

Geologic Time Notes

Name: _____

–Earth is estimated to be around _____ **billion years old** based on the _____ & _____ record.

–**Geologic time is broken up into sections based on _____ in the Earth .**

•**Largest Division:** _____

–Eons divided into _____ : **PreCambrian, Paleozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic**

» **Ceno=** _____ **Meso=** _____ **Paleo=** _____ **Zoic=** _____

»**Eras** are divided into _____

PreCambrian

_____ **million** years ago to ~ _____ **billion** years ago (?)

–“**Age of** _____ ”

•Oldest Era, also the longest era because we know so little about the earth that long ago.

•Life: **Very little life:** only basic forms, bacteria (the oldest fossils), seaweed, jellyfish, and worms.

– _____ of the seaweed added _____ to the early **atmosphere**, paving the way for land life.

–**Large colonies of algae** primarily responsible for our first **Oxygen:** _____

Paleozoic

_____ **million** years ago to _____ **million** years ago

•“**Age of the** _____ ”

•Explosion of life in the _____ : **trilobites, shellfish, Fish**

•Life appears on **land:** Ferns, Amphibians

• _____ formed

•Largest _____ ever at the end of the Paleozoic. **90% of species became extinct.**

• _____ period: vast **swamps and forests** that created huge _____.

Mesozoic

_____ mya- _____ mya

•“**Age of the** _____ ”

•Life: **Reptiles** are the dominant life on land. _____ exist. _____ appear.

Forests of _____ appear

•**Pangaea** _____ towards the end.

•Dinosaurs become _____ in a mass extinction at the _____ of the Mesozoic.

2 Theories about the Dinosaur Extinction:

1. Massive _____ erupt and fill the atmosphere with CO₂ and gasses that block the sun light.

2. _____ impact **causes multiple natural disasters.**

Evidence: _____ layers in rocks.

Cenozoic

_____ mya- _____

•“**Age of the** _____ ”

•Life: Large mammals appear, _____ appear

• _____ occur and **ice sheets advance.**

We live in the _____ **epoch** of the
_____ **period** of the