

QUICK DRILL · CBSE CLASS 11

Distribution of Oceans and Continents

Geography · Chapter 4 · 15 MCQs · 20 minutes · PYQ-tagged with time budgets

DATE	TOTAL MARKS 15	DURATION 20 min	MARKING +1 / 0	TARGET ≥ 12/15
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OBJECTIVES

Reinforce the four core topics of Distribution of Oceans and Continents via 15 PYQ-derived MCQs. Identify weak sub-topics via concept-node IDs (see answer key). Build per-question time budget habit.

INSTRUCTIONS

Attempt all 15. Time budget shown per Q (use it as pacing guide). Mark answers (A/B/C/D) in the margin. Answer key + explanations on the last page. **Don't peek — score yourself honestly.**

SECTION · QUICK DRILL

Q 1-15 · 20 MIN

Q1. The Continental Drift Theory was proposed in 1912 by:

- (A) Harry Hess (B) Alfred Wegener
(C) Arthur Holmes (D) Karl Ritter

PYQ 2020 · CBSE SQP · 1m · 30s

Q2. The single supercontinent in Wegener's theory was called:

- (A) Panthalassa (B) Pangaea
(C) Gondwanaland (D) Laurasia

PYQ 2022 · CBSE SQP · 1m · 30s

Q3. The single vast ocean surrounding Pangaea was named:

- (A) Tethys (B) Panthalassa
(C) Atlantic (D) Pacific

PYQ 2021 · School Annual · 1m · 30s

Q4. Pangaea first split into two landmasses — the northern one was:

- (A) Gondwanaland (B) Laurasia
(C) Panthalassa (D) Tethys

PYQ 2019 · CBSE SQP · 1m · 30s

Q5. The two forces Wegener proposed for drift were the tidal force and the:

- (A) Gravitational core force (B) Pole-fleeing force
(C) Convection force (D) Magnetic force

PYQ 2020 · School Annual · 1m · 30s

Q6. Wegener's theory was mainly rejected because:

- (A) He had no evidence (B) The forces he proposed were too weak to move continents
(C) Continents do not move at all (D) Pangaea never existed

PYQ 2022 · CBSE SQP · 1m · 45s

Q7. Identical fossils of which freshwater reptile support continental drift?

- (A) Glossopteris (B) Mesosaurus
(C) Tillite (D) Lystrosaurus

PYQ 2021 · CBSE SQP · 1m · 30s

Q8. Tillite deposits are evidence of past:

- (A) Volcanic activity (B) Glaciation shared by southern continents
(C) Ocean currents (D) Earthquakes

PYQ 2019 · School Annual · 1m · 30s

Q9. Placer deposits of gold in Ghana match source rocks in:

- (A) India (B) Brazil
(C) Australia (D) Antarctica

PYQ 2023 · CBSE SQP · 1m · 30s

Q10. Convection currents in the mantle as the engine of drift were proposed by:

- (A) Alfred Wegener (B) Arthur Holmes
(C) Harry Hess (D) Karl Ritter

PYQ 2020 · CBSE SQP · 1m · 30s

Q11. The theory of sea-floor spreading was proposed by:

- (A) Harry Hess (B) Alfred Wegener
(C) Arthur Holmes (D) Friedrich Ratzel

PYQ 2022 · School Annual · 1m · 30s

Q12. New ocean crust is created at the:

- (A) Ocean trenches (B) Mid-oceanic ridges
(C) Continental shelf (D) Abyssal plains

PYQ 2020 · School Annual · 1m · 30s

Q13. Symmetrical magnetic stripes on either side of a ridge are explained by:

- (A) Earthquakes (B) Palaeomagnetism and sea-floor spreading
(C) Tidal forces (D) Volcanic dust

PYQ 2023 · School Annual · 1m · 45s

Q14. At a divergent (constructive) plate boundary, the plates:

- (A) Move towards each other (B) Move apart and new crust forms
(C) Slide past each other (D) Remain stationary

PYQ 2021 · School Annual · 1m · 30s

Q15. The Himalayas were formed by the collision of the Indian plate with the:

- (A) African plate (B) Eurasian plate
(C) Pacific plate (D) Nazca plate

PYQ 2022 · CBSE SQP · 1m · 45s

ANSWER KEY & EXPLANATIONS

Q 1-15 · MARK YOUR SCORE

Q1. Answer: B

Alfred Wegener, a German meteorologist, proposed the Continental Drift Theory in 1912.

Q2. Answer: B

Pangaea ('all-earth') was the supercontinent; Panthalassa ('all-water') was the surrounding ocean.

Q3. Answer: B

Panthalassa means 'all-water' — the global ocean around Pangaea. Do not confuse it with Pangaea (the land).

Q4. Answer: B

Laurasia was the northern landmass; Gondwanaland was the southern one, separated by the Tethys Sea.

Q5. Answer: B

Wegener proposed the pole-fleeing force (from the earth's rotation) and the tidal force (sun and moon).

Q6. Answer: B

The pole-fleeing and tidal forces are far too weak to drift continents — the missing mechanism doomed the theory.

Q7. Answer: B

Mesosaurus, a small freshwater reptile, is found only in southern Africa and South America — proof they were joined.

Q8. Answer: B

Tillite is glacial sedimentary rock; matching tillite across the southern continents shows a shared glaciated past in Gondwanaland.

Q9. Answer: B

Ghana's gold has no local source rock; the matching source is in Brazil — evidence the two coasts were once adjacent.

Q10. Answer: B

Arthur Holmes proposed mantle convection currents in the 1930s — the force Wegener's theory had lacked.

Q11. Answer: A

Harry Hess (1961) proposed sea-floor spreading — new crust forms at ridges and spreads outward.

Q12. Answer: B

Magma rises at mid-oceanic ridges to form new crust; the old crust is destroyed at trenches by subduction.

Q13. Answer: B

Mirror-image magnetic stripes about the ridge prove the floor formed there and spread outward — palaeomagnetic evidence.

Q14. Answer: B

Divergent boundaries (e.g. Mid-Atlantic Ridge) have plates moving apart with new crust forming in the gap.

Q15. Answer: B

The Indian plate drifted north from Gondwanaland and collided with the Eurasian plate, raising the Himalayas (a convergent boundary).