

Student Self-Assessment Questions for Unit 6: Phosphorus Option

These questions are included in the online reading in Student Materials

Question 1 True/ **False**. Phosphorus is one of the eight most common elements in Earth's crust.

Question 2 **True**/ False. Because phosphorus is a main nutrient for plants and animals, it has no substitute.

Question 3 Naturally, how does phosphorus end up in soil?

- a. **Weathering of igneous and sedimentary rocks**
- b. **Decay of plants and animals that die on top of the soil**
- c. It dissolves in the soil from the atmosphere
- d. Streams and lakes put phosphorus into the soil

Question 4 What processes form the majority of phosphate deposits?

- a. Sedimentary - deposition of clastic sediment
- b. **Sedimentary - deposition of chemical sediment**
- c. Metamorphic
- d. Igneous

Question 5 Phosphate deposits in Florida formed the same way that most phosphate deposits form (see previous question). Based on this, what type of mining happens in Florida?

- a. **Surface**
- b. Underground

Question 6 What sorts of problems would you expect to exist from the mining process?

- a. A lot of waste rock will be created
- b. **A lot of land is needed to operate the mine**
- c. Underground tunnels could potentially collapse in the future