



FIGURE 2.2. Elements of plate tectonics. (A) The distribution of major tectonic plates of the lithosphere. Spreading ridges (accretionary boundaries), subduction zones (convergent boundaries), and transform boundaries are indicated. Modified from Turcotte and Schubert (2002). The positions of schematic cross sections through the lithospheric plates and underlying asthenosphere (B), (C), and (D) are indicated. The cross sections emphasize the plate movements. Modified from Press and Siever (1978).