Reading guide Go to pg. 197-200 Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Can email me responses, in any format you feel comfortable with! (in email, google doc, etc.) Make sure you put your name on your paper.

Section: The Fossil Record

Define the following words:

1. fossil

2. paleontology

3. sedimentary rock

4. igneous or metamorphic rock

5. Why are most fossils found in sedimentary rock?

6. Why are fossils so rarely found in igneous or metamorphic rock?

INTERPRETING THE FOSSIL RECORD

7. What type of information does the fossil record provide?

8. How do fossils provide important clues to environmental changes that occurred in Earth’s past?

9. What is one way scientists can tell if an area of land was once covered by an ocean?

10. What is one way scientists can use information from fossils?

FOSSILIZATION

10. What usually happens to dead plants or animals?

11. In general, what parts of organisms become fossils?

12. Why are mummified remains found in very dry places?

13 How are insects preserved in amber?

14. Which is a common petrifying mineral

TYPES OF FOSSILS

15. Which type of fossil is formed when mud fills a mold and hardens?

16. What does a cast show about an animal?

17. What type of fossil gives scientists clues about what ancient animals ate?

18. What is a trace fossil?

19. From what kinds of animals have scientists found trace fossils of footprints?

INDEX FOSSILS

20. Where are Index fossils found?

21. What is most important about the features of an index fossil?

22. The organisms that form index fossils lived a. during a short span of geologic time. b. during a long span of geologic time. c. for about 2 million years d. over any span of geologic time, long or short.

23. How commonly distributed must the fossil of an organism be in order to be considered an index fossil?

INDEX FOSSILS AND ABSOLUTE AGE

24. What do scientists use index fossils for?

25. How old are the rock layers in which ammonite fossils are found

26. How can scientists use index fossils to determine the absolute age of rock layers in different parts of the world?

27. What else do geologists use index fossils to find?