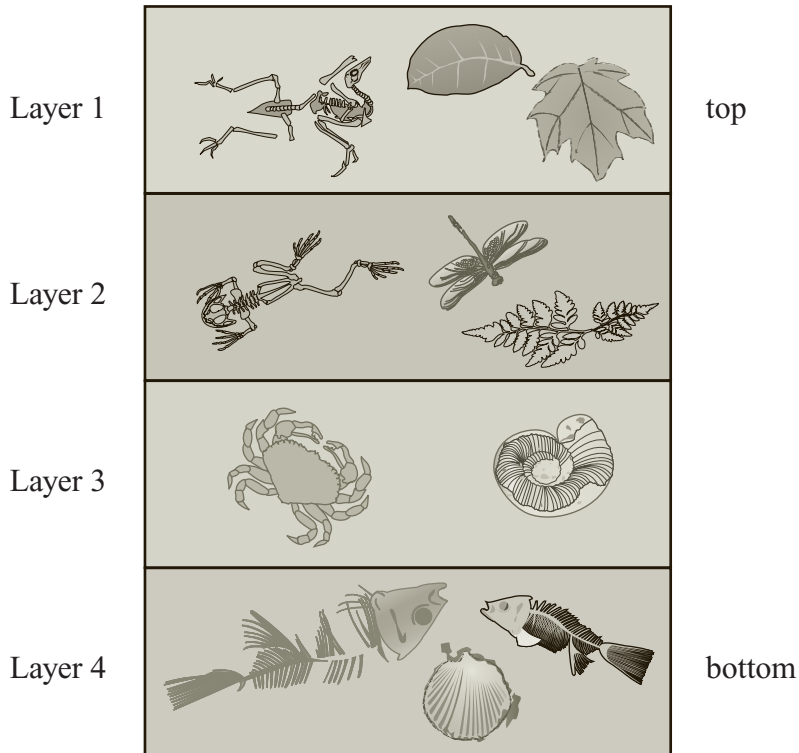


Scientists can learn how the environment in an area has changed over time by studying the fossils found in that area. The diagram below shows some of the fossils found in undisturbed rock layers in an area.



- Identify the **oldest** layer of rock found in this area.
- Explain why the layer you identified in part (a) is the oldest found in this area.
- Based on the fossils in each rock layer, describe how the environment in the area has changed over time. Include evidence from the diagram to support your answer.