REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION

PHYSICAL SETTING EARTH SCIENCE

Thursday, June 19, 2003 — 1:15 to 4:15 p.m., only

This is a test of your knowledge of Earth science. Use that knowledge to answer all questions in this examination. Some questions may require the use of the *Earth Science Reference Tables*. The *Earth Science Reference Tables* are supplied separately. Be certain you have a copy of the 2001 edition of these reference tables before you begin the examination.

Your answer sheet for Part A and Part B–1 is the last page of this examination booklet. Turn to the last page and fold it along the perforations. Then, slowly and carefully, tear off your answer sheet and fill in the heading.

The answers to the questions in Part B–2 and Part C are to be written in your separate answer booklet. Be sure to fill in the heading on the front of your answer booklet.

You are to answer *all* questions in all parts of this examination according to the directions provided in the examination booklet. Record your answers to the Part A and Part B-1 multiple-choice questions on your separate answer sheet. Write your answers to the Part B-2 and Part C questions in your answer booklet. All work should be written in pen, except for graphs and drawings, which should be done in pencil. You may use scrap paper to work out the answers to the questions, but be sure to record all your answers on your separate answer sheet and in your answer booklet.

When you have completed the examination, you must sign the statement printed at the end of your separate answer sheet, indicating that you had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the examination and that you have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the examination. Your answer sheet and answer booklet cannot be accepted if you fail to sign this declaration.

Notice. . .

A four-function or scientific calculator and a copy of the 2001 Earth Science Reference Tables must be available for your use while taking this examination.

DO NOT OPEN THIS EXAMINATION BOOKLET UNTIL THE SIGNAL IS GIVEN.

Part A

Answer all questions in this part.

Directions (1–35): For *each* statement or question, write on your separate answer sheet the *number* of the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question. Some questions may require the use of the *Earth Science Reference Tables*.

1 The planetary winds in Earth's Northern Hemisphere generally curve to the right due to Earth's	3 Which of these characteristics identify an Earth surface that is likely to be the best absorber of insolation?
 (1) orbit around the Sun (2) spin on its axis (3) magnetic field (4) force of gravity 	 (1) light colored and smooth (2) light colored and rough (3) dark colored and smooth (4) dark colored and rough
2 The redshift of light from distant galaxies pro- vides evidence that the universe is	4 Which phase change requires water to gain 540 calories per gram?
 (1) shrinking, only (2) expanding, only (3) shrinking and expanding in a cyclic pattern (4) remaining the same size 	 (1) solid ice melting (2) liquid water freezing (3) liquid water vaporizing (4) water vapor condensing

5 The diagram below shows the positions of the Moon and the Sun at sunset during an evening in New York State. Points *A*, *B*, *C*, and *D* represent positions along the western horizon.



At sunset on the following evening, the Moon will be located at position

(1) A	(3)	C
(2) B	(4)	D

- etos Airrises Airrises Mountain Mountain (1)(3)Airrises Mountain Mountain (2)(4)
- 6 Which diagram best illustrates how air rising over a mountain produces precipitation?

7 A student used a sling psychrometer to measure the humidity of the air. If the relative humidity was 65% and the dry-bulb temperature was 10°C, what was the wet-bulb temperature?

(1)	5°C	(3)	3°C
(2)	7°C	(4)	$10^{\circ}\mathrm{C}$

- 8 A gradual increase in atmospheric carbon dioxide would warm Earth's atmosphere because carbon dioxide is a
 - (1) poor reflector of ultraviolet radiation
 - (2) good reflector of ultraviolet radiation
 - (3) poor absorber of infrared radiation
 - (4) good absorber of infrared radiation
- P.S./E. Sci.-June '03

- 9 Why are the beaches that are located on the southern shore of Long Island often considerably cooler than nearby inland locations on hot summer afternoons?
 - (1) A land breeze develops due to the lower specific heat of water and the higher specific heat of land.
 - (2) A sea breeze develops due to the higher specific heat of water and the lower specific heat of land.
 - (3) The beaches are closer to the Equator than the inland locations are.
 - (4) The beaches are farther from the Equator than the inland locations are.

Base your answers to questions 10 and 11 on the chart below, which shows the geologic ages of some wellknown fossils.



- 10 The Spirifer, Crinoid stem, and Neospirifer fossils might be found in some of the surface bedrock of which New York State landscape region?
 - (1) the Allegheny Plateau southeast of Jamestown
 - (2) the Catskills near Slide Mountain
 - (3) the Adirondack Mountains near Mt. Marcy
 - (4) the Erie-Ontario Lowlands northeast of Niagara Falls
- 11 Which New York State fossil is found in rocks of the same period of geologic history as Meekoceras?
 - (1) Condor
- (3) Eurypterus
- (2) Placoderm fish
- (4) Coelophysis

12 The flowchart below shows part of Earth's water cycle. The question marks indicate a part of the flowchart that has been deliberately left blank.



Which process should be shown in place of the question marks to best complete the flowchart?

- (1) condensation
- (2) deposition

- (3) evaporation
- (4) infiltration
- 13 Which weather-station model shows an air pressure of 993.4 millibars?



- 14 An Earth science student observed the following weather conditions in Albany, New York, for 2 days: The first day was warm and humid with southerly winds. The second day, the temperature was 15 degrees cooler, the relative humidity had decreased, and wind direction was northwest. Which type of air mass most likely had moved into the area on the second day?
 - (1) continental tropical (3) maritime tropical
 - (2) continental polar (4) maritime polar
- 15 A sample of wood found in an ancient tomb contains 25% of its original carbon-14. The age of this wood sample is approximately

(1) 2,800 years	(3) 11,400 years
(2) 5,700 years	(4) 17,100 years

P.S./E. Sci.-June '03

- 16 Which set of conditions would produce the most runoff of precipitation?
 - (1) gentle slope and permeable surface
 - (2) gentle slope and impermeable surface
 - (3) steep slope and permeable surface
 - (4) steep slope and impermeable surface
- 17 Which map view best shows the movement of surface air around a low-pressure system in the Northern Hemisphere?



- 18 The surface bedrock of a region of eastern New York State is shale. Which statement best explains why the soil that covers the shale in this region contains abundant garnet and gneiss pebbles?
 - (1) Volcanic lava flowed over the shale bedrock.
 - (2) A meteor impact scattered garnet and gneiss pebbles over the area.
 - (3) The soil consists of rock materials transported to this region by agents of erosion.
 - (4) The soil formed from the chemical and physical weathering of shale.

Base your answers to questions 19 and 20 on the satellite image below, which shows cloud patterns associated with weather fronts over the United States on a certain day. The states of Nebraska (NE) and New York (NY) have been labeled.



- 19 At the time this satellite image was taken, what were the weather conditions in New York State?
 - (1) clear skies with no precipitation
 - (2) mostly cloudy in the northern part of the State and clear in the southern part
 - (3) cloudy with heavy precipitation
 - (4) very cloudy with no precipitation

- 20 Which type of front was producing the weather in Nebraska when this image was taken?
 - (1) cold front
- (3) stationary front
- (2) warm front
- (4) occluded front

Base your answers to questions 21 and 22 on the graph below, which shows the changes in relative humidity and air temperature during a spring day in Washington, D.C.



[OVER]

27 The geologic cross section below shows a hillslope and the rock layers that underlie it.



Which difference between the sandstone, shale, and limestone layers caused the formation of the relatively gently sloped section labeled "bench"?

(1) rock age

(3) resistance to weathering

(2) fossil content

- (4) amount of uranium-238
- 28 Which graph best represents the range of particle sizes that can be carried by a glacier?



Base your answers to questions 29 and 30 on the diagram below, which shows three minerals with three different physical tests, A, B, and C, being performed on them.



(2) marble

(4) hornfels

34 The diagram below shows a stream flowing past points X and Y. If the velocity of the stream at point X is 100 centimeters per second, which statement best describes the sediments being transported past these points?



- (1) At points X and Y, only clay is being transported.
- (2) At points *X* and *Y*, only sand, silt, and clay are being transported.
- (3) Some pebbles being transported at point Y are bigger than those being transported at point X.
- (4) Some pebbles and cobbles are being transported at points *X* and *Y*, but not sand, silt, or clay.

- 35 Specific mass extinction of living organisms and global climatic changes in geologic history are inferred by most scientists to have been caused by
 - (1) the impact of asteroids or large meteors on Earth's surface
 - (2) the gravitational pull of the Sun on Earth's surface
 - (3) large energy surges from the surface of the Sun
 - (4) earthquakes occurring along crustal plate boundaries

Part B-1

Answer all questions in this part.

Directions (36–50): For *each* statement or question, write on your separate answer sheet the *number* of the word or expression that, of those given, best completes the statement or answers the question. Some questions may require the use of the *Earth Science Reference Tables*.

Base your answers to questions 36 through 38 on the data table below, which gives information collected at seismic stations *A*, *B*, *C*, and *D* for the same earthquake. Some of the data has been deliberately omitted.

Seismic Station	<i>P</i> -Wave Arrival Time	<i>S</i> -Wave Arrival Time	Difference in Arrival Times	Distance to Epicenter
A	08:48:20	No S-waves arrived		
В	08:42:00		00:04:40	
С	08:39:20		00:02:40	
D	08:45:40			6,200 km





- 36 What is the most probable reason for the absence of *S*-waves at station *A*?
 - (1) S-waves cannot travel through liquids.
 - (2) S-waves were not generated at the epicenter.
 - (3) Station A was located on solid bedrock.
 - (4) Station *A* was located too close to the epicenter.
- 37 What is the approximate distance from station C to the earthquake epicenter?
 - (1) 3,200 km (3) 1,600 km
 - (2) 2,400 km (4) 1,000 km

- 38 How long did it take the *P*-wave to travel from the epicenter of the earthquake to seismic station *D*?
 - $\begin{array}{c} (1) \ 00:46:20 \\ (2) \ 00:39:20 \end{array}$
- (3) 00:17:20
- $(4) \ 00:09:40$

Base your answers to questions 39 and 40 on the map below, which shows the latitude and longitude of five observers, *A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, and *E*, on Earth.



Base your answers to questions 41 through 43 on the diagram below, which shows a model of the apparent path and position of the Sun in relation to an observer at four different locations, A, B, C, and D, on Earth's surface on the dates indicated. The zenith (z) and the actual position of the Sun in the model at the time of the observation are shown. [The zenith is the point directly over the observer.]



- 42 Where on Earth's surface is the observer at location *C* located?
 - (1) at the Equator
 - (2) at the South Pole
 - (3) at the North Pole
 - (4) in Oswego, New York

Base your answers to questions 44 through 46 on the map below, which shows the location of mid-ocean ridges and the age of some oceanic bedrock near these ridges. Letters A through D are locations on the surface of the ocean floor.



Age of Rocks on the Sea Bottom Relative to Ridges

- 44 What is the most probable age, in millions of years, of the bedrock at location B?
 - (1) 5(3) 48
 - (2) 12 (4) 62
- 45 Rising convection currents in the asthenosphere would most likely be under location
 - (1) A(3) C(4) D
 - (2) B

- 46 The age of oceanic bedrock on either side of a mid-ocean ridge is supporting evidence that at the ridges, tectonic plates are
 - (1) diverging
 - (2) converging
- (3) locked in place
 - (4) being subducted

Base your answers to questions 47 and 48 on the geologic cross section below. The large cone-shaped mountain on Earth's surface is a volcano. Letters *A*, *B*, and *C* represent certain rocks.



Key	
Igneous rock A and B	Sandstone
Gabbro	Shale
Limestone	Ash layers
Contact metamorphism	

- 47 Which statement correctly describes the relative ages of rocks *A* and *C* and gives the best supporting evidence from the cross section?
 - (1) A is younger than C, because A is a lower sedimentary rock layer.
 - (2) A is younger than C, because the intrusion of A metamorphosed part of rock layer C.
 - (3) A is older than C, because A has older index fossils.
 - (4) A is older than C, because the intrusion of A cuts across rock layer C.

- 48 Rock *B* is most likely which type of igneous rock?
 - (1) granite
- (3) pegmatite
- (2) peridotite
- (4) basalt

 Sunrise
 Noon
 Sunset

Base your answers to questions 49 and 50 on the diagram below, which shows sunlight entering a room through the same window at three different times on the same winter day.

- 49 The apparent change in the Sun's position shown in the diagram is best explained by
 - (1) the Sun rotating at a rate of 15° per hour
 - (2) Earth rotating at a rate of 15° per hour
 - (3) the Sun's axis tilted at an angle of $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$
 - (4) Earth's axis tilted at an angle of $23\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$
- 50 This room is located in a building in New York State. On which side of the building is the window located?
 - (3) east
 - (2) south (4) west

(1) north

Part B-2

Answer all questions in this part.

Directions (51–60): Record your answers in the spaces provided in your answer booklet. Some questions may require the use of the *Earth Science Reference Tables*.

Base your answers to questions 51 through 54 on the topographic map below. Points *A*, *B*, *Y*, and *Z* are reference points on the topographic map. The symbol \triangle 533 represents the highest elevation on Aurora Hill.



- 51 State the general compass direction in which Maple Stream is flowing. [1]
- 52 Calculate the gradient between points Y and Z on the map, and label the answer with the correct units. [2]

- 53 Describe the evidence shown on the map that indicates that the southern side of Holland Hill has the steepest slope. [1]
- 54 On the grid provided *in your answer booklet*, construct a topographic profile from point *A* to point *B* by following the directions below.
 - *a* Plot the elevation along line *AB* by marking with an **X** *each* point where a contour line is crossed by line *AB*. Points *A* and *B* have been plotted for you. [2]
 - *b* Complete the profile by correctly connecting the plotted points with a smooth, curved line. [1]
- 55 The cross section below illustrates the normal pattern of sediments deposited where a stream enters a lake. Letter *X* represents a particular type of sediment.



(Not drawn to scale)

- *a* Briefly explain why deposition of sediment usually occurs where a stream enters a lake. [1]
- b Name the type of sediment most likely represented by letter X. [1]

Base your answers to questions 56 and 57 on the temperature field map provided *in your answer booklet*. The map shows air temperatures, in degrees Fahrenheit, recorded at the same time at weather stations across North America. The air temperature at location A has been deliberately left blank.

- 56 On the map provided *in your answer booklet*, use smooth, curved solid lines to draw the 30°F, 40°F, and 50°F isotherms. [2]
- 57 What is the most probable air temperature at location A? [1]

Base your answers to questions 58 through 60 on the information, data table, and diagram below and on your knowledge of Earth science.

Astronomers have discovered strong evidence for the existence of three large extrasolar (outside our solar system) planets that orbit *Upsilon Andromedae*, a star located 44 light years from Earth. The three planets are called planet B, planet C, and planet D. Some of the information gathered about these three new planets is shown in the table below. The period of revolution for planet C has been deliberately left blank.

Planet	Mass	Distance from Upsilon Andromedae	Period of Revolution
В	$\frac{3}{4}$ of the mass of Jupiter	0.06 AU	4.6 Earth days
С	2 times the mass of Jupiter	0.83 AU	
D	4 times the mass of Jupiter	2.50 AU	3.5 to 4.0 Earth years

Characteristics of Planets B, C, and D Orbiting Star Upsilon Andromedae

I	1		_	average	distance	٥f	Farth	from	the	Sun1
1		лU	_	average	uistance	UI.	Laiui	nom	uю	Sung

The diagram below compares a part of our solar system to the *Upsilon Andromedae* planetary system. Planet distances from their respective star and the relative size of each planet are drawn to scale. [The scale for planet distances is not the same scale used for planet size.]



Orbital Distances in Astronomical Units (AU)

- 58 Planet *D*'s diameter is 10 times greater than Earth's diameter. What planet in our solar system has a diameter closest in size to the diameter of planet D? [1]
- 59 As planet *B* travels in its orbit, describe the change in orbital velocity of planet *B* as the distance between *Upsilon Andromedae* and planet *B decreases.* [1]
- 60 If our solar system had a planet located at the same distance from the Sun as planet C is from Upsilon Andromedae, what would be its approximate period of revolution? [1]

Part C

Answer all questions in this part.

Directions (61–75): Record your answers in the spaces provided in your answer booklet. Some questions may require the use of the *Earth Science Reference Tables*.

Base your answers to questions 61 and 62 on the information below and on your knowledge of Earth science.

Howe Caverns

Many scientists believe that the formation of the rocks in which Howe Caverns is now found began millions of years ago. At that time, an ocean covered the eastern region of New York State. Hundreds of feet of calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) sediments were deposited in layers along the edge of this ocean. These layers eventually formed the sedimentary rock limestone, which makes up the walls of today's Howe Caverns.

Much later, tectonic forces raised this region of New York State above sea level exposing the rock to weathering and erosion. These tectonic forces cracked the thick limestone, creating pathways for groundwater to infiltrate and gradually increase the size of the cracks. Eventually some of the larger cracks provided pathways for the underground stream, which carved the winding passages of Howe Caverns seen today.

- 61 State two processes that caused these sediments to become limestone. [2]
- 62 Identify one method that could be used to determine that the walls of Howe Caverns are made of limestone. [1]

Base your answers to questions 63 through 66 on the passage and map below and on your knowledge of Earth science. The passage provides some information about the sediments under Portland, Oregon, and the map shows where Portland is located.

Bad seismic combination under Portland: Earthquake faults and jiggly sediment

Using a technique called seismic profiling, researchers have found evidence of ancient earthquake faults under Portland, Oregon. The faults may still be active, a USGS [United States Geological Survey] seismologist will announce tomorrow.

The research also turned up a 250-foot deep layer of silt and mud, deep under the city, which may have been caused by a catastrophic ice dam break some 15,000 years ago.

The two findings could together mean bad news, as soft sediment is known to amplify ground shaking during strong earthquakes. In the 1989 San Francisco earthquake, much of the damage to buildings was caused by liquefaction, a shaking and sinking of sandy, water-saturated soil along waterways. . . .

— Robert Roy Britt excerpted from "Bad sesimic combination under Portland: Earthquake faults and jiggly sediment" explorezone.com 05/03/99



- 63 Explain why Portland is likely to experience a major earthquake. [1]
- 64 Why is the presence of a layer of silt and mud deep under the city a danger to Portland? [1]
- 65 Describe one precaution that can be taken to prevent or reduce property damage in preparation for a future earthquake in Portland. [1]
- 66 What type of tectonic plate boundary is shown at the San Andreas Fault? [1]

Base your answers to questions 67 and 68 on the diagram of the ellipse below.



- 67 Calculate the eccentricity of the ellipse to the *nearest thousandth*. [1]
- 68 State how the eccentricity of the given ellipse compares to the eccentricity of the orbit of Mars. [1]

Base your answers to questions 69 through 72 on your knowledge of Earth science and on the table below, which lists the seven brightest stars, numbered 1 through 7, in the constellation Orion. This constellation can be seen in the winter sky by an observer in New York State. The table shows the celestial coordinates for the seven numbered stars of Orion.

Location of the Seven Brightest Stars in Orion						
Star Number	Celestial Longitude (measured in hours)	Celestial Latitude (measured in degrees)				
1	5.9	+7.4				
2	5.4	+6.3				
3	5.2	-8.2				
4	5.8	-9.7				
5	5.7	-1.9				
6	5.6	-1.2				
7	5.5	-0.3				

- 69 On the grid provided *in your answer booklet*, graph the data shown in the table by following the steps below.
 - *a* Mark with an **X**, the position of *each* of the seven stars. Write the number of the plotted star beside each **X**. The first star has been plotted for you. [2]
 - b Show the apparent shape of Orion by connecting the **X**s in the following order:

 $5 - 1 - 2 - 7 - 3 - 4 - 5 - 6 - 7 \quad [1]$

- 70 Star 1 plotted on the grid is the star *Betelgeuse*. Star 3 plotted on the grid is the star *Rigel*. How do the temperature and luminosity of *Betelgeuse* compare to the temperature and luminosity of *Rigel*? [1]
- 71 The seven stars of the constellation Orion that were plotted are located within our galaxy. Name the galaxy in which the plotted stars of Orion are located. [1]
- 72 State one reason why an observer in New York State can never observe the constellation Orion at midnight during July but can observe the constellation Orion at midnight during January. [1]

Base your answers to questions 73 through 75 on your knowledge of Earth science and on the data table below, which shows the industrial uses of wollastonite, a mineral mined in the eastern Adirondack Mountains of New York State.

Industrial Uses of Wollastonite	Percent of Total Use
Plastics	37
Ceramics	28
Metallurgy	10
Paint	10
Asbestos substitute	9
Miscellaneous	6

Industrial Uses of Wollastonite in the United States

- 73 On the pie graph provided *in your answer booklet*, complete the graph to show the percent of *each* industrial use of wollastonite. Label *each* section of the pie graph with its industrial use. The percent for Miscellaneous and for Asbestos substitute has been drawn and labeled for you. [2]
- 74 Wollastonite forms during the intense metamorphism of a sandy limestone. The expression below shows part of the process that results in the formation of wollastonite.

Metamorphism

CaCO ₃	+	SiO ₂	\longrightarrow CaSiO ₂	+	CO ₂
Mineral 1		Mineral 2	Wollastonite	Carb	on dioxide

a Name the *two* minerals involved in the formation of wollastonite. [1]

b What *two* conditions normally cause intense metamorphism? [1]

75 Identify the geologic age of the New York State Adirondack Mountain bedrock in which wollastonite deposits are found. [1]

		The Univ	ersity of the State	of New York	
		REGEN	NTS HIGH SCHOOL EX	AMINATION	
		PH EA	YSICAL SET	TING NCE	
		Thursday, Ju	ne 19, 2003 — 1:15	to 4:15 p.m., only	
Student			ANSWER SHE	ET Sex: □ Male □ Fema	ale Grade
Teacher				School	
	Reco	ord your answers	to Part A and Par	t B–1 on this answer sł	neet.
		Part A		P	art B–1
	1	13	25	36	44
	2	14	26	37	45
	3	15	27	38	46
	4	16	28	39	47
	5	17	29	40	48
	6	18	30	41	49
	7	19	31	42	50
	8	20	32	43	Part B–1 Score
	9	21	33		
	10	22	34		
	11	23	35		
	12	24	Part A Score		

Write your answers to Part B-2 and Part C in your answer booklet.

The declaration below should be signed when you have completed the examination.

I do hereby affirm, at the close of this examination, that I had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the examination and that I have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the examination.

Signature

Tear Here Tear Here