

Exploring the Blue World: Oceanography Basics

Oceanography · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which of the following is the largest and deepest ocean on Earth?

- A) Pacific Ocean**
- B) Atlantic Ocean
- C) Indian Ocean
- D) Arctic Ocean

2. What is the primary cause of ocean tides on Earth?

- A) The wind
- B) Earth's rotation
- C) The gravitational pull of the Moon**
- D) Underwater earthquakes

3. What term describes the amount of dissolved salts in seawater?

- A) Viscosity
- B) Salinity**
- C) Buoyancy
- D) Turbidity

4. What is the deepest known point in the Earth's oceans?

- A) The Java Trench
- B) The Puerto Rico Trench
- C) The Mariana Trench**
- D) The Tonga Trench

5. Which large systems of rotating ocean currents are driven by wind and the Coriolis effect?

- A) Tides
- B) Gyres**
- C) Tsunamis
- D) Ripples

6. In which ocean zone does enough sunlight penetrate for plants to perform photosynthesis?

- A) Abyssal zone
- B) Bathypelagic zone
- C) Sunlight (Epipelagic) zone**
- D) Hadal zone

7. What is the name of the continuous underwater mountain range that wraps around the globe?

- A) The Mid-Ocean Ridge**
- B) The Himalayan Range
- C) The Andes
- D) The Great Dividing Range

8. Which tiny, plant-like organisms form the base of most marine food webs?

- A) Zooplankton
- B) Phytoplankton**
- C) Seahorses
- D) Krill

9. Approximately what percentage of the Earth's surface is covered by oceans?

- A) 51%
- B) 61%
- C) 71%**
- D) 81%

10. What is the average salinity of seawater globally?

- A) 15 parts per thousand
- B) 25 parts per thousand
- C) 35 parts per thousand**
- D) 45 parts per thousand

11. Which technology uses sound waves to map the seafloor?

- A) Radar
- B) GPS
- C) Sonar**
- D) Lidar

12. What process occurs when cold, nutrient-rich water rises from the deep ocean to the surface?

- A) Downwelling
- B) Upwelling**
- C) Evaporation
- D) Condensation

13. What is the specific name of the deepest part of the Mariana Trench?

A) Challenger Deep

B) Horizon Deep

C) Sirena Deep

D) Galathea Depth

14. Which ocean is located almost entirely around the North Pole?

A) Southern Ocean

B) Indian Ocean

C) Atlantic Ocean

D) Arctic Ocean

15. What is the name of the 'global conveyor belt' of ocean currents driven by temperature and salt differences?

A) Jet Stream

B) Gulf Stream

C) Thermohaline Circulation

D) Trade Winds