

Earth Revealed – Minerals and Earth Materials Video
Review Questions

Name _____

1. What is the definition of the term “mineral”? List all of the key components.
2. Why are minerals important to society and the economy?
3. What is the definition of the term “rock”? How do rocks differ from minerals?
4. What types of scientific information can be derived from minerals contained in rocks?
5. True or False: minerals and rocks can be millions to billions of years old, since the time that it formed.
6. How many varieties of minerals have been identified on earth?
7. List three of the common rock forming minerals on earth?
8. What factors control the physical appearance of minerals?
9. What is an “ion”?
10. True or False: atoms in minerals are randomly arranged.
11. What is the chemical composition of the mineral “halite”? What is it’s common name?
12. True or False: oxygen is only found in the earth’s oceans and atmosphere.
13. List several of the physical properties of minerals that are used to identify them.
14. The tendency of minerals to break along well-defined planes is termed _____.
15. True or False: all minerals are similarly hard and resistant to scratching.
16. What is the special chemical property of the mineral calcite that facilitates it’s identification.
17. Define the term “luster”, list some examples.
18. The color of a pulverized powder of a mineral is termed _____.
19. In addition to identifying physical properties of minerals in hand samples, list some other techniques that are used to analyze the composition of rocks and minerals.
20. True or False: all minerals that are composed of the same elements are identical in terms of physical properties.
21. True or False: gold, silver, and copper are precipitated from hot groundwater circulating in rock fractures within the earth.
22. True or False: evaporates are a family of minerals that form from the evaporation of surface water, resulting in chemical precipitates.
23. What mineral family composes the largest percentage of mineral compositions found on earth?