

Middle School Oceanography

Oceanography · Practice Test · 11 Questions

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

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

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

- A) Challenger Deep
- B) Java Trench
- C) Puerto Rico Trench
- D) Sunda Trench

3. What is the average salinity of Earth's ocean water?

- A) 0.5%
- B) 3.5%
- C) 10.0%
- D) 15.5%

4. Which force is primarily responsible for generating ocean tides on Earth?

- A) Ocean surface winds
- B) Gravitational pull of the Moon
- C) Earth's magnetic field
- D) Underwater volcanic eruptions

5. In oceanography, what does the term 'thermocline' refer to?

- A) A layer where water temperature changes rapidly with depth
- B) The maximum depth that light penetrates ocean water
- C) A boundary between salty water and freshwater
- D) An area where deep ocean water moves toward the surface

6. Which underwater geological feature is created when tectonic plates pull apart along the ocean floor?

- A) Oceanic trench
- B) Mid-ocean ridge
- C) Submarine canyon
- D) Abyssal plain

7. What drives the primary movement of global ocean surface currents?

- A) Underwater earthquakes
- B) Global wind patterns
- C) Phytoplankton migration
- D) Rivers entering the sea

8. What process brings cold, nutrient-rich water from the deep ocean up to the surface?

- A) Upwelling
- B) Evaporation
- C) Subduction
- D) Condensation

9. Deep ocean circulation (thermohaline circulation) is driven by differences in which two water properties?

- A) Light and wave height
- B) Temperature and salinity
- C) Wind speed and pressure
- D) Oxygen levels and clarity

10. Which technology uses sound waves to map the depth and contours of the ocean floor?

- A) Radar
- B) Sonar
- C) Lidar
- D) Seismograph

11. What is the gently sloping, shallow region of the ocean floor that extends from the edge of a continent?

- A) Abyssal plain
- B) Continental shelf
- C) Oceanic trench
- D) Continental rise