

Introduction to Minerals Exercise

This is an exercise to help you become more familiar with different minerals and their different uses.

Go to the website http://www.galleries.com/minerals/by_class.htm.

1. Click on the **Sulfides Class**. Click on **Galena**.
What is the specific gravity of galena and why is it unique? _____

2. Go back one page and click on **Pyrite**.
What is pyrite often confused as? _____
3. Go back to the main page. Click on the **Halides Class**. Click on **Fluorite**.
Under the physical properties, how many colors is fluorite found in?

4. Go back one page and click on **Halite**.
What is halite mainly used for? _____
5. Go to the main page. Click on the **Carbonates Class**. Click on **Calcite**.
Under the physical characteristics, there are two main other physical characteristics that are important. One is that you get double vision when you look through a crystal, what is the other? _____
6. Go to the main page. Click on the **Sulfates Class**. Click on **Gypsum**.
What are some of the uses of gypsum? _____
7. Go to the main page. Click on the **Silicates Class**.
Under the Nesosilicates, how many varieties of Garnet are there? _____
8. Under the phyllosilicates click on **Biotite**.
What are the main uses for biotite? _____
9. Go back one page and click on **Muscovite**.
Are the uses similar? _____ Why or why not? _____
10. Go back one page.
Under the tectosilicates how many varieties of **Feldspars** are there? _____
11. Click on **Quartz**.
In the first paragraph, how often is quartz the primary mineral in rocks? _____
Why? _____