

Oceanography Midterm

Part of the Easy Peasy All-in-One Homeschool, Answers quoted from Georgia Virtual Learning

1. What are the four branches of oceanography? (4)

The four main branches of oceanography include geological oceanography, chemical oceanography, physical oceanography, and marine oceanography.

2. More than 70% of the earth's surface is covered in water. True or False? (1)

Seventy one percent (71%) of the Earth's surface is covered by water.

3. The largest coral reef system in the world is called the _____ and is located off the coast of _____. (2)

Great Barrier Reef, Australia

4. The seabed stretching out from the shores of a continent is called the _____. (1)

continental shelf

5. What is the process of sea-floor spreading? (2)

The process of plates moving apart allowing magma to form new crust, or the formation of new ocean floor due to volcanic activity.

6. Water is made up of what two types of atoms? (2)

hydrogen and oxygen

7. Why is water referred to as the universal solvent? (2)

because many substances dissolve easily in water

8. Put these parts of the hydrologic cycle in order: **infiltration, evaporation, precipitation, condensation** (4)

evaporation, condensation, precipitation, infiltration (It is cyclical, so it doesn't matter which one you start with as long as they go in order, then from infiltration back to evaporation....)

9. The degree of acidity or alkalinity of a liquid is known as its _____. (1)

ph

10. What is the Coriolis Effect? (2)

the apparent deflection of a moving object due to the rotation of a greater object or the Coriolis Effect deflects ocean currents north of the equator to the right and currents south of the equator to the left

11. What is an important impact of the Coriolis Effect? (2)

The Coriolis Effect directly influences ocean surface currents. Currents on the western coast of continents are usually cold and currents on the eastern coast are warm because they originate from the equator. This is important because the movement of these currents distributes heat from the equatorial regions of the Earth to cooler regions.

12. Name at two causes of ocean currents? (2)

Ocean currents can be generated by wind, density differences in water masses caused by temperature and salinity variations, gravity, and events such as earthquakes.

(from <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/facts/currents.html>)