

High School Oceanography Essentials

Oceanography · Answer Key · 8 Questions

1. Which ocean zone receives enough sunlight for photosynthesis to occur?

- A) Epipelagic zone**
- B) Mesopelagic zone
- C) Bathypelagic zone
- D) Abyssopelagic zone

2. What is the average salinity of open seawater in parts per thousand (ppt)?

- A) 5 ppt
- B) 15 ppt
- C) 35 ppt**
- D) 50 ppt

3. What primary gravitational force causes ocean tides on Earth?

- A) The Sun's radiation
- B) The Moon's gravity**
- C) Earth's magnetic field
- D) Volcanic activity

4. Which feature is the deepest known trench in Earth's oceans?

- A) Puerto Rico Trench
- B) Java Trench
- C) Mariana Trench**
- D) South Sandwich Trench

5. What force causes surface ocean currents to curve due to Earth's rotation?

- A) Greenhouse effect
- B) Coriolis effect**
- C) Doppler effect
- D) Thermal expansion

6. Which microscopic marine organisms form the main base of the ocean food web?

- A) Zooplankton
- B) Phytoplankton**
- C) Coral polyps
- D) Kelp

7. Mid-ocean ridges are formed primarily along which type of tectonic boundary?

A) Divergent boundary

B) Convergent boundary

C) Transform boundary

D) Subduction zone

8. Which two factors primarily determine the density of seawater?

A) Color and depth

B) Temperature and salinity

C) Pressure and wave height

D) Wind speed and latitude