

Middle School Oceanography Quiz

Oceanography · Practice Test · 15 Questions

1. Which of the following ocean zones receives enough sunlight for photosynthesis to occur?

- A) Bathypelagic zone
- B) Photic zone
- C) Abyssal zone
- D) Hadal zone

2. What is the primary cause of surface currents in the ocean?

- A) Global wind patterns
- B) Underwater volcanoes
- C) Earth's rotation
- D) Tidal forces

3. Which feature of the ocean floor is formed by plate tectonics at a divergent boundary?

- A) Trench
- B) Seamount
- C) Mid-ocean ridge
- D) Continental shelf

4. What is the average salinity of the world's oceans?

- A) 15 parts per thousand
- B) 35 parts per thousand
- C) 55 parts per thousand
- D) 75 parts per thousand

5. Which ocean is the largest and deepest on Earth?

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

6. What term describes the measurement of the vertical distance from the ocean surface to the seafloor?

- A) Elevation
- B) Bathymetry
- C) Topography
- D) Geodesy

7. Which phenomenon occurs when cold, nutrient-rich water rises from the deep ocean to the surface?

- A) Downwelling
- B) Tidal surge
- C) Upwelling
- D) El Nino

8. What is the largest coral reef system in the world?

- A) Belize Barrier Reef
- B) Great Barrier Reef
- C) New Caledonia Barrier Reef
- D) Red Sea Coral Reef

9. The majority of the Earth's oxygen is produced by what type of marine organism?

- A) Phytoplankton
- B) Seaweed
- C) Coral polyps
- D) Crustaceans

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

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

11. Which gas, when absorbed in excess by the ocean, leads to ocean acidification?

- A) Nitrogen
- B) Carbon dioxide
- C) Oxygen
- D) Argon

12. What type of tide occurs when the Sun, Moon, and Earth are aligned, causing higher than normal tides?

- A) Neap tide
- B) Ebb tide
- C) Spring tide
- D) Slack tide

13. Which layer of the ocean is characterized by a rapid change in temperature with depth?

- A) Thermocline
- B) Halocline
- C) Pycnocline
- D) Mixed layer

14. What are the flat, sediment-covered areas of the deep ocean floor called?

- A) Abyssal plains
- B) Continental slopes
- C) Ocean basins
- D) Guyots

15. Which instrument is commonly used to map the seafloor using sound waves?

- A) Barometer
- B) Sonar
- C) Thermometer
- D) Anemometer