WOLAITA SODO UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
Mid-Examination for the course: Geography of Ethiopia and the Horn (GeES 1011)
Time Allowed: 45 Minutes

Section A: True/False (5 Questions)

Instruction: Indicate whether the following statements are True or False. Provide explanations for your answers.

_____ 1) Geography is both a holistic and interdisciplinary science that contributes to understanding changing spatial structures.

_____ 2) The Ethiopian highlands constitute over 50% of the country's landmass and are characterized by moderate rainfall and cooler temperatures.

_____ 3) The Great Rift Valley in Ethiopia separates the Western and Southeastern highlands.

_____ 4) Ethiopia's astronomical location has no impact on its climate.

_____ 5) Relative location refers to Ethiopia's exact latitude and longitude.

Section B: Matching (5 Questions)

Instruction: Match the terms in Column A with their descriptions in Column B.

Column A	Column B
_____ 1) Plate tectonics	a. Era characterized by marine transgressions and the formation of limestone and sandstone
_____ 2) Astronomical location	b. Maps representing natural and cultural features of a given region
_____ 3) Mesozoic Era	c. Movement causing continental drift, mountain building, and Rift Valley formation
_____ 4) Adaptation	d. Defined by absolute latitude and longitude
_____ 5) Topographical maps	e. Human adjustments to environmental challenges

C: Multiple Choice (20 questions)

_____ 1) What is the primary focus of systematic geography?
a) Associations within specific regions c) Interactions between humans & their environment
b) Distribution of physical & human phenomena globally d) Topographical analysis

_____ 2) Which theme of geography focuses on the characteristics of a specific location?
a) Place b) Region c) Movement d) Human-environment interaction

_____ 3) What is the significance of Ethiopia's astronomical location?
a) Explains its tropical climate and time zone differences b) Demonstrates its economic potential
c) Establishes its cultural diversity d) Determines its political boundaries

_____ 4) The Horn of Africa's countries are closely linked by:
a) Shared colonial histories b) Common language and religious origins
c) Similar climate and topographical features d) Historical cultural interconnections

_____ 5) Which geographic feature characterizes the Afar Triangle?
a) High rainfall and volcanic soils b) Faulted depressions, lava fields, and high temperatures
c) Extensive forests and fertile plains d) Large lakes and marshes

_____ 6) The Ethiopian Rift Valley is characterized by:
a) A narrow, faulted depression separating plateaus c) Low volcanic activity and minimal faulting
b) Flat, low-lying areas unsuitable for agriculture d) An absence of geothermal resources

_____ 7) Which Era is known for significant denudation processes in Ethiopia?
a) Precambrian b) Paleozoic c) Mesozoic d) Cenozoic

8) How does Ethiopia's topography affect its agricultural practices?
a) Mountainous terrain limits cultivation to highlands only
b) Highland regions support rain-fed agriculture due to favorable conditions
c) Lowlands dominate Ethiopia's crop production
d) Topography has no impact on agriculture

9) The geological time scale primarily helps in:
a) Identifying regions for mining activities b) Understanding Earth's evolutionary history
c) Classifying different rock formations d) Mapping current geological features

10) What is the primary factor influencing the formation of Rift Valley lakes?
a) Volcanic eruptions b) Tectonic faulting and subsidence
c) Climatic changes in the Quaternary Period d) Marine sedimentation

11) Which of the following best describes the concept of "dependency" in human-environment interaction?
a) Human reliance on cultural systems for governance
b) Dependence on other nations for economic development
c) Reliance on natural resources and environmental conditions for survival
d) Interdependence between urban and rural societies

12) During which geological era did the formation of the Rift Valley in Ethiopia begin?
a) Precambrian b) Paleozoic c) Mesozoic d) Cenozoic

13) What is a distinguishing feature of the Ethiopian highlands compared to the lowlands?
a) High prevalence of tropical diseases b) Sparse population density and nomadic lifestyles
c) Cooler temperatures and suitability for rain-fed agriculture d) Lower altitude and less vegetation cover

14) Which principle is NOT used in relative dating techniques for rocks?
a) Principle of Original Horizontality b) Principle of Cross-Cutting Relationships
c) Principle of Isotopic Decay d) Principle of Faunal and Floral Succession

15) Which of the following is NOT a feature of the Afar Triangle in the Rift Valley?
a) High elevation over 2,000 ms above sea level c) Extremely high temperatures during the summer
b) Presence of volcanic ridges and lava fields d) Significant geothermal energy potential

16) How does the topography of Ethiopia impact its hydroelectric potential?
a) High mountains and plateaus provide opportunities for dam construction
b) Extensive flatlands allow for large-scale irrigation projects
c) Lowland regions are unsuitable for energy production
d) Geological stability limits dam construction

17) The term "peneplained" in geological studies refers to:
a) A landscape characterized by high mountain ranges
b) A nearly level surface formed after long periods of erosion
c) A plateau created by volcanic activity
d) A region with abundant fault lines and fractures

18) What role did Alfred Wegener's theory play in understanding Ethiopia's geology?
a) It explained the origins of volcanic mountains in Ethiopia
b) It proposed the hypothesis of continental drift and the breakup of Pangaea
c) It introduced the concept of geological time scales
d) It provided insights into the role of rivers in shaping landscapes

19) What is the most significant impact of the Mesozoic Era's marine transgressions on Ethiopia?
a) Formation of volcanic plateaus b) Creation of Rift Valley depressions
c) Deposition of sandstone, shale, and limestone d) Accumulation of aeolian deposits

20) The Ethiopian highlands are often referred to as the "Roof of East Africa" due to:
a) Their high population density b) Their significant volcanic activity
c) The large proportion of elevated landmass in the region d) The extensive forests and biodiversity they conta