### Chapter 1: Where the Land Writes History

**Ordering Information:** Fill each empty box below with information about different eras of Montana history.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Era</th>
<th>Years Ago</th>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Details from the Presentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Precambrian</td>
<td>4.6 billion years ago - 544 million years ago</td>
<td>First one-celled creatures</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Paleozoic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Mesozoic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Cenozoic</td>
<td></td>
<td>- The first mammals and humans appear.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Summarizing Main Ideas:** Answer the following questions using complete sentences.

5. Describe how glaciers shape the land.  
   ____________________________________________________________________________

6. What happened to the climate after the last Ice Age? What impact did it have on the vegetation and the megafauna that lived in Montana?  
   __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

7. List three major weather patterns that affect the climate of central Montana and describe each.  
   __________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

**Identifying Key Terms:** Define the following key terms.

8. ___________________________ Snow and ice that moves like slow rivers across the land.
9. ___________________________ Huge ice age animals supported by large amounts of vegetation.
10. ___________________________ A giant crater formed by a volcanic explosion (like Yellowstone).
11. ___________________________ The Spanish term for Montana, which translates as, “Shining Mountains”.
12. ___________________________ The area of the Rocky Mountains that divides westward and eastward flowing rivers.