The concepts developed in this standard include the following:

- Oceans cover about 70% of the surface of the Earth.
- Important features of the ocean floor near the continents are the continental shelf, the continental slope, and the continental rise. These areas are covered with thick layers of sediments (sand, mud, rocks).
- The depth of the ocean varies. Ocean trenches are very deep, and the continental shelf is relatively shallow.
- Ocean water is a complex mixture of gases (air) and dissolved solids (salts, especially sodium chloride). Marine organisms are dependent on dissolved gases for survival. The salinity of ocean water varies in some places depending on rates of evaporation and runoff from nearby land.
- The basic motions of ocean water are the waves, ocean currents, and tides.

Ocean currents, including the Gulf Stream, are caused by wind patterns and the differences in water densities (due to salinity and temperature differences). Ocean currents affect the mixing of ocean waters. This can affect plant and animal populations. Currents also affect navigation routes.

- As the depth of ocean water increases, the temperature decreases, the pressure increases, and the amount of light decreases. These factors influence the type of life forms that are present at a given depth.

- Plant-like plankton (phytoplankton) produce much of the Earth’s oxygen and serve as the base of the ocean ecosystem. Plankton flourish in areas where nutrient rich water upwells from the deep. Phytoplankton are eaten by animal-like plankton, swimming organisms, and those things that live on the ocean bottom.

- Humans impact the ocean environment through their everyday activities. Responsible public policy decisions are part of maintaining a healthy ocean environment. These decisions include improved monitoring of marine populations, placing bans on hunting or harming certain marine mammals, placing limits on catches of stressed populations, and greater emphasis on pollution prevention.
**Match the columns**

1. The amount of dissolved salts in ocean water: ___wind
   ___phytoplankton

2. Cause of ocean currents: ___salinity

3. The most common source of energy for surface waves: ___a long distance surface current

4. The deepest parts of the ocean are these long, narrow crevices: ___the moon

5. The Gulf Stream: ___continental shelf

6. Tides are mainly the result of the gravitational pull of: ___winds and water density

7. The shallow and relatively flat part of the ocean floor where marine life flourishes: ___Pacific Ocean

8. The Earth's deepest ocean: ___Mariana Trench

9. The deepest spot known on Earth: ___oceanographer

10. The percent of the Earth covered by water: ___71%

11. A scientist who studies the ocean is an: ___trenches

12. Plantlike organisms that float on or near the ocean's surface are called: ___trenches
13. Ocean trenches are __________

14. The continental shelf is: ______

15. The beach where you swim and play is part of the: ______

16. The salinity of ocean water depends on: ______

17. The makeup of ocean water: ______

18. Underwater mountain ranges: ______

19. The ocean floor near the continents (continental shelf, slope, and rise) is made of: ______

20. A device that uses sound to map the ocean floor: ______

21. Motions of the oceans: ______

22. Ocean water can have different densities due to: ______

23. Producers of much of the Earth's oxygen: ______

24. As the depth of the ocean increases: ______
1. Oceans cover about _______ of the Earth’s surface.
   a. 70%
   b. 50%
   c. 80%

2. The shoreline, where the land meets the ocean, is part of the:
   a. continental slope
   b. continental shelf
   c. abyssal plain

3. The continental shelf is:
   a. the deepest part of the ocean
   b. fairly deep
   c. relatively shallow

4. True or False: The shallow water of the continental shelf is teeming with life.

5. The steep slope at the edge of the continental shelf is the:
   a. ocean trench
   b. continental slope
   c. mid-ocean ridge

6. The floor of the continental shelf and slope is:
   a. made of hard rock
   b. covered with sand, mud and rock and thick sediment
   c. covered with only sand

7. The deepest parts of the ocean are:
   a. ocean trenches
   b. continental shelves
   c. mid-ocean ridges

8. Ocean trenches are deep _______.
   a. deep canyons
   b. high mountains
   c. steep slopes

9. The wide, deep and flat mid-ocean bottom is the:
   a. abyssal plain
   b. ocean trench
   c. continental shelf

10. Underwater mountain ranges are called:
    a. abyssal plains
    b. continental slopes
    c. mid-ocean ridges

11. Ocean water is a mixture of: (name all)
    a. gases (air)
    b. sugars
    c. salts, especially sodium chloride

12. The ocean’s salinity (saltiness) varies, depending on: (choose all correct items)
    a. runoff from nearby land
    b. the amount of evaporation
    c. the amount of salt used on food by local people.

13. True or False: Marine organisms are dependent on the dissolved gases in the ocean for survival.

14. Tides are mainly the result of the gravitational pull of the:
    a. moon
    b. sun
    c. Earth
15. Ocean currents are caused by: (circle all that apply)
   a. wind patterns
   b. differences in water density caused by differences in water temperatures and salinity
   c. earthquakes

16. Oceans flow like rivers in well defined circular patterns called:
   a. currents
   b. streams
   c. seas

17. The variation in water density and wind patterns cause ocean currents. Colder water is likely to be (less / more) dense than warmer water. Water with (higher/lower) salinity is likely to be denser.

18. The Gulf Stream is one of the Earth’s strongest currents. It moves north from the tropics through the Gulf of Mexico, past the east coast of the United States and up to northern Europe. As a result, Europe is:
   a. warmer than Canada at the same latitude.
   b. colder than Canada at the same latitude.

19. The most important organisms of the ocean ecosystem are:
   a. phytoplankton
   b. dolphins
   c. whales

20. Phytoplankton are plantlike producers that get their energy:
   a. from the sun
   b. by eating other organisms

21. ____ produce much of the Earth’s oxygen.
   a. people
   b. phytoplankton

22. All ocean life depends on _______ which form the base of the ocean food web.
   a. people
   b. phytoplankton
   c. fish

23. Most (90%) of marine organisms live in the:
   a. continental shelf
   b. ocean trenches
   c. abyssal zone

24. Waves are most commonly formed by:
   a. sun
   b. wind
   c. animals
   d. salt

25. Almost all sea creatures are dependent upon:
   a. phytoplankton
   b. whales
   c. dolphins
   d. humans

26. Fishing line discarded in the ocean can:
   a. be used as food
   b. catch fish
   c. cut and kill sea creatures

27. Salt in the ocean comes from:
   a. air
   b. waves
   c. creatures
   d. the weathering of rocks and minerals

28. A _____ is a river-like movement of water within a larger body of water.
   a. reservoir
   b. current
   c. tidal pool
29. Which of the following always increases as the ocean depth increases?
   a. pressure
   b. temperature
   c. food

30. Which of the following decreases as ocean depth decreases?
   a. pressure
   b. temperature

31. Which of these geological features is created by living organisms?
   a. continental slope
   b. mid-ocean ridge
   c. ocean trench
   d. coral reef

32. Coral reefs, salt marshes, and estuaries are all:
   a. fresh water habitats
   b. marine habitats
   c. neither

The diagram above shows the ocean floor. “B” indicates the:
   d. water level
   e. continental shelf
   f. ocean trench
   g. abyssal or deep ocean plains

33. “D” indicates the:
   a. mid ocean ridge
   b. continental shelf
   c. ocean trench
   d. abyssal or deep-ocean plains

34. Which is NOT a common cause of major ocean currents?
   a. winds

35. Phytoplankton are:
   a. fish-like plankton
   b. plant-like plankton that get their energy from the sun

36. The term “marine” in marine habitat, refers to:
   a. salt water habitats
   b. fresh water habitats

37. In the ocean, as depth increases: (choose all that apply)
   a. temperature decreases
   b. pressure increases
   c. the amount of light decreases

38. Ocean water is a mixture of:
   a. air and salts (especially sodium chloride)
   b. soil and sugar

39. The salinity of the ocean depends on: (choose all that apply)
   a. evaporation
   b. runoff from the land
   c. the type of fish living in the area

40. Plant-like plankton or phytoplankton: (choose all that apply)
   a. produce much of the Earth’s oxygen
   b. serve as the base of the ocean ecosystem
   c. flourish in areas where nutrient rich water upwells from the deep
   d. are eaten by animal-like plankton, swimming organisms and those things that life on the ocean bottom
   e. live primarily in the deepest parts of the ocean
41. Which of the following commonly has a negative impact the ocean environment? (circle all)
   a. discarded plastic can holders
   b. salinity
   c. estuaries
   d. old discarded fishing nets
   e. chemical runoff
   f. currents
   g. rivers
   h. streams
   i. marine biologists

42. People can positively impact the environment by:
   a. improved monitoring of marine populations
   b. bans on hunting or harming certain marine mammals
   c. limits on catches of stressed populations
   d. greater emphasis on pollution prevention

43. These forms of pollution can greatly affect marine life.
   a. insecticide and herbicide runoff
   b. garbage dumped at sea
   c. untreated sewage from cities
   d. excess farm and lawn fertilizer
   e. acid rain