

Name _____ Period _____ Date _____

Worksheet on the Plate Tectonic Theory

1. According to plate tectonic theory, the Earth is divided into _____ plates, which are slowly drifting across the surface of the globe.
2. North America is part of the _____ plate.
3. If you look closely, the continents seem to fit together like a _____.
4. Continents were once compressed into a continent called _____, which means "_____".
5. Scientists measure continental drift using a technique called VLBI, which stands for:

V:

L:

B:

I:

6. In this technique, two _____ telescopes are looking at a _____ (a very distant star which is extremely bright). The incoming signals are recorded along with timing tags. Then the arrival times of the signals at the two radio telescopes are compared and the _____ between them is calculated.
7. For this project the continental drift between North America and _____ is measured. The two instruments used are antennas located in _____, _____ and _____.

