Worksheet on the Plate Tectonic Theory

1. According to plate tectonic theory, the Earth is divided into ________ plates, which are slowly drifting across the surface of the globe.

2. North America is part of the _______________________ plate.

3. If you look closely, the continents seem to fit together like a _____________.

4. Continents were one compressed into a continent called ________________, which means “______________”.

5. Scientists measure continental drift using a technique called VLBI, which stands for:
   
   V:
   
   L:
   
   B:
   
   I:

6. In this technique, two ___________ telescopes are looking at a ___________ (a very distant star which is extremely bright). The incoming signals are recorded along with timing tags. Then the arrival times of the signals at the two radio telescopes are compared and the _______________ between them is calculated.

7. For this project the continental drift between North America and ________________ is measured. The two instruments used are antennas located in ____________________, ______________________________ and ____________________, __________________.