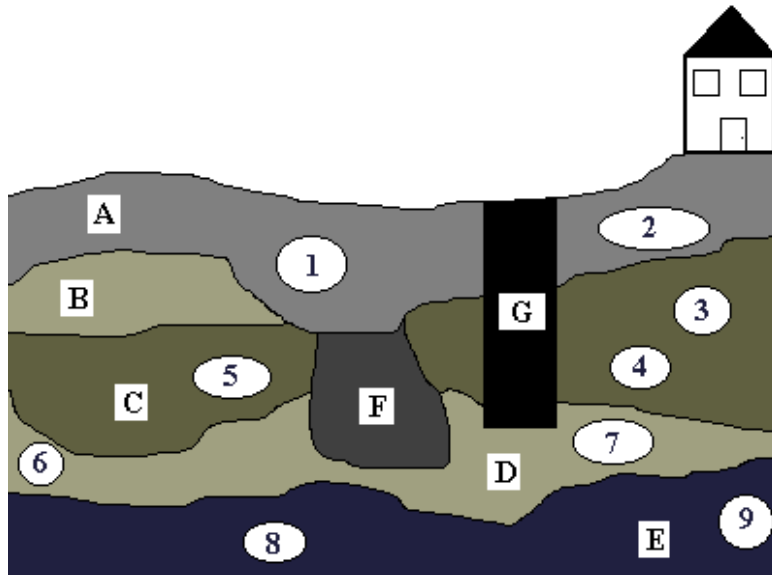


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Fun with Stratigraphy

**Stratigraphy** is the oldest method that archaeologists use to date artifacts. It is based on the **Law of Superposition** which states that as long as layers of soil are undisturbed the oldest layer will be on the bottom and the most recent will be located on the top.

**Directions:** Below is a Stratigraphy Map showing the different layers of soil deposit, layers A-G. Within these layers different artifacts were found, numbered 1-9. Answer the following questions keeping in mind the Law of Superposition.



## Artifacts

- |                             |                       |                           |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Piece of a Glass Bottle  | 4. Clay Pottery Sherd | 7. Sharpened Deer Bone    |
| 2. Face from a Ceramic Doll | 5. Charred Fish Bones | 8. Mastodon Bone Fragment |
| 3. Arrowhead                | 6. Stone Scraper      | 9. Spear Point            |

## **Questions:**

1. Which is older: the **arrowhead** or the **spear point**?
  
2. If **G** is a well, who do you think dug it?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions: (cont.)**

**3.** Is **layer B** older or more recent than **layer D**?

**4a.** Were there humans living here when **layer E** was being formed? Support your answer.

**4b.** What about when **layer B** was being formed? Support your answer.

**5.** Name an animal that lived here when **layer D** was being formed.

**6.** **Layer F** is a garbage pit. What layer was being formed when it was dug? What artifacts might have belonged to the person who dug it?

**7.** How might the **mastodon** have been killed? Who do you think might have killed it? Support your answers.

**8.** Which is older: the **clay pottery sherd** or the **sharpened deer bone**?

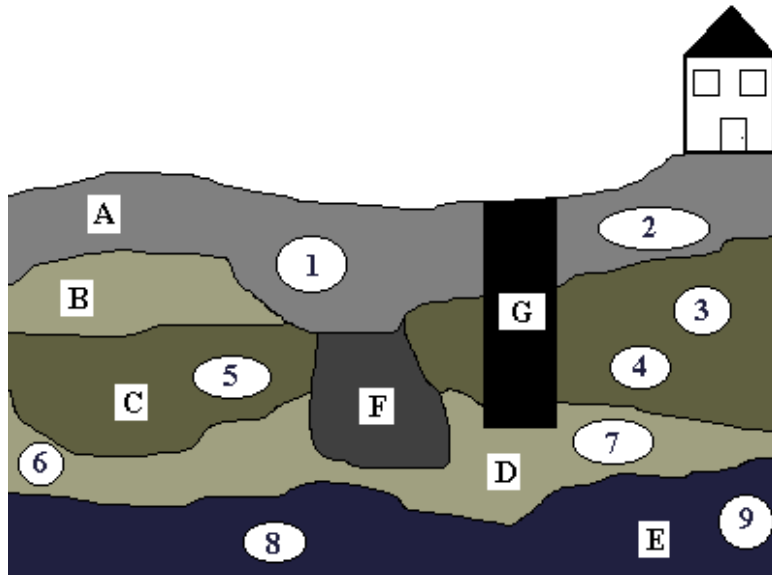
**9.** Which was deposited more recently: the **fish bones** or **level D**?

# Fun with Stratigraphy

## Answer Key

**Stratigraphy** is the oldest method that archaeologists use to date artifacts. It is based on the **Law of Superposition** which states that as long as layers of soil are undisturbed the oldest layer will be on the bottom and the most recent will be located on the top.

**Directions:** Below is a Stratigraphy Map showing the different layers of soil deposit, layers A-G. Within these layers different artifacts were found, numbered 1-9. Answer the following questions keeping in mind the Law of Superposition.



### Artifacts

- |                             |                       |                           |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Piece of a Glass Bottle  | 4. Clay Pottery Sherd | 7. Sharpened Deer Bone    |
| 2. Face from a Ceramic Doll | 5. Charred Fish Bones | 8. Mastodon Bone Fragment |
| 3. Arrowhead                | 6. Stone Scraper      | 9. Spear Point            |

### Questions:

- Which is older: the **arrowhead** or the **spear point**? **Spear point**
- If **G** is a well, who do you think dug it? **People who live in the house**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Questions: (cont.)**

**3. Is layer B older or more recent than layer D? More Recent**

**4a.** Were there humans living here when **layer E** was being formed? Support your answer.

**Yes, because of the spear point**

**4b.** What about when **layer B** was being formed? Support your answer.

**No, there are no artifacts**

**Or**

**Yes, there is nothing left from the people**

**5.** Name an animal that lived here when **layer D** was being formed.

**Deer**

**6. Layer F** is a garbage pit. What layer were the people who dug it living in? What artifacts might have belonged to the person who dug it?

**Layer A, Glass Bottle or Ceramic Doll**

**7.** How might the **mastodon** have been killed? Who do you think might have killed it? Support your answers.

**By a spear, A Native American**

**8.** Which is older: the **clay pottery sherd** or the **sharpened deer bone**?

**Deer Bone**

**9.** Which was deposited more recently: the **fish bones** or **level D**? **Fish Bones**