**Ocean Zones, Ocean Life**

**Earth Science**

Q: How do oceanographers (scientists who study the ocean) classify different regions of the ocean?

**I) The ocean floor:**

Describe the differences between the Continental shelf, the Continental slope, deep-ocean trenches, and abyssal plains. You are welcome to use a diagram in your response.

**II) Ocean Temperature and Pressure:**

What is a thermocline?

What is a pycnocline?

Where in the ocean are the thermocline and pycnocline absent?

**III) Ocean Layers:**

What is the Mixed Zone of the ocean?

What happens in the Transition Zone of the ocean?

Describe what the ocean Deep Zone would be like if you visited it.

**IV) Types of Ocean Life:**

What is the definition of Plankton? Give three examples of Plankton.

How are Phytoplankton different from Zooplankton?

How are Nektons different from Plankton? Give three examples of Nektons.

What are Benthos? Give three examples of Benthos.

**V) Ocean Life Zones:**

*Availability of Sunlight—*

Explain the differences between the Aphotic Zone, the Euphotic Zone, and the Photic Zone

*Distance from Shore—*

Describe where each of the following zones is found, and what forms of life are found there

Intertidal Zone:

Neritic Zone:

Oceanic Zone:

*Water Depth—*

Describe where each of the following zones is found, and what forms of life are found there

Benthic Zone:

Pelagic Zone:

Abyssal Zone:

What do scientists mean when they talk about ocean “productivity”?

Which ocean is more productive, Polar or Tropical? Why?