


## Section 2 Assessment

 **Target Reading Skill Asking Questions** Use the answers to the questions you wrote about the headings to help you answer the questions below.

### Reviewing Key Concepts

- Defining** In your own words, define the terms *relative age* and *absolute age*.
  - Explaining** What is the law of superposition?
  - Inferring** A geologist finds a cliff where the edges of several different rock layers can be seen. Which layer is the oldest? Explain.
- Reviewing** Besides the law of superposition, what are three types of clues to the relative age of rock layers?
  - Comparing and Contrasting** Compare and contrast extrusions and intrusions.
  - Sequencing** An intrusion crosses an extrusion. Which layer is the older? Explain.
- Defining** What is an index fossil?

- Applying Concepts** The fossil record shows that horseshoe crabs have existed with very little change for about 200 million years. Would horseshoe crabs be useful as an index fossil? Explain why or why not.

Lab  
zone

### At-Home Activity

**Drawer to the Past** Collect ten items out of a drawer full of odds and ends such as keys, coins, receipts, photographs, and souvenirs. Have your family members put them in order from oldest to newest. What clues will you use to determine their relative ages? How can you determine the oldest object of all? List the ten items in order of their relative age. Do you know the absolute age of any of the items?