

Mountains and Oceans

The World's Oceans

The Earth's oceans cover about 70% of the planet. There is an incredible amount of life in the oceans. Most life on Earth exists in the ocean. There are thousands and possibly millions of animal and plant species living in the world's oceans.

The five oceans hold 97% of the Earth's water supply. In the Western Hemisphere there are the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans. In the Eastern Hemisphere there are the Indian and the Arctic Oceans. The Southern Ocean surrounds Antarctica and the South Pole. These five oceans make up one large "world ocean."

The world ocean provides so much for us. We need oceans to maintain balance on Earth. We need to do our best to take good care of them. There are many big companies that pollute the oceans. They dump garbage and oil in the ocean's water. This kills thousands of animals and makes the water unusable. The world ocean supports our lives. We should support the ocean.

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. The world ocean is made up of
 - a. the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
 - b. the Indian and Atlantic Oceans.
 - c. all five of the oceans on Earth.
 - d. the largest ocean on Earth.

2. What is the purpose of the third paragraph?
 - a. to argue against dumping garbage in the ocean's water
 - b. to defend the big companies that pollute the oceans
 - c. to discourage the reader from caring about the Earth's oceans
 - d. to discuss the importance of protecting oceans

3. Which of the following conclusions is supported by the passage?
 - a. It is unclear how oil spills affect oceans.
 - b. Many living beings, including humans, depend on oceans.
 - c. The world ocean is not being threatened by pollution.
 - d. Enough is being done to protect the world ocean.

4. Read the following sentences: "The world ocean provides so much for us. We need oceans to maintain balance on Earth."

The word **maintain** most nearly means

 - a. to keep
 - b. to disturb
 - c. to pollute
 - d. to get rid of

5. What is the passage mainly about?
 - a. all the environmental issues facing the earth
 - b. how some oceans are different from others
 - c. the world ocean and how it is important
 - d. where water comes from and how it is used

6. What are the names of the five oceans?

7. Based on the passage, why are the oceans important?

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

The oceans are very important to life on Earth _____ so many plants and animals live in the ocean.

- a. although
- b. thus
- c. therefore
- d. because

9. Read the following sentence.

Many big companies have polluted oceans by dumping garbage and oil into the water.

Answer the questions below based on the information provided in the sentence you just read. One of the questions has already been answered for you.

What? many big companies

Have done what? _____

How? _____

10. **Vocabulary Word:** incredible (*adj.*): very surprising or impressive.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: _____

Teacher Guide and Answers

Passage Reading Level: Lexile 670

Featured Text Structure: Descriptive – the writer explains, defines or illustrates a concept or topic

Passage Summary: This passage describes the world's oceans, and why it's important to protect these oceans.

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6. What are the names of the five oceans?

Suggested answer: The Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean, Arctic Ocean, Indian Ocean, and Southern Ocean.

7. Based on the passage, why are the oceans important?

Suggested answer: The oceans support our lives. We need the oceans to maintain balance on Earth. Most life on Earth lives in the oceans.

8. The question below is an incomplete sentence. Choose the answer that best completes the sentence.

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What? many big companies

Have done what? **have polluted oceans**

How? **by dumping garbage and oil into the water**

10. **Vocabulary Word:** incredible (*adj.*): very surprising or impressive.

Use the vocabulary word in a sentence: answers may vary.