

19th Century Oceanography: Key Discoveries and Figures

Oceanography · Answer Key · 10 Questions

1. Which British naval expedition, commencing in 1872, is considered a foundational voyage for modern oceanography and systematically explored the global oceans?

- A) HMS Beagle Expedition
- B) Challenger Expedition**
- C) Fram Expedition
- D) Allantic Expedition

2. Who is often credited with pioneering early studies of marine biology and ocean currents, publishing extensively on the distribution of marine life in the mid-19th century?

- A) Charles Darwin
- B) Mathew Fontaine Maury
- C) Edward Forbes**
- D) Jacques Cousteau

3. What significant physical oceanographic observation was made by the Challenger Expedition regarding the deepest known point in the ocean at that time?

- A) Discovery of hydrothermal vents
- B) Measurement of the Marianas Trench depth**
- C) Mapping of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge
- D) Identification of the Gulf Stream's origin

4. In the 19th century, what was a primary method used to collect samples from the ocean depths for study?

- A) Submersible vehicles
- B) ROVs (Remotely Operated Vehicles)
- C) Dredging and trawling**
- D) Autonomous underwater vehicles (AUVs)

5. What book, published in 1855 by Matthew Fontaine Maury, was instrumental in popularizing the systematic study of oceanography and its practical applications for navigation?

- A) On the Origin of Species
- B) The Physical Geography of the Sea**
- C) Voyage of the Beagle
- D) Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea

6. The Challenger Expedition collected vast amounts of data on marine organisms. What classification group was significantly enriched by these findings?

- A) Mammals
- B) Birds
- C) Plankton**
- D) Amphibians

7. What significant technological advancement in the 19th century greatly improved the ability to measure ocean depth?

- A) Sonar
- B) Echo sounders
- C) Lead line sounding**
- D) Pressure sensors

8. Which country spearheaded the Challenger Expedition, a major milestone in 19th-century oceanographic research?

- A) France
- B) United States
- C) Germany
- D) Great Britain**

9. Edward Forbes, a prominent naturalist of the 19th century, proposed the 'Azoic theory.' What did this theory suggest about deep-sea life?

- A) That life was abundant and diverse
- B) That life was sparse and specialized
- C) That life was absent in the deepest parts of the ocean**
- D) That life evolved rapidly in the abyss

10. The 19th century saw increased mapping of ocean currents. What phenomenon, crucial for global climate and trade, was studied more intensively during this period?

- A) Tidal bores
- B) Ocean gyres**
- C) Rip currents
- D) Tsunamis