

Dinosaur Scene - Observation and Inference Worksheet

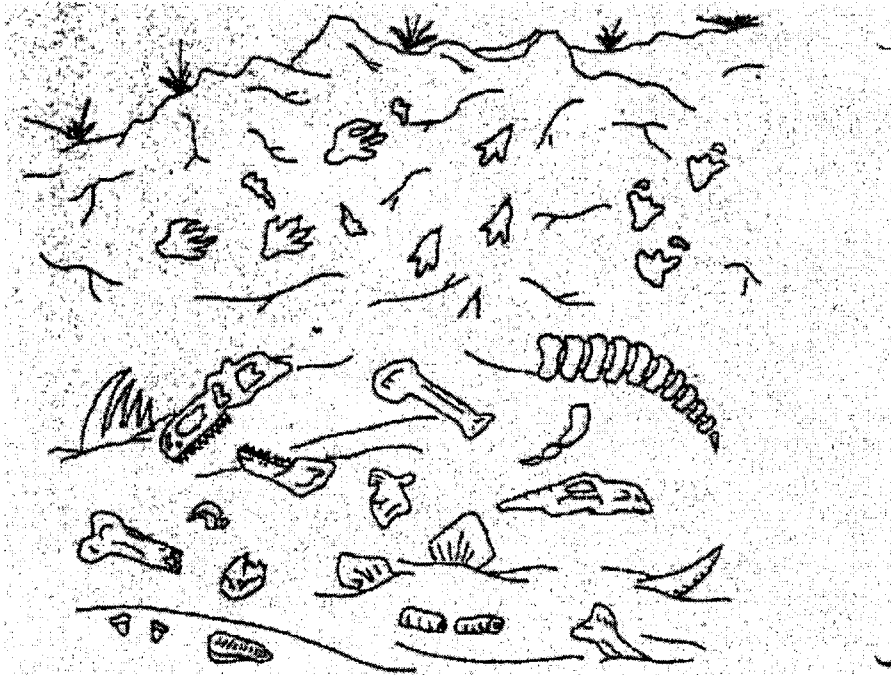
A time machine has been invented that travels into the past and takes pictures, sending them to the present. You are asked to look at one of the pictures and interpret what you see.

- ___ 1. The volcano is erupting.
- ___ 2. The camptosaurus is going to eat the stegosaurus.
- ___ 3. The stegosaurus will run into the water to escape.
- ___ 4. The camptosaurus is leaving tracks in the ground.
- ___ 5. The ground where the camptosaurus is walking is wet.
- ___ 6. There are plants growing in the water.
- ___ 7. The camptosaurus is going into the water to eat the plants.
- ___ 8. There is a tree growing next to the river.
- ___ 9. The tree looks like a palm tree.
- ___ 10. The climate is warm.
- ___ 11. The stegosaurus is eating the plant.
- ___ 12. The stegosaurus is an herbivore.
- ___ 13. There are bones from a dead animal by the shore.
- ___ 14. The camptosaurus killed the animal.
- ___ 15. Some more bones are in the water.
- ___ 16. The camptosaurus can't swim and will drown.
- ___ 17. Lava is coming down the sides of the volcano.
- ___ 18. The camptosaurus has sharp teeth for eating meat.

A. Observation

B. Inference

Suppose you are a paleontologist and you have just discovered a layer of rock with many fossils in it, both petrified bones and tracks.



Decide whether the following statements are observations or inferences.

19. ____ There are tracks from three different animals in the rock.
20. ____ One animal was chasing another animal.
21. ____ Two different animals died in this spot.
22. ____ When the animals walked here the ground was wet.
23. ____ One of the animals that died here had bony plates.
24. ____ One of the animals that died here had sharp teeth.
25. ____ The animal that had sharp teeth ate meat.

A. Observation

B. Inference

Qualitative Observations vs. Quantitative Observations Worksheet

All of the observations in this worksheet were qualitative; that is, you observed a quality about an object (it smelled good, it was green, etc.). Another type of observation is quantitative, meaning that it can be described or measured in concrete numerical terms.

- The following observations are quantitative: There are 30 students in my class. I weigh 98 pounds. I ate a pound of potatoes.

Determine which of the following statements are quantitative and which are qualitative.

_____ 1. The cup had a mass of 454 grams.

_____ 2. The temperature outside is 250° C.

_____ 3. It is warm outside.

_____ 4. The tree is 30 feet tall.

_____ 5. The building has 25 stories.

_____ 6. The building is taller than the tree.

_____ 7. The sidewalk is long.

_____ 8. The sidewalk is 100 meters long.

_____ 9. The race was over quickly.

_____ 10. The race was over in 10 minutes.

A. Qualitative

B. Quantitative

