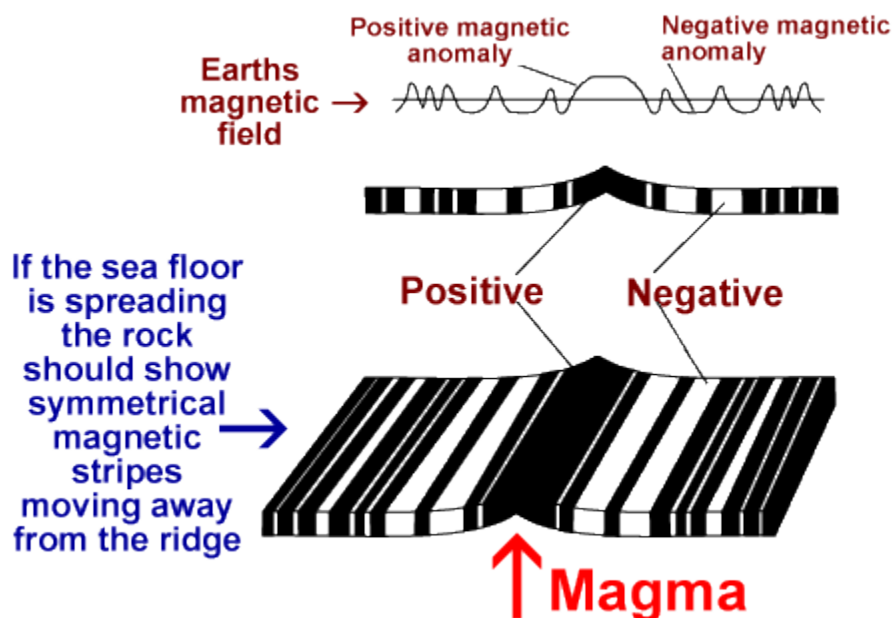


Harry Hess created the theory of sea floor spreading. Seafloor spreading is the formation of new areas of oceanic crust, which occurs through the upwelling of magma at midocean ridges and its subsequent outward movement on either side.

Seafloor spreading and other tectonic activity processes are the result of mantle convection. Seafloor spreading occurs at divergent plate boundaries. As tectonic plates slowly move away from each other, heat from the mantle's convection currents makes the crust more plastic and less dense. The less-dense material rises, often forming a mountain or elevated area of the seafloor. Eventually, the crust cracks. Hot magma fueled by mantle convection bubbles up to fill these fractures and spills onto the crust. This bubbled-up magma is cooled by frigid seawater to form igneous rock. This rock (basalt) becomes a new part of Earth's crust.



1) What evidence did Harry Hess use to support his theory?

2) Who helped give Harry Hess evidence, and what was the evidence given?

3) Sea floor spreading is a process that creates _____ crust?

4) What is the rate of seafloor spreading approx. every 10 years?

5) In Sea floor spreading the farther the floor is away the _____ it will be?

6)