

Name _____ Date _____

Instructions: Read each question carefully and choose the best answer.

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| <p>1. Why do rare gems cost a great amount of money?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ They are rare. Ⓑ Mining them is often done by hand. Ⓒ They are only found deep within the earth. Ⓓ All of the above <p>2. Where are most crystals formed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ on the slopes of volcanoes Ⓑ deep within the earth Ⓒ in rivers in Africa Ⓓ all of the above | <p>3. How are crystals and organic gems different?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ Crystals are minerals, and organic gems come from living things. Ⓑ Crystals are found near the surface of the earth, and organic gems come from deep within the earth. Ⓒ Crystals are skeletons of tiny sea creatures, and organic gems are mixed minerals with strict shapes. Ⓓ Crystals are used in jewelry, and organic gems are used on tools. <p>4. What are atoms?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ⓐ types of gems created from crystals Ⓑ very small particles that make up all things on Earth Ⓒ certain types of gems found only in South America Ⓓ types of sea creatures that form coral reefs |
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5. Why is it important for a gem in a ring to be high on the Mohs scale?
 - Ⓐ so it will have a purer color
 - Ⓑ so it will not have any streaks or grain
 - Ⓒ so it will not be damaged during wear
 - Ⓓ so it will be closer to a diamond on the scale
6. How is a gem valued?
 - Ⓐ by where it was mined
 - Ⓑ by how many facets it contains
 - Ⓒ by how hard it was to locate and mine
 - Ⓓ by its cut, carat, color, and clarity
7. What is not true about natural pearls?
 - Ⓐ They can take years to form.
 - Ⓑ They are perfectly round.
 - Ⓒ They are an organic gemstone.
 - Ⓓ They form inside oysters from a grain of sand.
8. Which of the following includes an opinion?
 - Ⓐ The most valuable quartz is a stone called *opal*.
 - Ⓑ Blue-green turquoise often has pretty spots and streaks running through it.
 - Ⓒ Gem-quality emeralds are rare and usually small.
 - Ⓓ Quartz is found all over the world, in all colors of the rainbow.
9. What type of gem is formed when a mineral is squeezed under layers of rock?
 - Ⓐ diamond
 - Ⓑ emerald
 - Ⓒ pearl
 - Ⓓ opal
10. Which of the following is not a **crystal**?
 - Ⓐ a diamond
 - Ⓑ a pearl
 - Ⓒ a sapphire
 - Ⓓ an opal

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- 11. Extended Response:** Explain how creating gems in a lab can benefit people and the environment.
- 12. Extended Response:** How do gems, such as crystals, sapphires, and opals form differently from each other?

Quick Check Answer Sheet

Gems: Treasures From the Earth

Main Comprehension Skill: Cause and Effect

1. Ⓓ Cause and Effect
2. Ⓑ Main Idea and Details
3. Ⓐ Compare and Contrast
4. Ⓑ Vocabulary
5. Ⓒ Make Inferences / Draw Conclusions
6. Ⓓ Main Idea and Details
7. Ⓑ Main Idea and Details
8. Ⓑ Fact or Opinion
9. Ⓐ Cause and Effect
10. Ⓑ Vocabulary
11. Answers will vary somewhat but should include the following:
strip mining, which is used to find gems, destroys huge areas of land; people have been killed mining gems; and because they are rare, people have died trying to get them.
12. Answers should include the following: *Crystals: minerals squeezed under layers of rocks, squeezing forces atoms to arrange themselves in the smallest shape possible. Sapphires: minerals get so hot inside the earth that they melt; as they slowly cool, the atoms form a regular crystal pattern. Opals: minerals dissolve in water; as the water evaporates very slowly, the minerals left behind form a crystal.*