## **Depositional Environments**

| Location              | Environment  | Agents of Deposition      | Sediment Types  | Rock Types / Structures /<br>Fossils                  |
|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Alluvial Fan       | Continental  | water, gravity            | poorly sorted rock and mineral fragments                        | any detrital rock type including arkose               |
| 2. Desert Dunes       | Continental  | wind                      | rounded, well-sorted sand-<br>sized quartz                      | sandstone with cross<br>bedding                       |
| 3. Lake / Playa Lake  | Continental  | water                     | sand, mud; halite and gypsum in dry climates                    | sandstone, mudstone or shale; evaporites              |
| 4. Glacial            | Continental  | ice, water                | poorly sorted deposits with variable grain size                 | any detrital, except arkose                           |
| 5. River/Stream       | Continental  | water                     | sand in channels, mud and plant materials outside               | & cross beds, mudrocks, possible coal / plant fossils |
| 6. Beach              | Transitional | water                     | quartz sand and shell fragments                                 | quartz sandstones with shell fragments                |
| 7. Delta              | Transitional | water                     | sand in channels; mud and plant material                        | sandstones, shale, possible coal / plant fossils      |
| 8. Tidal Flat         | Transitional | water                     | mud, calcite-rich mud   | Mostly fossiliferous<br>mudrocks, limestone           |
| 9. Barrier Island     | Transitional | water                     | quartz sand and shell fragments                                 | sandstones with shell fragments                       |
| 10. Shallow Marine    | Marine       | water                     | sand to mud to calcite-rich<br>mud, shells                      | sandstone, mudrocks,<br>limestone w/ marine fossils   |
| 11. Deep Marine       | Marine       | water                     | clay-sized fragments,<br>microscopic calcite & silica<br>shells | claystone, chalk, chert                               |
| 12. Organic Reef      | Marine       | water, corals             | calcite from abundant marine life, esp. corals                  | fossiliferous limestone                               |
| 13. Submarine Fan     | Marine       | water, turbidity currents | graded beds, mud  | mudstone, sandstone<br>showing graded beds            |
| 14. Continental Shelf | Marine       | water                     | mud   | mudrocks  |
| 15. Lagoon            | Marine       | water                     | fossils, mud and calcite-rich mud                               | fossiliferous shales and limestones                   |

