

ROCKS AND MINERALS B

Sample Activities

These are sample questions/tasks/activities that will help prepare students for the 2026 season. This list is not all-inclusive and is representative of what students may be asked on tournament exams.

- a. Using the materials provided, determine the relative hardness of the mineral specimens.
- b. Identify the minerals and describe each specimen's luster.
- c. Determine the breakage pattern (cleavage or fracture) of the minerals.
- d. The color of the specimen is caused by which element?
- e. Based on the texture of the metamorphic rocks, list the specimens in order from lowest to highest grade of metamorphism.
- f. Based on the provided diagram of igneous environments, which specimen cooled at the slowest rate in a batholith?
- g. Based on the grain size of the shale, sandstone, and conglomerate, which one formed in the lowest energy environment?
- h. Classify the specimens into igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic based on observable characteristics and state one reason for each classification.