form
- a. Isomorphism b. Solid solution
c. Polymorphism d. Pseudomorphism
67. Of the following minerals which one occurs in the mantle transition zone
- a. Tridymite b. Cristobalite c. Coesite d. Stishovite
68. Match the following and chose the correct option
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| V. Lithium | 1. Syenites |
| W. Platinum | 2. Peridotites |
| X. Titanomagnetite | 3. Gabbros |
| Y. Diamonds | 4. Pegmatites |
| | 5. Kimberlites |
- a. (V-3 W-5 X-4 Y-1)
b. (V-4 W-2 X-3 Y-5)
c. (V-5 W-2 X-4 Y-1)
d. (V-2 W-3 X-5 Y-4)
69. Select in order of decreasing stability in the weathering cycle the following minerals:
1. Quartz 2. Felspars 3. Muscovite
- a. (2, 1, 3) b. (1, 2, 3)
c. (3, 1, 2) d. (3, 2, 1)
70. Conrad discontinuity is a seismic interface between
- a. Crust and Mantle b. Upper Crust and Lower Crust
c. Upper Mantle and Lower Mantle d. Lower Mantle and Outer Core
71. Andesites are predominant rocks of the Island-arc volcanism because
- a. It is formed by collision of two oceanic plates
b. It is formed by partial melts from oceanic and continental crust
c. It is formed from an acidic magma
d. It is formed from melting of anorthosite
72. The biggest asteroid known is:
- a. Vesta b. Icarus c. Ceres d. Eros

73. One Jupiter day is equal to which of the following?
 a. 30 hrs 40 min b. 9 hrs 50 min c. 3 hrs 20 min d. 52 hrs 10 min
74. The sunspot cycle is:
 a. 3 years b. 11 years c. 26 years d. 50 years
75. The greatest distance between Earth and the Sun is called what:
 a. Aphelion b. Perihelion c. Perigee d. Apogee
76. The orbital plane of the moon is how many degrees inclined from the ecliptic?
 a. 5 degrees b. 10 degrees c. 15 degrees d. 20 degrees
77. A pulsar is actually a:
 a. Black hole b. White dwarf
 c. Red giant d. Neutron star
78. Which of the following is formed during the weathering of rocks on the surface of Earth?
 a. Quartz b. Feldspar c. Muscovite d. Bauxite
79. Pycnocline indicates the vertical distribution of
 a. Temperature b. Salinity c. Density d. Oxygen
80. Which of the following has the highest Albedo
 a. Clouds b. Fresh Snow c. Water d. Vegetation
81. Hydraulic conductivity is high in an Aquifer composed of
 a. Mudstone b. Sandstone c. Granite d. Schist
82. Which of the following is present day remnant of Tethys Sea
 a. Sargossa Sea b. South China Sea
 c. Mediterranean Sea d. Bering Sea
83. Among the minerals listed which has the least hardness
 a. Quartz b. Gypsum c. Corundum d. Orthoclase
84. Coral reefs are composed of
 a. Sandstone b. Phosphorite
 c. Limestone d. Siltstone
85. Gondwana Coals of India are richer in
 a. Carbon b. Iron
 c. Sulfur d. Aluminium
86. Which of the following will have poorest sorting of sediments
 a. Eolian b. Fluvial c. Coastal d. Glacial

87. Which of the following has least residence time in sea water
- a. Sodium b. Iron c. Chlorine d. Manganese
88. How many minerals in the Mohs scale of hardness are silicates
- a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4
89. Which of the following is NOT true
- a. Rayleigh waves are surface waves b. Love waves are body waves
c. P waves travel faster than S waves d. S waves are body waves
90. The Oceanic crust is not older than
- a. Permian b. Triassic
c. Jurassic d. Cretaceous
91. the oldest of the Geomagnetic Scale is
- a. Brunhes b. Gilbert
c. Matuyama d. Gauss
92. The Flysch formations are
- a. Syn-tectonic b. Pre-tectonic
c. Post-tectonic d. All of the above
93. Natural Levee is an example of
- a. Point bar deposit b. Channel fill deposit
c. Flood plain deposit d. Glacial deposit
94. A Sinter is
- a. Dissolved Silica b. Dissolved Calcium carbonate
c. Dissolved Phosphorus d. None of the above
95. Cirques are mainly associated with
- a. Streams b. Glaciers c. Oceans d. All of the above
96. Aragonite crystallises in which crystal system
- a. Cubic b. Monoclinic c. Triclinic d. Orthorhombic
97. Quartz is
- a. Non magnetic b. Strongly magnetic
c. Weakly magnetic d. None of the above
98. The average value of Poisson's ratio of rocks is
- a. 0.25 b. 0.50 c. 1.0 d. 1.50
99. Joints are encountered in
- a. Sedimentary rocks b. Igneous rocks
c. Metamorphic rocks d. All of the above
100. Marine organisms which are confined to normal saline water are called
- a. Euryhaline b. Stenohaline
c. Polyhaline d. None of the above