

REGENTS EARTH SCIENCE
Plate Tectonics- An Introduction

Name: _____

The year is 1915. Your name is Alfred Wegener, and you have just published a book entitled, *The Origin of Continents and Oceans*. In your book, you argue that some 300 million years ago, all of the continents were connected into one giant landmass, and they have been “drifting” apart ever since.

With your group, take some time to consider the following (as if you are Wegener). Write down your reflections, and be prepared to defend your statements. **The map is presented for inspiration!**



- ❖ In order to make such an outrageous claim, you MUST have some evidence. What evidence might you have that suggests the land masses were once all joined together? BE SPECIFIC!!

- ❖ If you could go to any two places on the globe to look for this evidence, where would you go and why?

- ❖ Okay, so even if the continents *were* once all together, SO WHAT? Why is this an important hypothesis?

- ❖ Now the big one. Why and how did the continents “drift” apart?
