**IQ**

- The most important component of life on Earth is the presence of:
  - A. CO₂ in the atmosphere
  - B. liquid water
  - C. plate tectonics
  - D. the Taos Hum
The correct answer is B.

The most significant determinant of life on our rocky (terrestrial) planet is the presence of liquid water, the “universal solvent.”
The Earth is totally “resurfaced” by plate tectonic motion approximately every 100 million years.

• True
• False
IQ

• True. Tectonic motion separated Pangea into the current configuration of continents in about 200 million years.
• Life first appeared on Earth about two billion years ago.
• Therefore, the surface of Earth has been “recycled” about 10 times since the emergence of the first life.
IQ

- The present atmosphere of Earth is virtually identical to the atmospheres of Venus and Mars.

T
F
IQ

• F. False, false, false! Couldn’t be more false!
• The Earth’s atmosphere has evolved to become oxygen-rich! That’s one excellent reason why we’re here!
IQ

• The terrestrial planets are rocky, because they are close to the sun, warmer, and therefore the gases constituting the Jovian planets “boiled away.”

  • T
  • F
IQ

- T. The statement is true. The vast majority of the gases (hydrogen, helium, and others) that constitute the Jovian planets has evaporated from the terrestrial planets because of the Sun’s heat.
IQ

- The Earth’s moon was formed by being gravitationally “pulled out” of the Earth where the Pacific Ocean is now formed.

- T
- F
IQ

- Naahhh! The answer is F.

- The moon was formed immediately after formation of the Earth, probably as the result of a collision of the Earth with another proto-planetary body.