

Name _____

Beneath the Surface: Exploring Earth's Outer Core and Inner Core

Short Answer Key

1. The outer core is primarily composed of liquid iron and nickel, while the inner core is primarily composed of solid iron and nickel.
2. The outer core is in a liquid state, while the inner core is solid due to the extreme pressure at its depth.
3. Convection currents in the outer core create electric currents that generate the Earth's magnetic field.
4. The solidification of the inner core began about a billion years ago and continues at an extremely slow pace.
5. The inner core is denser than the outer core due to its solid state and increased pressure at its depth.

