

Chapter - 15

Some Natural Phenomena

Multiple Choice Questions

1. An electroscope is a device which is used to find if an object is

- (a) charged
- (b) magnetic
- (c) free of cracks
- (d) hot

Soln:

Answer is (a) charged

Explanation:

Electroscope is a device which is used to find whether the object is charged or not. It consists of two metallic strips which are closely placed.

2. Electric current is to be passed from one body to another. For this purpose the two bodies must be joined by

- (a) cotton thread
- (b) plastic string
- (c) copper wire
- (d) rubber band

Soln:

Answer is (c) copper wire

Explanation:

Copper is a good conductor of electricity. Plastic, rubber and cotton are bad conductors of electricity.

3. The movement of the earth's plates causes

- (a) cyclones
- (b) lightning
- (c) earthquakes
- (d) thunderstorms

Soln:

Answer is (c) earthquakes

Explanation:

When earth's plates brush past one another it leads to earthquakes. Earth can cause damages to buildings and dams.

4. Two charged objects are brought close to each other. Choose the most appropriate statement from the following options:

- (a) they may attract
- (b) they may repel
- (c) they may attract or repel depending on the type of charges they carry
- (d) there will be no effect

Soln:

Answer (c) they may attract or repel depending on the type of charges they carry

Explanation:

If the charges are like charges they repel each other and if the charges are unlike charges they attract each other.

5. Which of the following is not likely to cause Tsunami?

- (a) A major nuclear explosion under sea
- (b) Earthquake
- (c) Volcanic eruption
- (d) Lightning

Soln:

Answer is (d) Lightning

Explanation:

Tsunami is caused due to disturbance caused deep down the sea. Lightening will not cause any disturbance for the sea whereas earthquake, A major nuclear explosion under sea and Volcanic eruption can cause disturbance in the sea.

6. The earth's plate responsible for causing earthquakes is

- (a) the crust of the earth
- (b) the mantle of the earth
- (c) the inner core of the earth
- (d) the outer core of the earth

Soln:

Answer is (a) the crust of the earth

Explanation:

Sudden trembling or shake of the earth due to disturbance deep down its top layer called as crust.

7. Consider the list of terms given below:

- (i) Seismic Zone
- (ii) Fault Zone
- (iii) Mantle
- (iv) Inner Core

The boundaries of the earth's plate are known as

- (a) (i) & (ii)
- (b) (i) & (iii)
- (c) (iii) & (iv)
- (d) (ii), (iii) & (iv)

Soln:

Answer is (a) (i) & (ii)

Explanation:

An earthquake is a sudden shaking or trembling of the earth which lasts for a very short time. Earthquakes are caused due to the movement of plates. Boundaries of the plates are weak zones where earthquakes are most likely to occur.

8. The outermost layer of earth is called

- (a) mantle
- (b) outer core
- (c) crust
- (d) inner core

Soln:

Answer is (c) crust

Explanation:

Earth's top layer is called crust which is followed by mantle, outer core and inner core.

9. Major earthquakes are less likely to occur in

- (a) North East India
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Rann of Kutch
- (d) Orissa

Soln:

Answer is (d) Orissa

Explanation:

Major earthquakes are less likely to occur in Orissa. The most threatened areas in India are Kashmir, Western and Central Himalayas, the whole of North-East, Rann of Kutch, Rajasthan and Indo-Gangetic Plane.

10. Consider the list of terms given below

- (i) Tsunami
- (ii) Landslide
- (iii) Floods
- (iv) Lightning

Earthquakes can cause

- (a) (i), (ii) & (iii)
- (b) (ii) & (iv)
- (c) (ii), (iii) & (iv)
- (d) (iii) & (iv)

Soln:

Answer is (a) (i), (ii) & (iii)

Very Short Answer Questions

11. State whether the following are True or False.

- (a) Earthquakes occur all the time all over the world.
- (b) The plates of the outermost layer of the earth are always in continuous motion.
- (c) Tremors on the earth can also be caused by the eruption of a volcano.
- (d) The process of electric discharge cannot occur between clouds and the earth.
- (e) Bathing outdoors should be avoided during thunderstorm.

Soln:

- a) True
- b) True
- c) True
- d) False- The process of electric discharge occur between clouds and the earth.
- e) True

12. Is it possible to predict the occurrence of an earthquake?

Soln:

No it is not possible to predict the occurrence of an earthquake.

13. If a charged plastic straw is brought near another uncharged plastic straw, what will happen?

Soln:

Plastic straws will attract each other

14. The aluminium strips in an electroscope as shown in fig. 15.1 are replaced by plastic strips and a charged body is brought in contact with the metal clip. What will happen?



Soln:

Divergence of strips will not take place

15. Plastic straws A and B are rubbed with dry cotton cloth. What will happen if they are brought near each other?

Soln:

They will repel each other.

Short Answer Questions

16. During the construction of a building the lightning conductor was left hanging in the air by mistake. Would the lightning conductor be still effective? Explain.

Soln:

It will not be effective because the charge will not pass through to the earth as the lightning conductor was not connected properly to the earth.

17. If air and cloud were good conductors of electricity, do you think lightning could occur? Explain.

Soln:

No, lightning will not occur because separation of charges cannot take place in conductors. Hence charges will not accumulate on clouds and lightning cannot take place.

18. Identify the lightning conductor and the copper plate in Fig. 15.2.



Fig. 15.2

Soln:

A is the lightning conductor and B is the copper plate.

19. If the materials used for constructing a building were good conductors, do you think lightning will strike the building. Will the lightning conductor be still required to be installed in the building?

Soln:

No installing conductor is not required if the materials used for constructing a building were good conductors.

20. You might have observed on a dry day that when you touch the screen of a television or computer monitor (with picture tube), you get a slight shock. Why does it happen?

Soln:

Electric charge gets accumulated on the screen. On touching the screen the charge discharges through our body. Thus, we get a slight shock.

21. Explain how does lightning conductor protects a building from getting struck by lightning.

Soln:

Lightning conductor conducts the charge to the earth hence charge will not accumulate on the build. This protects the building from getting struck by lightning.

22. In an electroscope if a negatively charged body is brought in contact with the metal clip, the strips of the electroscope diverge. If now another charged object carrying equal amount of positive charge is brought in contact with the clip, what will happen?

Soln:

If clip of the electroscopic get contact with positively charged object then negative charged provided earlier will get neutralised and the strips will collapse.

23. The strips of an electroscope diverge when a charged body is brought in contact with the metal clip. Now the clip is touched gently by our hand. What will happen to the strips? Explain.

Soln:

If we touch strips of electroscope by our hand charge in the electroscope strips will get discharged through our hand and strips will come back to the original state.

Long Answer Questions

24. Explain how lightning takes place?

Soln:

During the development of a thunderstorm, the air currents move upwards while the water droplets move downwards. These vigorous movements of air currents cause separation of charges. The positive charges collect near the upper edges of the clouds and the negative charges accumulate near the lower edges. There is accumulation of positive charges near the ground also. When the magnitude of the accumulated charges become large, the air cannot resist their flow. As a result negative and positive charges meet producing a streak of bright light and sound, called lightning.

25. Mention three

precautions that you will take to protect yourself if earthquake strikes when you are inside the house.

Soln:

- Take shelter under a table and stay there till the shaking stops.
- Stay away from tall and heavy objects that may fall on you.
- If you are in bed, do not get up. Protect your head with a pillow.

26. Explain why it is safer to use a wireless telephone instead of a landline telephone during lightning.

Soln:

Lightening is a process of electrical discharge. During lightening electric charge may pass through landline telephone wires which is dangerous. Hence it is safer to use wireless telephone instead of a landline telephone during lightning.

27. What precautions would you take if lightning occurs while you are outside the house?

Soln:

- Stay Away from Open vehicles, like motorbikes, tractors, construction machinery, open cars
- Do not take shelter in open fields, tall trees, shelters in parks and elevated places
- Do not carry umbrella when it is lightening.
- Stay away from poles and other metallic objects
- Squat low on the ground. Place your hands on your knees with your head between the hands

28. If the metal clip used in the electroscope is replaced by an ebonite rod and a charged body is brought in contact with it, will there be any effect on the aluminium strips? Explain.

Soln:

If the metal clip used in the electroscope is replaced by an ebonite rod and a charged body is brought in contact with it aluminium strips will not show any repulsion. Any charge will not get transferred to the ebonite rod as it is an insulator.