

Preface xiii

Prologue xvii

The Earth System	xvii
Time and Space	xviii
Earth System Catastrophes	xx
Change, Stability, Instability, and Metastability	xx
The Scientific Method	xxi
The Advance of Technology	xxii
 Summary	 xxii
Key Terms	xxiii
Selected References	xxiii



The Origins of Oceanography 1

Ancient Seafarers	1
Ancient European Knowledge of the Ocean	6
Medieval European Ocean Exploration	6
Chinese Ocean Exploration	7

European Seafaring in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Centuries	8
Systematic Ocean Exploration	10
American Ocean Exploration	14
Modern Global Ocean Studies	16
Oceanic Field Experiments	17
Future Ocean Science	20
The Law of the Sea	20

Media Box: Polynesian Navigation—Using Winds, Currents, and Stars 22

Summary 22

Key Terms 23

Study Questions 23

Selected References 23

 **Box 1-1** Christopher Columbus and the “Discovery” of America 11

 **Box 1-2** Underwater Archaeology 16

2 Earth and Its Ocean 25

Formation of the Universe and Galaxies 25

Origin of Planets 26

Origin of Life 29

Land and Ocean 30

The World Beneath the Sea 36

Pacific Ocean 42

Atlantic Ocean 45

Indian Ocean 46

Southern Ocean 47

Marginal Ocean Basins 47

Media Box: Meteorites, Earth, the Ocean, and Life 49

Summary 50

Key Terms 50

Study Questions 50

Selected References 51

 **Box 2-1** Exploring Ocean Basins 34

 **Box 2-2** Killer Volcanoes 38



3 Plate Tectonics 53

Earth's Interior Structure 53

Plate Tectonics 56

Formation and Destruction of Ocean Basins 72

History of Ocean Basins 74

Media Box: Exploring the Deep-Ocean Floor 81

Summary 82

Key Terms 82

Study Questions 83

Selected References 83

 **Box 3-1** Plate Tectonic Theory—History of a Scientific Revolution 58

4 Seawater 85

The Molecular Structure of Water 85

Salinity 93

Density and Stability 93

Conservative and Nonconservative

Properties of Seawater 96

Salinity Effects 96

Dissolved Gases 97

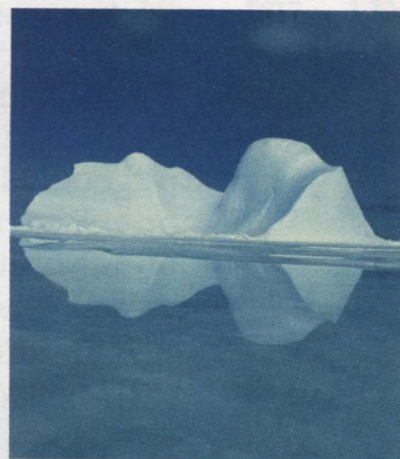
Acidity and Alkalinity 97

The Carbon Cycle 98

Processes Controlling Sea Salt Composition 99

The Ancient Mediterranean Salinity Crisis 102

Resources from Seawater 102



Media Box: Chlorine: An Environmental Hazard? 104

Summary 104

Key Terms 105

Study Questions 105

Selected References 105

 **Box 4-1** Sound in the Ocean 94

 **Box 4-2** Kuwaiti Oil Spill 101

5 Sediments 107

Sources of Sediment Particles 107

Particle Transport 118

Sea Level and Sediment Deposits 123

Deep-Sea Sediments 124

Sediments on Continental Margins 124

Beaches 125

Deltas 127
Ocean History Recorded in Sediment Deposits 130
Resources from Sediments 132

Media Box: Sediment Records of the Ice Ages 133

Summary 133

Key Terms 134

Study Questions 134

Selected References 135

 **Box 5-1** Oil and Gas from the Sea Floor 116

 **Box 5-2** Earth Catastrophes 131

6 The Atmosphere 137

Atmospheric Components 137

Atmospheric Structure 139

Heat Budgets 141

Winds on a Water-Covered, Nonrotating Earth 145

Winds on a Rotating Earth 145

Weather Systems 151

Seasonal Wind Patterns 157

Wind Patterns over Land 159

Media Box: Hurricane Predictions 161

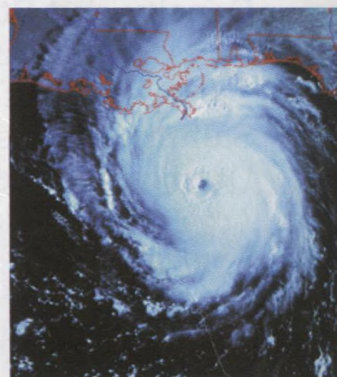
Summary 161

Key Terms 162

Study Questions 162

Selected References 162

 **Box 6-1** The Gaia Hypothesis 146



7 Ocean and Climate 165

Warming and Cooling the Ocean 165

Water and Heat Budgets 172

Oceanic Depth Zones 174

Sea Ice 180

Oceanic Climate Regions 186

El Niños 191

Media Box: Monitoring Global Ocean Changes 195

Summary 195

Key Terms 196

Study Questions 196
Selected References 196

 **Box 7-1** El Niños and Mt. Pinatubo 193

8 Currents 199

Open-Ocean Surface Currents 200
Boundary Currents 205
Upwelling and Downwelling 212
Thermohaline Circulation 215
Ancient Current Patterns 221

Media Box: Ocean Currents from Space 225
Summary 226
Key Terms 226
Study Questions 227
Selected References 227

 **Box 8-1** Predicting Currents and Ocean Conditions 200

 **Box 8-2** The Bermuda Triangle and Mysterious Sinkings 207

9 Waves 229

Simple Waves 230
Ocean Waves 232
Forces Causing Ocean-Surface Waves 233
Waves in Shallow Water 240
Tsunamis 243
Standing Waves 244
Storm Surges 245
Internal Waves 247
Waves on Beaches 249

Media Box: Waves and Offshore Structures 252
Summary 252
Key Terms 253
Study Questions 253
Selected References 253

 **Box 9-1** Energy from Waves 234



10 Tides 255

Types of Tides 257
Tide-Generating Forces 260
Open-Ocean Tides 265

Tidal Currents 267
Coastal-Ocean Tides 271

Media Box: Observing Open-Ocean Tides 273
Summary 274
Key Terms 274
Study Questions 274
Selected References 275

 **Box 10-1** Energy from Tides 262

11 Oceanic Life and Ecosystems 277

Oceanic Habitats and Life-Styles 277
Ecosystems 283
Food Chains and Food Webs 285
Primary Production 286
Distribution of Production 292
The Effects of Life Processes on the Ocean 293

Media Box: Subterranean Ecosystems 298
Summary 298
Key Terms 299
Study Questions 299
Selected References 299



12 Open-Ocean Plankton and Nekton 301

Plankton 302
Nekton 313
Marine Mammals 319
Seabirds 322
Marine Reptiles 325
Open-Ocean Life Strategies 327

Media Box: Threatened Basking Sharks 335
Summary 336
Key Terms 336
Study Questions 336
Selected References 337

 **Box 12-1** Red Tides 308
 **Box 12-2** Fish and Food Chains 332
 **Box 12-3** Dangerous Marine Animals 334

Benthic Life	339
Intertidal Zone	340
Kelp	352
Oyster Reefs	355
Coral Reefs	356
Deep-Ocean Benthos	361

<i>Media Box: Oil Spills and Benthic Communities</i>	365
Summary	366
Key Terms	366
Study Questions	367
Selected References	367

-  **Box 13-1** Mariculture of Benthic Organisms 344
-  **Box 13-2** Diseases of Benthic Organisms 349
-  **Box 13-3** Coral Bleaching and Global Warming 360

Coasts, Coastal Oceans, and Large Lakes 369

Shorelines	370
Coastal Currents	377
Coastal-Water Temperature and Salinity	378
Estuaries and Fjords	378
Circulation in Estuaries and Fjords	380
Lagoons	383
Upwelling	385
Environmental Problems in Coastal Waters	387
Chesapeake Bay	389
San Francisco Bay	392
Enclosed and Semi-Enclosed Seas	395
The North American Great Lakes	397

<i>Media Box: Coastal Fisheries</i>	400
Summary	400
Key Terms	401
Study Questions	401
Selected References	401

-  **Box 14-1** Oil Spills 390



15 The Ocean on a Changing Earth 403

Global Climate Change	403
Assessing the Global Carbon Cycle	408
Climate Predictions	408
Severe Tropical Storms and the Greenhouse Effect	410
Oceanic Responses to Ozone Holes	411
Protecting the Commons	413
Destruction of Coral Reefs	417
Biodiversity	419
Exotic Organisms	420
Increasing Human Populations	421

Media Box: Cod and Tuna Wars 425

Summary 425

Key Terms 426

Study Questions 426

Selected References 426

 **Box 15-1** Global Warming = Global Insurance Problem? 411

 **Box 15-2** Plastic Litter 422

 **Box 15-2** Model Studies 424

Appendix 1: Conversion Factors 429

Appendix 2: Useful Data about Earth and Its Oceans 431

Appendix 3: Presenting Data 435

Appendix 4: Careers in Oceanography 441

Appendix 5: Classification of Marine Organisms 443

Appendix 6: People in Oceanography 445

Appendix 7: Geologic Time Scale 447

Glossary 449

Index 464