Capitol Reef National Park

1. Explain the name for this park. Is there evidence of the same type of coastal reef that we see in places like Australia? Where does the name “Capitol” originate?

2. List each of the formations in Capitol Reef National Park and label the depositional environment for each formation.
3. At this point, we have studied three national parks in northern Arizona and southern Utah: Grand Canyon, Zion, and Bryce Canyon. Which of these three national parks is most similar to Capitol Reef National Park from a stratigraphic perspective? Explain your answer.

4. What are some important differences in the rock sequence between the park you listed above and Capitol Reef?
5. Sketch the contacts of the formations and label the formations in Capitol Reef National Park on the two photos below:
6. Describe a monocline in your words. How did the monocline in Capitol Reef NP form?

7. Explain the formation of the "hogbacks" in Capitol Reef NP. Why are the hogback ridges parallel?
8. In class we will view the photo to the right. Label the formations and discuss the contact between the two formations.

9. Explain the origin of the "waterpockets" in this park.

10. What is desert varnish and how does it form?