

Name:

Geology 101 – Prelab Assignment

Lab 9 – Plate Tectonics

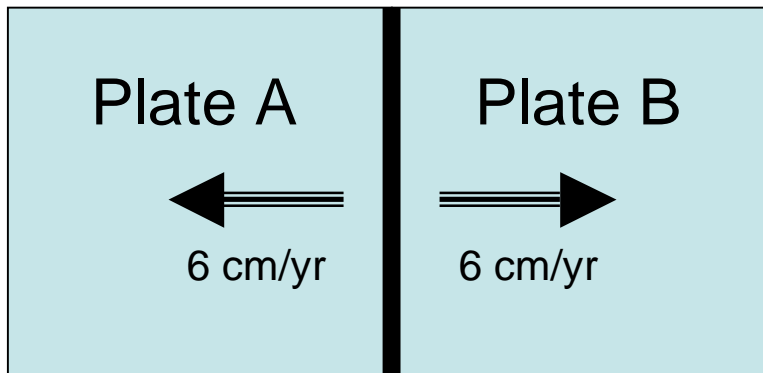
Due: Thursday, May 28

Instructions: After completing the assigned lab readings complete the following prelab assignment before coming to lab. Assignments will not be accepted after the beginning of class on the due date.

Readings: Review the background materials for Lab 9 in the lab manual (p. 101-2, 105). In addition, read Chapter 12 (particularly the section on plate motion).

Questions:

- (1) Examine the simple plate map below showing a divergent boundary between Plate A and Plate B:



- (a) What is the absolute velocity of Plate A?
- (b) What is the relative velocity of the two plates (i.e., how fast are they diverging)?
- (2) What is the velocity of a plate that has moved 1000 km in 10 Myrs? Answer in:
- (a) _____ kilometers per million years (km/Mys)
- (b) _____ centimeters per year (cm/yr)
- (3) What does “reversed magnetic polarity “ mean?