Grading Checklist
Learning Assessment #6 – Geologic Time
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Learning assessments are graded using a checklist-style rubric. The purpose of the checklist is to clearly and concisely show students where they lost marks on the assignment and why. When students are reviewing their work they initially focus on the areas they got incorrect as identified on the checklist.

The checklists also help to ensure that grading is transparent to the students. They help maintain consistency amongst graders, which may be a challenge in large courses with multiple instructors/teaching assistants marking the same assignment.

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LEARNING ASSESSMENT #6 (GEOLOGIC TIME) GRADING CHECKLIST

Q.1 Relative Age (26 pts total)

Solution #1 (13 pts)
Order of Events/Units (1 pt each)
___ phyllite
___ sandstone
___ granite
___ hornfels

Reasoning (2 pts each) – see answer key
___ phyllite
___ sandstone
___ granite
___ hornfels

Nature of Contact (1 pt)
___ non-conformity between phyllite and sandstone

Solution #2 (13 pts)
Order of Events/Units (1 pt each)
___ sandstone
___ phyllite
___ granite
___ hornfels

Reasoning (2 pts each) – see answer key
___ sandstone
___ phyllite
___ granite
___ hornfels

Nature of Contact (1 pt)
___ thrust fault between phyllite and sandstone

Geological Evidence (4 pts total)
___ look for fragments of phyllite within the sandstone for solution #1 (principle of inclusions)
___ look for evidence of erosion of the phyllite (not a totally flat surface)
___ look to ensure there is no evidence of faulting / deformation along surface of phyllite and sandstone
___ numerical age dating of phyllite and sandstone
Q.2 Numerical Age Dating (8 pts total)

*Phyllite*
___ protolith mineral
___ timing of metamorphism

OR

___ metamorphic mineral
___ age of regional metamorphism

*Sandstone*
___ fossils (if present)
___ age of deposition/lithification

*Granite*
___ igneous mineral
___ timing of granite intrusion/solidification

*Hornfels*
___ metamorphic mineral
___ timing of contact metamorphism

TOTAL: ______ / 38