



Oceanography

- Oceans cover about 71% of Earth's surface.
- Oceanography is the scientific study of oceans.
- ICES is headquartered in Copenhagen.
- Five major ocean floor divisions are continental shelf, continental slope, continental rise, abyssal plain and ocean deeps or trenches.
- Continental shelf extends up to about 200 metres depth and covers about 7-8% of total ocean area.
- Continental slope extends from about 200 metres to 3000-3500 metres depth.
- Abyssal plains lie between 3000 and 6000 metres and cover roughly 40% of the ocean floor.
- Mariana Trench in the Pacific Ocean is the deepest known trench, exceeding 11 Km.
- Continental rise has a gradient of about 0.5° to 1° and merges with abyssal plain.
- Seamounts rise more than 1000 metres from the ocean floor but do not reach the surface.
- Guyots are flat-topped submerged volcanic mountains.
- Hudson Canyon is the best-known submarine canyon.






- Ocean deposits are classified by location, depth and sediment composition.
- Terrigenous deposits come from land; biogenous deposits come from marine organisms.
- Hydrogenous deposits are chemically precipitated from seawater; cosmogenic deposits come from extraterrestrial material.
- Marginal seas are partly enclosed by land and connected to the main ocean.
- The main source of ocean heat is insolation.
- Average ocean surface temperature is about 26°C-27°C.
- Thermocline is the layer where temperature decreases rapidly with depth.
- Average ocean salinity is about 35 ppt.
- Salinity is highest around 20°-30° latitude where evaporation exceeds precipitation.
- Halocline is the layer where salinity changes sharply with depth.
- Pycnocline is the layer where density increases rapidly with depth.
- Temperature and density have an inverse relationship; salinity and density have a direct relationship.




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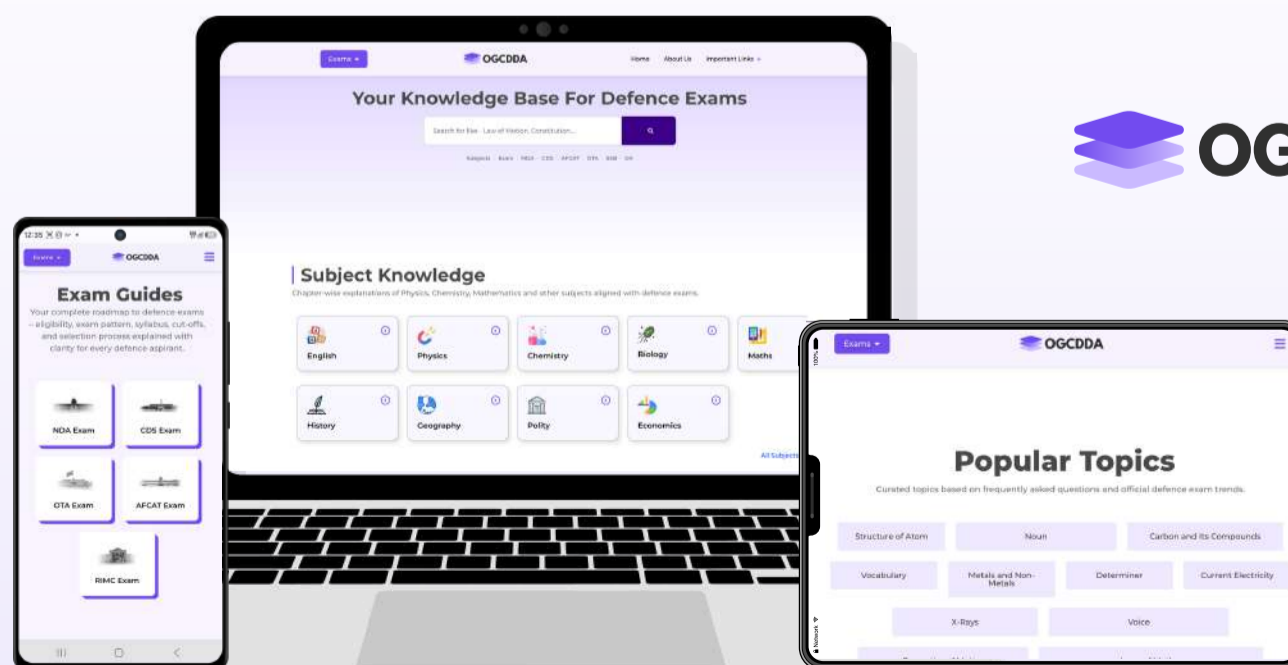
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