

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Name That Mineral!

One can identify many minerals by carefully observing their physical characteristics. Some of these characteristics are:

**Hardness** – This is determined with a scratch test.

**Color** – Color depends on the elements and compound that make up the crystals. This varies greatly from mineral to mineral.

**Luster** – This refers to how light reflects off the mineral.

Enough information has been given to you here to help you find the unknown minerals and fill in the chart at the bottom.

Hardness Scale		
Hardness	Mineral	Common Tests
1	Talc	Fingernail will scratch it.
2	Gypsum / Kaolinite	
3	Mica / Calcite	A copper penny will scratch it.
4	Fluorite	Steel nail or glass will scratch it.
5	Apatite / Hornblende	
6	Feldspar	Will scratch a steel nail or glass.
7	Quartz	
8	Topz	
9	Corundum	
10	Diamond	Will scratch all common materials.

Color	Minerals
White:	Quartz, Feldspar, Calcite, Kaolinite, Talc
Yellow:	Quartz, Kaolinite
Black:	Hornblende, Mica
Gray:	Feldspar, Gypsum
Colorless:	Quartz, Calcite, Gypsum

Luster	Minerals
Glassy:	Quartz, Feldspar, Hornblende
Pearly:	Mica, Gypsum, Talc
Dull:	Kaolinite

### The Unknown Minerals

Hardness	Color	Luster	Mineral
Will scratch a steel nail or glass.	yellow	glassy	<b>1.</b>
Will scratch a steel nail or glass.	gray	glassy	<b>2.</b>
A copper penny will scratch it.	black	pearly	<b>3.</b>
Fingernail will scratch it.	white	pearly	<b>4.</b>
Steel nail or glass will scratch it.	black	glassy	<b>5.</b>