

ESSAY ANSWERS FOR EXAM I

74. Go to the web page and review magnetic reversal.

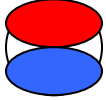


Fig 1

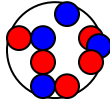


Fig 2

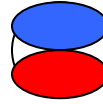


Fig 3

Figure 1 shows the Earth's core as it is today with magnetic N in red.

Figure 2 shows a transitional phase where the magnetic poles are ill defined.

Figure 3 shows Earth's core after it has come to equilibrium with magnetic N (red) and S poles switched.

Yes, we are over due for a reversal because there has not been one for quite some time.

75. Go to the Isostasy game.

76. Early explorers were looking for the North West Passage because ships would have less distance between Europe and the Far East to travel. If the ships could use the NW passage compared to going from Europe through the Cape of Good Hope or Cape Horn, both of which are besieged with rough seas that would be easiest.

Today we are experiencing an increased amount of glacier melt. If conditions continue on this path a seaway may open up and allow ships to use that route to the Far East.