

## Interpreting Depositional Environments by Observing Sedimentary Rock

Learning objectives:

- Determine what types characteristics of sedimentary deposits can be used as clues for interpreting depositional environment
- Become familiar with the different types of depositional environments
- Define the sedimentological and fossil characteristics that typify the deposits formed in each depositional environment

### Part 1:

List the types things you can look for (i.e. observations you can make) in a sediment rock or a sedimentary bed that might tell you something about depositional environment:

Brainstorm area:	1.	_____
	2.	_____
	3.	_____
	4.	_____
	5.	_____
	6.	_____
	7.	_____
	8.	_____

### Part 2:

For each image on the powerpoint slides shown in class, name the depositional environment and indicate whether it is a non-marine, transitional, or marine depositional environment by marking an X on the table

Image	Depo. Environ.	Terrestrial ?	Transitional?	Marine?
A				
B				
C				
D				
E				
F				
G				
H				
I				
J				
K				
L				

M				
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**Part 3:**

For each depositional environment, predict what characteristics of the sediment deposited

Depo. Environ.	Rock type(s)	Sorting and rounding	Sed. Structures	Fossils (body and/or trace)
River – channel				
River – Floodplain				
Dune field				
Playa Lake				
Alluvial Fan				
Glacial Terminus				
Swamp				
Delta				
Beach				
Tidal Flat				
Continental shelf/platform				
Reef				
Deep Ocean				

