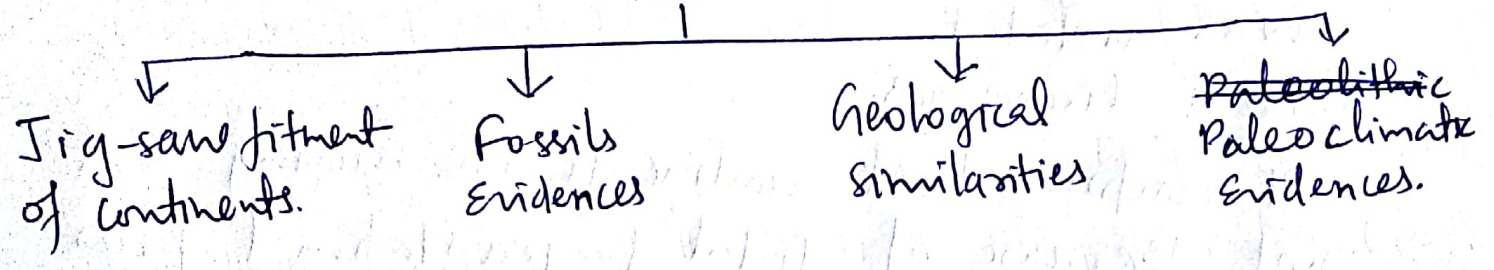


Q. what is continental drift theory? What were the major evidences? Evaluate the theory with recent discoveries.

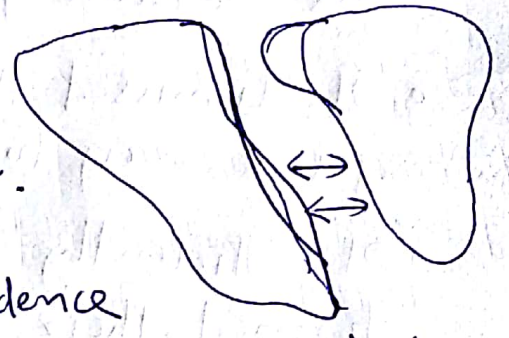
Ans:- According to the continental drift theory proposed by Alfred Wegener, the continents are moving. Some places they are coming together and in some places they are moving away.

Evidences.



(i) Jig-saw fitment of continents:-

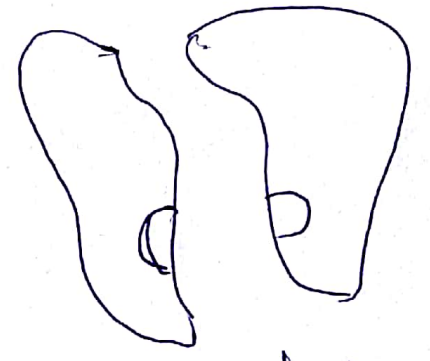
As shown in the picture, the continents fits exactly at their boundaries if brought together.



(ii) fossils evidences:- fossils evidence

shows that, the species which were present in some part of South America are also present in Africa continent as shown.

Exa:- Mesosaurus which is a reptile lives in fresh & shallow water (Can't fly)



(iii) Geological similarities.

The ~~composition~~ similarities between mountains of South America & Africa confirms the assumption.

(iv) Paleoclimate evidences.

(1) Presence of glacial striation on rock confirms the phenomena.

- Presence of bituminous coal in north hemisphere confirms that they were near equator at the beginning.

Criticism to the theory

- (i) The reason for the drift was mentioned as Tidal force & gravitational force. So, if Tidal force are present than earth would stop.
- (ii) Contrary ~~that~~ ^{to} no friction between sima & sial was violated.

Recent discoveries.

- It confirms that continents are moving but not because of Tidal & gravitational forces but because of plate tectonic ~~the~~ concept.
- It dismissed the SIMA & SIAL and instead gave way to ^{know that} plates floating on magma.
- It efficiently explained, why mountains have formed, their shape, why ~~are~~ oceanic ridges are present etc.