

How do fossils help us date rocks?

Lesson Review

Use the diagrams below to answer the questions that follow.

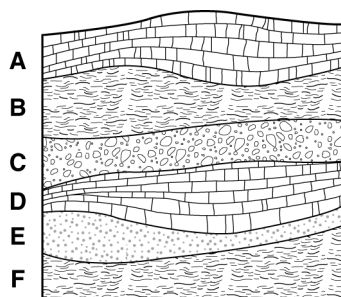


Figure 1

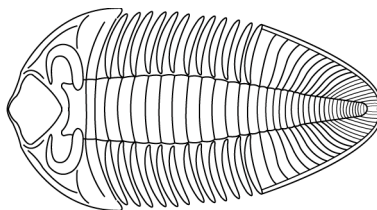


Figure 2

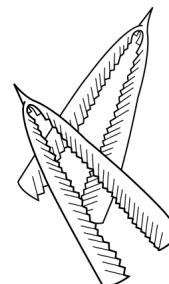


Figure 3

- Write the order in which the rock layers in Figure 1 were laid down. _____
- Which rock layer in Figure 1 is oldest? Use the law of superposition to explain your answer.

- a. What organism is shown in Figure 2? _____ b. Figure 3? _____
- How can the organisms in Figures 2 and 3 be used to determine the relative ages of rock layers?

Skill Challenge

Skills: analyzing, inferring

Use the diagrams below to answer the questions that follow.

Rock Layers	A	Graptolite fossils
	B	
	C	
	D	Trilobite fossils
	E	

Figure 1

Rock layers in China

Rock Layers	F	Human skull
	G	
	H	Graptolite fossils
	I	Trilobite fossils
	J	Trilobite fossils

Figure 2

Rock layers in Africa

- Which rock layers in Figure 1 have the same relative ages as those in Figure 2? _____
- Which country has the older rock bed? Explain. _____

- What inference can you make about the two layers of rock that contain trilobite fossils in Figure 2?

