Answer Key

Directed Reading A

SECTION: WHAT IS A MINERAL?

1. A mineral is a naturally formed, inorganic solid that has a definite crystalline structure.
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. D
6. A
7. E
8. silicate; nonsilicate
9. silicate minerals
10. feldspar
11. mica
12. quartz
13. E
14. A
15. F
16. B
17. D
18. C

SECTION: IDENTIFYING MINERALS

1. Impurities inside a mineral can change its color.
2. luster
3. metallic; submetallic; nonmetallic
4. streak
5. Because the streak is not affected by air or water, it is more reliable than using color.
6. mica; halite
7. fracture
8. D
9. the Mohs hardness scale
10. talc
11. density
12. water
13. specific gravity
14. fluorescence
15. radioactivity
16. magnet

SECTION: THE FORMATION, MINING, AND USE OF MINERALS

1. metamorphism
2. gypsum; halite
3. pegmatites
4. Answers may include gold, copper, sulfur, pyrite, and galena.
5. pluton
6. Answers may vary. Sample answer: calcite and dolomite
7. ore
8. surface mining; subsurface mining
9. surface
10. subsurface
11. Mining can destroy plant and animal habitats. The waste from a mine can pollute water.
12. reclamation
13. We can reduce our need for minerals by recycling.
14. heat; electricity
15. metals
16. nonmetallic
17. gemstones
18. Two important characteristics of gemstones are attractive color and durability.

Directed Reading B

SECTION: WHAT IS A MINERAL?

1. D
2. A
3. C
4. C
5. C
6. silicate minerals
7. feldspar
8. mica
9. quartz
10. C
11. A
12. B
13. D

SECTION: IDENTIFYING MINERALS

1. B
2. A
3. D
4. B
5. C
6. A
7. density
8. water
9. specific gravity

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