

**Oceans Sample Quiz****Multiple Choice**

Identify the choice that best completes the statement or answers the question.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. A large body of saline water that may be surrounded by land is a(n)  
a. submersible. c. global ocean  
b. ocean. d. sea.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Most mid-ocean ridges form  
a. below sea level. c. in areas of increased volcanic activity.  
b. in trenches. d. along fracture zones.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The deepest place in Earth's crust is a(n)  
a. abyssal plain. c. trench.  
b. seamount. d. submarine canyon.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. A piece of sediment collected by drilling is a(n)  
a. inorganic sediment. c. core sample.  
b. biogenic sediment. d. diatom.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Meteorite dust is one kind of  
a. nodule. c. ooze.  
b. inorganic sediment. d. core sample.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Sediments from rivers spread over the deep-ocean basins by means of  
a. icebergs. c. wind.  
b. chemical reactions. d. turbidity currents.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The silica in biogenic sediments comes mainly from  
a. diatoms and radiolarians. c. nodules.  
b. foraminiferans. d. calcium carbonate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The deepest and largest ocean on Earth is the  
a. Atlantic. c. Indian.  
b. Pacific. d. Southern.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. An atoll changes into a guyot because of  
a. volcanic activity. c. fracture zones.  
b. wave erosion. d. turbidity currents.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Which is NOT a tool used by scientists to study the deep ocean?  
a. drilling ship c. seamount  
b. bathyscaph d. sonar
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The most common compounds in organic sediments are  
a. diatoms and radiolarians. c. silica and calcium carbonate.  
b. foraminiferans. d. oxides of iron and manganese.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. The Mariana Trench is best known for its  
a. length. c. height.  
b. depth. d. volcanic activity.

- \_\_\_ 13. Which is NOT a possible effect of a turbidity current?  
a. erosion  
b. submarine canyon  
c. seamount  
d. continental rise
- \_\_\_ 14. As deep ocean water becomes colder, it also becomes  
a. saltier.  
b. denser.  
c. clearer.  
d. lighter.
- \_\_\_ 15. What is called the foundation of life in the ocean?  
a. whales  
b. minerals  
c. salt  
d. plankton
- \_\_\_ 16. Nutrients in ocean water are stored  
a. near the surface.  
b. at the tropics.  
c. at the polar regions.  
d. in deep water.
- \_\_\_ 17. Which of the following live in the pelagic zone?  
a. sponges  
b. worms  
c. marine mammals  
d. sea lilies
- \_\_\_ 18. The ocean is the main source of the trace minerals  
a. magnesium and bromine.  
b. bromine and chloride.  
c. chloride and sodium.  
d. sodium and bromine.
- \_\_\_ 19. In addition to increased use of toxic chemicals, what has reduced the ocean's ability to renew itself?  
a. oil drilling  
b. global warming  
c. increased world population  
d. chemical imbalance
- \_\_\_ 20. The two principal gases dissolved in ocean water are  
a. carbon dioxide and oxygen.  
b. oxygen and hydrogen.  
c. hydrogen and nitrogen.  
d. nitrogen and oxygen.
- \_\_\_ 21. As the temperature changes, the ocean and atmosphere are continuously exchanging  
a. moisture.  
b. pollutants.  
c. gases.  
d. chemicals.
- \_\_\_ 22. Oceans are often referred to as a carbon sink. How many times more carbon is contained in the ocean than in the atmosphere?  
a. 20 times  
b. 40 times  
c. 60 times  
d. 80 times
- \_\_\_ 23. Trace elements in the ocean are those minerals that are  
a. most valuable.  
b. smallest in amount.  
c. least desirable.  
d. most dangerous.
- \_\_\_ 24. What is the name for the movement of deep, cold an nutrient-rich water to the surface?  
a. upwelling  
b. benthos  
c. thermocline  
d. desalination
- \_\_\_ 25. Sea sponges are an example of  
a. plankton.  
b. benthos.  
c. phytoplankton.  
d. plankton.

- \_\_\_ 26. The most valuable ocean resource, found beneath the ocean floor, is
- a. plankton.
  - b. petroleum.
  - c. salt.
  - d. nodules.
- \_\_\_ 27. Which of the following causes gyres to form?
- a. deep currents
  - b. the Coriolis effect
  - c. the Equatorial Countercurrent
  - d. West Wind Drift
- \_\_\_ 28. Two consecutive wave crests pass a given point in one
- a. wavelength.
  - b. swell.
  - c. wave period.
  - d. trough.
- \_\_\_ 29. The factors that determine the size of a wave are wind speed, fetch, and
- a. the length of time the wind blows.
  - b. water temperature.
  - c. water salinity.
  - d. amount of sediment on the ocean floor.
- \_\_\_ 30. The distance that wind blows across an area of the sea to generate waves is known as
- a. wavelength.
  - b. fetch.
  - c. tide.
  - d. wave period.
- \_\_\_ 31. As water carried on to a beach by breaking waves is pulled back into deeper water, an irregular current is formed, called a(n)
- a. trough.
  - b. rip current.
  - c. under tow.
  - d. breaker.
- \_\_\_ 32. The major cause of tides is the
- a. Earth's rotation.
  - b. gravitational pull of the moon on Earth and its waters.
  - c. Earth's revolution around the sun.
  - d. tidal bulge of Earth.
- \_\_\_ 33. If high tide is at 4:00 p.m. today, at about what time will high tide occur tomorrow?
- a. 4:00 a.m.
  - b. 3:10 p.m.
  - c. 4:25 p.m.
  - d. 4:50 p.m.
- \_\_\_ 34. The highest point of a wave is its
- a. trough.
  - b. wave height.
  - c. crest.
  - d. wave period.
- \_\_\_ 35. Calling a tsunami a tidal wave is misleading because
- a. a tsunami is not really a wave.
  - b. a tsunami is not caused by tides.
  - c. a tsunami does not occur in the ocean.
  - d. a tsunami only occurs during ebb tides.
- \_\_\_ 36. The swift, warm current that flows northward along the east coast of the United States is called the
- a. North Atlantic Current.
  - b. West Wind Drift.
  - c. North Equatorial Current.
  - d. Gulf Stream.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 37. What is the effect of wind energy on waves?
- a. It makes large waves smaller.
  - b. It gives all waves an equal size.
  - c. It makes small waves larger.
  - d. It makes large waves larger.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 38. Motions in ocean water that occur as tidal bulges move around the ocean basins are called
- a. tidal ranges.
  - b. tsunamis.
  - c. tidal oscillations.
  - d. tidal currents.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 39. In the tropical latitudes, trade-wind belts push currents
- a. eastward.
  - b. westward.
  - c. eastward in the Atlantic and westward in the Pacific.
  - d. westward in the Atlantic and eastward in the Pacific.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 40. A gap in a line of breakers is often a sign of
- a. rip currents.
  - b. undertow.
  - c. longshore currents.
  - d. deep currents.