Oceanography Essentials

Oceanography · Answer Key · 18 Questions

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

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

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

A) 30%
B) 50%
C) 70%
D) 90%

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

A) Gravitational pull of the Moon
B) Underwater volcanoes
C) Earth's rotation speed
D) Ocean currents

4. Which ocean is home to the Mariana Trench, the deepest part of the world's oceans?

A) Atlantic Ocean
B) Pacific Ocean
C) Indian Ocean
D) Southern Ocean

5. What is the main chemical component that makes ocean water salty?

A) Magnesium sulfate
B) Sodium chloride
C) Calcium carbonate
D) Potassium nitrate

6. Which of these is a large, flowing body of water within the ocean, often compared to a river?

A) Tidal wave
B) Ocean current
C) Abyssal plain
D) Coral reef

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7. What are the large, circular systems of ocean currents called?

A) Gires
B) Gyres
C) Eddies
D) Upwellings

8. Which zone of the ocean receives enough sunlight for photosynthesis to occur?

A) Abyssal zone
B) Twilight zone
C) Euphotic zone
D) Hadalic zone

9. What is the deepest point in the world's oceans called?

A) Challenger Deep
B) Everest Trench
C) Mid-Atlantic Ridge
D) Great Barrier Reef

10. Which ocean surrounds the continent of Antarctica?

A) Arctic Ocean
B) Southern Ocean
C) Pacific Ocean
D) Atlantic Ocean

11. What do scientists call the process where cold, nutrient-rich water rises to the surface?

A) Downwelling
B) Upwelling
C) Tidal shifting
D) Evaporation

12. Which of these is not considered one of the five major oceans?

A) Pacific
B) Atlantic
C) Mediterranean
D) Indian

13. What is the term for the average depth of the global ocean?

A) Approximately 1,000 meters
B) Approximately 3,700 meters
C) Approximately 10,000 meters
D) Approximately 500 meters

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14. Which marine structure is built by tiny organisms called polyps?

A) Sea mountain
B) Coral reef
C) Continental shelf
D) Ocean trench

15. What is the measure of the concentration of dissolved salts in ocean water called?

A) Acidity
B) Density
C) Salinity
D) Temperature

16. Which gas, important for marine life, is absorbed by the ocean from the atmosphere?

A) Carbon dioxide
B) Argon
C) Nitrogen
D) Neon

17. What is the transition zone between the surface water and the deep ocean characterized by a rapid temperature change?

A) Thermocline
B) Halocline
C) Pycnocline
D) Continental rise

18. The study of the ocean's physical and chemical properties is known as:

A) Meteorology
B) Oceanography
C) Geology
D) Biology

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