**REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION** 

# PHYSICAL SETTING EARTH SCIENCE

**Tuesday,** January 27, 2004 — 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 Which graph best represents the force of gravity between Earth and the Sun during one revolution of Earth around the Sun?



- 2 Which celestial feature is largest in actual size?
  - (1) the Moon (3) the Sun
  - (2) Jupiter (4) the Milky Way
- 3 The best evidence that Earth rotates is provided by the
  - (1) location of mid-oceanic ridge volcanoes and the distribution of index fossils
  - (2) movement of Foucault pendulums and the Coriolis effect on air movement
  - (3) pattern of changing seasons and the depth of meteor impacts
  - (4) rate of uranium-238 decay and changes in atmospheric composition

- 4 How do Jupiter's density and period of rotation compare to Earth's?
  - (1) Jupiter is less dense and has a longer period of rotation.
  - (2) Jupiter is less dense and has a shorter period of rotation.
  - (3) Jupiter is more dense and has a longer period of rotation.
  - (4) Jupiter is more dense and has a shorter period of rotation.

5 What is represented by the diagram below?



- (1) changing phases of the Sun
- (2) changing phases of the Moon
- (3) stages in an eclipse of the Sun
- (4) stages in an eclipse of the Moon
- 6 Which graph best represents the relationship between the angle of insolation and the intensity of insolation?



- 7 A square meter of surface of which of these natural areas would most likely absorb the most insolation during a clear day?
  - (1) a fast-moving river
  - (2) a dark-green forest
  - (3) a beach with white sand
  - (4) a snow-covered field

- 8 Which observable change would occur in New York State if Earth's rate of rotation were one-half its present rate?
  - (1) The Sun would rise in the southwest each day.
  - (2) The length of a day would be longer.
  - (3) The time needed to complete a cycle of Moon phases would be greater.
  - (4) The seasonal changes would not occur.
- 9 The data below represent some of the weather conditions at a New York State location on a winter morning.

Air temperature (dry- bulb temperature)	0°C	
Relative humidity	81%	
Present weather	snow	

What was the dewpoint at this time?

(1) 1°C	(3) –3°C
(2) 2°C	(4) $-5^{\circ}C$

- 10 Students wish to study the effect of elevation above sea level on air temperature and air pressure. They plan to hike in the Adirondack Mountains from Heart Lake, elevation 2,179 feet, to the peak of Mt. Marcy, elevation 5,344 feet. Which instruments should they use to collect their data?
  - (1) anemometer and psychrometer
  - (2) anemometer and barometer
  - (3) thermometer and psychrometer
  - (4) thermometer and barometer
- 11 Weather-station measurements indicate that the dewpoint temperature and air temperature are getting farther apart and that air pressure is rising. Which type of weather is most likely arriving at the station?
  - (1) a snowstorm
  - (2) a warm front
  - (3) cool, dry air
  - (4) maritime tropical air

12 The diagram below represents a naturally occurring geologic process.



- (1) cementation
- (2) erosion
- 13 The graph below shows the average number of days each year that thunderstorms occur at different latitudes on Earth.



According to the graph, what is the approximate number of days each year that thunderstorms occur at locations along the 40° N parallel of latitude?

(1) 8 days	(3) 24 days
(2) 18 days	(4) 32 days

- 14 One result of a large volcanic eruption is that surface air temperatures decrease over a sizable region of Earth. This phenomenon occurs because volcanic eruptions usually *decrease* the
  - (1) transparency of the atmosphere
  - (2) number of dust particles entering the atmosphere
  - (3) amount of moisture in the atmosphere
  - (4) reflection of sunlight within the atmosphere
- 15 When rainfall occurs, the rainwater will most likely become surface runoff if the land surface is
  - (1) sandy (3) covered with grass
  - (2) impermeable (4) nearly flat

- (3) metamorphism
- (4) weathering
- 16 Fossil pollen has been recovered from sediments deposited in late-Pleistocene lakes. The pollen's geologic age can most accurately be measured by using
  - (1) rubidium-87 (3) oxygen-18
  - (2) potassium-40 (4) carbon-14
- 17 Andrija Mohorovičić discovered the interface between the crust and the mantle that is now named for him. His discovery of the "Moho" was based on analysis of
  - (1) landscape boundaries
  - (2) continental coastlines
  - (3) erosional surfaces
  - (4) seismic waves
- 18 Which phrase best describes coal?
  - (1) low density, mafic
  - (2) chemical precipitate
  - (3) organic plant remains
  - (4) glassy texture, volcanic
- 19 Which mineral will scratch glass (hardness = 5.5), but not pyrite?
  - (1) gypsum (3) orthoclase
  - (2) fluorite (4) quartz
- 20 The observed difference in density between continental crust and oceanic crust is most likely due to differences in their
  - (1) composition (3) porosity
  - (2) thickness (4) rate of cooling

21 The diagrams below show gradual stages 1, 2, and 3 in the development of a river delta where a river enters an ocean.



Which statement best explains why the river delta is developing at this site?

- (1) The rate of deposition is less than the rate of erosion.
- (2) The rate of deposition is greater than the rate of erosion.
- (3) Sea level is slowly falling.
- (4) Sea level is slowly rising.
- 22 According to plate tectonic theory, during which geologic time interval did the continents of North America and Africa separate, resulting in the initial opening of the Atlantic Ocean?
  - (1) Mesozoic Era
- (3) Proterozoic Eon
- (2) Paleozoic Era
- (4) Archean Eon
- 23 Which rock most probably formed directly from lava cooling quickly at Earth's surface?



24 The diagram below shows a sedimentary rock sample.



(Shown actual size)

Which agent of erosion was most likely responsible for shaping the particles forming this rock?

- (1) mass movement (3) glacial ice
- (2) wind (4) running water
- 25 Near which location in New York State would a geologist have the greatest chance of finding dinosaur footprints in the surface bedrock?
  - (1) 41° 10' N latitude, 74° W longitude
  - (2)  $42^{\circ}$  10' N latitude,  $74^{\circ}$  30' W longitude
  - (3) 43° 30' N latitude, 76° W longitude
  - (4) 44° 30' N latitude, 75° 30' W longitude

26 Geologic cross sections A through F shown below represent different stages in the development of one part of Earth's crust over a long period of geologic time.



What is the correct order of development from the original (oldest) stage to the most recent (youngest) stage?

- (1)  $B \to D \to C \to F \to A \to E$ (2)  $B \to F \to C \to D \to E \to A$
- 27 The list below shows characteristics that vary from place to place on Earth.
  - *a* Radioactive substances
  - *b* Bedrock structures
  - *c* Duration of insolation
  - d Hillslopes
  - *e* Stream patterns
  - f Atmospheric composition

Observations and measurements of which three characteristics would be most useful in describing landscapes?

(1) <i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , and <i>c</i>	(3) $b$ , $d$ , and $e$
(2) $b, c, and f$	(4) $d$ , $e$ , and $f$

- 28 Uranium-238 that crystallized at the same time Earth formed has undergone approximately how many half-lives of radioactive decay?
  - (1) one half-life (3) three half-lives
  - (4) four half-lives (2) two half-lives

 $(4) \quad E \to A \to F \to C \to D \to B$ 29 The photograph below shows a piece of halite

 $(3) \quad E \to A \to D \to F \to C \to B$ 



Which physical property of halite is demonstrated by this pattern of breakage?

- (1) hardness (3) cleavage (4) luster
- (2) streak

30 The diagram below shows a meandering stream flowing across nearly flat topography and over loose sediments.



If arrow length represents stream velocity, which diagram best shows the relative stream velocities in this section of the stream?



- 31 Bedrock located near Old Forge, New York, would most likely have which characteristics?
  - (1) clastic texture consisting of angular sediments of mostly quartz and feldspar cemented together
  - (2) crystalline texture composed predominantly of gypsum
  - (3) noncrystalline, glassy texture with a dark color
  - (4) foliated texture with mica and feldspar separated into bands
- 32 Bedrock of which four consecutive geologic periods is best preserved in New York State?
  - (1) Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian
  - (2) Devonian, Carboniferous, Permian, Triassic
  - (3) Permian, Triassic, Jurassic, Cretaceous
  - (4) Jurassic, Cretaceous, Tertiary, Quaternary

33 The diagram below represents bedrock layers found in an outcrop. Three index fossils are found within the bedrock layers.



Which evidence best suggests that this outcrop has undergone crustal movement?

- (1) The same rock layers appear twice within the outcrop.
- (2) The trilobite fossil is not found in all five layers.
- (3) The sedimentary layers have the same thickness.
- (4) The eurypterid fossil is absent in the middle layer.
- 34 A student determines the density of a mineral to be 1.5 grams per cubic centimeter. If the accepted value is 2.0 grams per cubic centimeter, what is the student's percent deviation (percent error)?

(1)	25.0%	(3) 40.0%
(2)	33.3%	(4) 50.0%

- 35 What is the best way to determine if a mineral sample is calcite or quartz?
  - (1) Observe the color of the mineral.
  - (2) Place the mineral near a magnet.
  - (3) Place a drop of acid on the mineral.
  - (4) Measure the mass of the mineral.

#### 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 and 37 on the diagram below, which shows the angle of the Sun's noontime rays received at different Earth latitudes on May 1.



- 36 Which changes can be expected to occur at 45° N over the next 30 days?
  - (1) The duration of insolation will decrease and the temperature will decrease.
  - (2) The duration of insolation will decrease and the temperature will increase.
  - (3) The duration of insolation will increase and the temperature will decrease.
  - (4) The duration of insolation will increase and the temperature will increase.

- 37 At which latitude can the noontime Sun be observed in the northern part of the sky?
  - (1)  $0^{\circ}$  (3)  $60^{\circ}$  N
  - (2)  $30^{\circ}$  N (4)  $90^{\circ}$  N

Base your answers to questions 38 and 39 on the graph below. The graph shows the recorded change in water level (ocean tides) at a coastal city in the northeastern United States during 1 day.



- 38 Which inference about tides is best made from this graph?
  - (1) The hourly rate of tidal change is always the same.
  - (2) The rate of tidal change is greatest at high tide.
  - (3) The tidal change is a random event.
  - (4) The tidal change is cyclic.

- 39 According to the pattern shown on the graph, the next high tide will occur on the following day at approximately
  - (1) 12:30 a.m.(2) 2:00 a.m.
- (3) 3:15 a.m.(4) 4:00 a.m.

40 Which model best represents the apparent path of the Sun observed at various times during the year at the Equator?



41 The topographic map below shows a particular landscape.



Which map best represents the stream drainage pattern for this landscape?







42 Which diagram correctly shows how mantle convection currents are most likely moving beneath colliding lithospheric plates?



- 43 Which two rocks have the most similar mineral composition?
  - (1) marble and rhyolite
  - (2) limestone and basalt
  - (3) quartzite and rock salt
  - (4) granite and phyllite

[10]

44 The field map below shows air temperature measurements, in degrees Celsius, taken at the same elevation within a closed room. Two reference points, *A* and *B*, are shown.



Which temperature field map shows correctly drawn isotherms?







Base your answers to questions 45 and 46 on the diagram below, which shows models of two types of earthquake waves.



- 45 Model A best represents the motion of earthquake waves called
  - (1) P-waves (compressional waves) that travel faster than S-waves (shear waves) shown in model B
  - (2) P-waves (compressional waves) that travel slower than S-waves (shear waves) shown in model B
  - (3) S-waves (shear waves) that travel faster than Pwaves (compressional waves) shown in model B
  - (4) S-waves (shear waves) that travel slower than P-waves (compressional waves) shown in model B



- 46 The difference in seismic station arrival times of the two waves represented by the models helps scientists determine the
  - (1) amount of damage caused by an earthquake
  - (2) intensity of an earthquake
  - (3) distance to the epicenter of an earthquake
  - (4) time of occurrence of the next earthquake

Base your answers to questions 47 and 48 on the cross section and data table shown below. The cross section shows a sediment-laden river flowing into the ocean. The arrows show the direction of river flow. Different zones of sorted sediments, *A*, *B*, *C*, and *D*, have been labeled. Sediments have been taken from these zones and measured. The data table shows the range of sediment sizes in each zone.



Zone	Major Sediment Sizes
А	0.04 cm to 6 cm
В	0.006 cm to 0.1 cm
С	0.0004 cm to 0.006 cm
D	Less than 0.0004 cm

- 47 How is this pattern of horizontal sorting produced?
  - (1) High-density materials generally settle more slowly.
  - (2) Rounded sediments generally settle more slowly.
  - (3) Dissolved minerals are generally deposited first.
  - (4) Bigger particles are generally deposited first.

- 48 The sedimentary rock, siltstone, will most likely form from sediments deposited in zone
  - $\begin{array}{cccc}
    (1) & A & (3) & C \\
    (2) & B & (4) & D \\
    \end{array}$

Base your answers to questions 49 and 50 on the map below, which shows the depths of selected earthquakes along the crustal plate boundary near the west coast of South America. Letters *A*, *B*, *C*, and *D* are epicenter locations along a west-to-east line at the surface. The relative depth of each earthquake is indicated.



49 Which graph best shows the depth of earthquakes beneath epicenters *A*, *B*, *C*, and *D*?



- 50 The earthquake beneath epicenter *D* occurred in which part of Earth's interior?
  - (1) crust(2) rigid mantle
- (3) asthenosphere(4) stiffer mantle

#### 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 reading passage below and on your knowledge of Earth science. The reading passage provides some background information about a recent fossil discovery. The map of Canada shows the fossil site. The scale drawing shows the new trilobite fossil compared to other trilobite fossils.

# The World's Biggest Trilobite

A team of Canadian paleontologists examining rock units along the shore of Hudson Bay in northern Manitoba has discovered the world's largest recorded complete fossil of a trilobite, a many-legged, sea-dwelling animal inferred to have lived during the late Ordovician Period. The giant creature, measuring 70 centimeters in length, is a new species of the genus *Isotelus*. This remarkable discovery adds to our knowledge of the diversity of life following one of the greatest increases in the number and types of life-forms in history. The new *Isotelus* species existed just before the end of the Ordovician Period.



- 51 In what type of rock was the new *Isotelus* fossil most probably found? [1]
- 52 At the time the new *Isotelus* fossil lived and died, during the Ordovician Period, what was the approximate latitude of the fossil site according to plate tectonic theory? [1]
- 53 What New York State nautiloid index fossil would most likely be found in the bedrock just below the new *Isotelus* fossil? [1]
- 54 The actual new *Isotelus* fossil is approximately how many times larger than scale drawing A? [1]

Base your answers to questions 55 through 58 on the weather map provided *in your answer booklet*, which shows a weather system over the northeastern United States and weather data for several locations. Isobars show a low-pressure (L) center. Point  $\bigotimes$  is a location in Canada.

- 55 On the weather map provided *in your answer booklet*, draw a curved arrow through point **③** to show the general direction of surface winds on that side of the low-pressure center. [2]
- 56 State the relationship between isobar spacing on the map and wind velocity. [1]
- 57 Describe the *five* specific weather conditions for Charleston indicated by the station model on the weather map. Complete the chart provided *in your answer booklet* and include appropriate units where necessary. [2]
- 58 Describe how clouds form when warm, humid air rises along the cold front.
  - a Include the terms dewpoint and either expansion or expands in your answer. [1]
  - b State the phase change that occurs at the dewpoint. [1]

Base your answers to questions 59 and 60 on the diagram below, which shows an incomplete concept map identifying the types of plate boundaries. Information in the boxes labeled *A*, *B*, *C*, *D*, and *E* has been deliberately omitted.



- 59 On the chart provided *in your answer booklet*, write the information that should be placed in the boxes labeled A, B, and C that will correctly complete those portions of the concept map. [2]
- 60 On the geographic map provided *in your answer booklet*, write the letters D and E on the plate boundary locations where the indicated movements are occurring. Write the letters approximately the same size as shown on the concept map and locate the letters directly on the plate boundary. [2]

# Part C

# Answer all questions in this part.

*Directions* (61–74): 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 photograph below, which shows a mountainous region cut by a large valley in its center.



- 61 What characteristic of this large valley supports the inference that glacial ice formed the valley? [1]
- 62 Describe additional geologic evidence that might be found on the valley floor that would support the idea that glacial ice formed this valley. [1]

Base your answers to questions 63 through 67 on the map and graphs below. The map shows five climate regions of New York State. The bar graphs show average monthly temperatures of four of these climate regions.



- 63 The average monthly temperatures for climate regions 1, 2, 3, and 4 show a similar yearly pattern of change. Identify one climate control factor that these four climate regions have in common that most probably causes this similarity in temperature pattern. [1]
- 64 What climate variable, other than temperature, was also used to identify these areas as four different climate regions? [1]
- 65 What landscape characteristic of climate region 3 most likely causes it to have both cooler summer temperatures and cooler winter temperatures than climate region 2? [1]

66 On the grid provided *in your answer booklet*, construct a bar graph of the average monthly temperatures provided below for climate region 5. January has been completed for you. [2]

Month	°F
January	34
February	36
March	42
April	52
Мау	61
June	72
July	79
August	74
September	68
October	55
November	49
December	39

#### **Average Temperatures for Climate Region 5**

67 Describe how the Atlantic Ocean surrounding climate region 5 has most probably influenced the average temperatures of this region during January, February, and March. [1]

Base your answers to questions 68 through 70 on the diagram provided *in your answer booklet*, which shows a model of the orbital path of Earth and the partial orbital path of Jupiter around the Sun. A partial orbit of another celestial object, labeled object *A*, is also shown. Celestial object *A* is a natural object that is part of our solar system. [All distances are measured to scale from the center of the Sun in this model.]

- 68 *a* On the diagram provided *in your answer booklet*, place an **X** to represent the position of Mars at the properly scaled distance from the Sun in this model. [1]
  - *b* On the diagram provided *in your answer booklet*, starting at your plotted position of Mars, draw a scale model of Mars' orbital path. Be careful to show the correct shape of the orbit. [1]
- 69 Identify what type of solar-system object is most probably represented by celestial object A. [1]
- 70 State one reason why determining the exact orbital path and period of revolution of celestial object A might be important to the continued existence of life on Earth. [1]

Base your answers to questions 71 through 74 on the topographic map below. The map shows a portion of the Taterskill Creek flowing past the towns of Lawson and Glenton. The shaded area is Taterskill Creek. The arrows in the creek show its direction of flow. Points A, B, and C are locations on the map. Points A and B are connected with a reference line.

Mercado Dam is located 32 miles upstream from Lawson. In the remote possibility of a failure of the Mercado Dam, the Taterskill Creek is expected to rise to the 600-foot contour line in the vicinity of the two towns.



- 71 On the grid provided *in your answer booklet*, construct a topographic profile from point *A* to point *B*, following the directions below.
  - a Write numbers along the vertical axis to show an appropriate scale for the elevations crossed by line AB. Your number scale should label at least half of the lines along the vertical axis and should not extend beyond the grid provided. [1]
  - b Plot the elevation along line AB by marking an **X** at *each* point where a contour line is crossed. Point A and point B have been plotted for you. [1]
  - $c\,$  Connect all the  $\mathbf{X}\mathbf{s}$  to complete a profile that accurately reflects the elevation of the land. [1]
- 72 State a possible elevation for point C on the map. [1]
- 73 If Mercado Dam ruptured, the first floodwater would take exactly 4 hours to reach the town of Lawson. In the space provided *in your answer booklet*, calculate the average rate of travel for the leading edge of the floodwater. Label your answer with the correct units. [2]
- 74 Identify *two* emergency preparedness activities that town officials in Lawson could take before a dam failure to protect people and property from the flood. [2]

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		<b>Tuesday,</b> Janu	ary 27, 2004 — 1:15 to	o 4:15 p.m., only	
Student			ANSWER SHEET	x: 🗆 Male 🗆 Fema	ıle Grade
Teacher			Scl	hool	
	Reco	ord your answers	to Part A and Part B	3–1 on this answer sh	neet.
Part A			Part 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