Geologic Time Reading Questions Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Per\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Chapters 22, 23, 24

Chapter 22

1. According to the book, what is the age of the Earth?
2. Describe the evidence used to determine the age of the Earth.

1. Describe early Earth’s major heat sources.

1. What was the first supercontinent? Which supercontinent became North America?
2. Describe Earth’s early atmosphere. What was abundant, what was missing, etc.?

1. Describe the significance of stromatolites?
2. What are red beds, and why are they significant?

1. What marks the end of Precambrian? What marks the beginning of the Paleozoic Era?

Chapter 23

1. Describe transgression and regression. How are they important in studying early life?

1. Two of the greatest extinction events in Earth’s history occurred during the Middle Paleozoic. What were the common causes of the Late Ordovician and Late Devonian mass extinctions?
2. The largest mass extinction in the history of life on Earth defines the end of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Describe this extinction.

Chapter 24

1. Describe the breakup of Pangaea. When did this occur?
2. During which era and period did dinosaurs first evolve?
3. What are possible ways the Mesozoic Era ended? Include evidence to back your statements.

1. When was the last ice age?

1. What era is most interesting to you and why?