Lesson 5

What Is Earth's Structure?

This diagram shows Earth's layers and their depths. Study the labeled parts in order to identify the layers from the outer layer inward.

8 to 32 kilometers

Crust

The crust (KRUST) is solid rock that makes up Earth's outermost layer. It is deeper under continents than under oceans.

Mantle

The mantle (MAN • tul) is the layer of rock lying below the crust. Rocks in this region can move or slowly flow because of great pressure and high temperatures.

Outer core

The outer core (ow tuhr KAWR) is a liquid layer of Earth, probably made of melted iron. It lies below the mantle

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Globe size of the the on 2900 (1400 miles)

Alloweters (1,800 miles)

Inner core

The inner core (IN·uhr KAWR) is a sphere of solid material at Earth's center.

Study the diagram and answer the questions.

- 1. List the four layers of Earth in order, starting from the surface:
- 2. Which layer of Earth is liquid?
- 3. What is the inner core? _____
- 4. Why are the rocks in the mantle able to flow slowly?
- 5. Is the crust deeper under continents or oceans?
- 6. Where is the mantle located? _____
- 7. Which layer is thickest? Thinnest? ______