



When was the concept of plate tectonics first formulated?

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- A. 1960s
- B. 1980s
- C. 1970s
- D. 1950s

Show Answer...

Correct Answer: A (1960s)

Concept Of Plate Tectonics

The concept of plate tectonics was first formulated in the 1960s, following the publication of several key papers and discoveries. In 1962, the theory of seafloor spreading was proposed by Harry Hess, who suggested that new oceanic crust was forming at mid-ocean ridges and spreading outwards, pushing the continents apart. This theory was supported by the discovery of magnetic stripes on the seafloor, which provided evidence of alternating periods of normal and reversed polarity in Earth's magnetic field. In 1965, the theory of plate tectonics was formally proposed by Tuzo Wilson, who suggested that the Earth's lithosphere was broken up into a number of rigid plates that moved around the surface of the planet. This theory has since been widely accepted and has revolutionized our understanding of the Earth's geological processes.