Extinction Events Quiz Answer Key PDF

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Which factors contributed to the Triassic-Jurassic extinction? (Select all that apply)

A. Volcanic activity ✓

B. Asteroid impact

C. Climate change ✓

D. Sea level fluctuations ✓

Which of the following are examples of conservation efforts to mitigate biodiversity loss? (Select all that apply)

A. Protected areas ✓

B. Captivity breeding programs ✓

C. Deforestation

D. Pollution control ✓

What are the impacts of extinction events on biodiversity? (Select all that apply)

A. Loss of species ✓

B. Increase in genetic diversity

C. Ecological imbalance ✓

D. Evolutionary opportunities for surviving species ✓

Which term describes the ongoing, gradual process of species extinction?

A. Mass extinction

B. Background extinction ✓

C. Cataclysmic extinction

D. Evolutionary extinction

Which of the following is NOT a natural cause of extinction events?

A. Asteroid impacts
B. Volcanic eruptions
C. Climate change
D. Overfishing ✓

Explain the difference between mass extinction and background extinction.

Mass extinction is a widespread and rapid decrease in biodiversity, typically resulting in the extinction of a large number of species in a relatively short geological time frame, whereas background extinction is the ongoing, low-level extinction of species that occurs as part of the natural evolutionary process.

Which extinction event occurred approximately 443 million years ago?

A. Ordovician-Silurian ✓
B. Late Devonian
C. Triassic-Jurassic
D. Permian-Triassic

Which extinction event is associated with a severe ice age and drop in sea levels?

A. Ordovician-Silurian ✓
B. Late Devonian
C. Permian-Triassic
D. Triassic-Jurassic

Which events are classified as mass extinctions? (Select all that apply)

A. Ordovician-Silurian ✓
B. Late Devonian ✓
C. Holocene extinction
D. Cretaceous-Paleogene ✓

Describe the potential ecological consequences of a mass extinction event.

The potential ecological consequences of a mass extinction event include the collapse of ecosystems, loss of species diversity, disruption of food chains, and long-term changes in environmental conditions.

Discuss the role of volcanic activity in historical extinction events.

Volcanic activity contributed to historical extinction events by causing climate shifts and environmental changes, notably during the Permian-Triassic and Cretaceous-Paleogene extinctions.

What are some human-induced causes of the current extinction crisis? (Select all that apply)

A. Habitat destruction ✓

B. Climate change ✓

C. Volcanic eruptions

D. Overfishing ✓

What strategies can be implemented to prevent further biodiversity loss in the current extinction crisis?

Implement strategies like habitat restoration, enforcing anti-poaching laws, promoting sustainable agriculture, and increasing public awareness and education about biodiversity.

What evidence do scientists use to support the theory of an asteroid impact causing the Cretaceous-Paleogene extinction?

The evidence includes a layer of iridium-rich clay found in the geologic record, shocked quartz, and the Chicxulub crater.

Which of the following are considered causes of the Permian-Triassic extinction? (Select all that apply)

A. Volcanic eruptions ✓

B. Asteroid impact

C. Methane release ✓

D. Ice age

How does the current extinction crisis compare to past mass extinctions in terms of causes and impact?

The current extinction crisis is primarily caused by human activities, while past mass extinctions were mainly due to natural events.

What is the primary cause believed to have led to the Cretaceous-Paleogene extinction?

A. Volcanic eruptions
B. Asteroid impact ✓
C. Ice age
D. Sea level rise

What percentage of species were lost during the Late Devonian extinction?

A. 50-60%
B. 70-80% ✓
C. 85-90%
D. 95-100%

Which extinction event is known as "The Great Dying"?

A. Ordovician-Silurian
B. Late Devonian
C. Permian-Triassic ✓
D. Cretaceous-Paleogene

Which extinction event paved the way for the dominance of dinosaurs?

A. Ordovician-Silurian
B. Late Devonian
C. Triassic-Jurassic ✓
D. Cretaceous-Paleogene