

VII. Read the following passage and mark the letter A, B, C or D on your answer sheet to indicate the correct answer to each of the following questions.

If the salinity of ocean waters is analyzed, it is found to vary only slightly from place to place. Nevertheless, some of these small changes are important. There are three basic processes that cause a change in oceanic salinity. One of these is the subtraction of water from the ocean by means of evaporation – conversion of liquid water to water vapor. In this manner, the salinity is increased, since the salt is left behind. If **this** is carried to the extreme, of course, white crystals of salt would be left behind.

The opposite of evaporation is precipitation, such as rain, by which water is added to the ocean. Here the ocean is being diluted so that the salinity is decreased. This may occur in areas of high rainfall or in coastal regions where rivers flow into the ocean. Thus salinity may be increased by the subtraction of water by evaporation, or decreased by the addition of fresh water by precipitation or runoff.

Normally, in tropical regions where the sun is very strong, the ocean salinity is somewhat higher than it is in other parts of the world where there is not as much evaporation. Similarly, in coastal regions where rivers dilute the sea, salinity is somewhat lower than in other oceanic areas.

A third process by which salinity may be **altered** is associated with the formation and melting of sea ice. When seawater is frozen, the dissolved materials are left behind. In this manner, seawater directly beneath freshly formed sea ice has a higher salinity than it did before the ice appeared. Of course, when this ice melts, it will tend to decrease the salinity of the surrounding water.

In the Weddell Sea, off Antarctica, the densest water in the ocean is formed as a result of this freezing process, which increases the salinity of cold water. This heavy water sinks and is found in the deeper portions of the oceans of the world.

35. What does the passage mainly discuss?

- A. The many forms of ocean life
- B. The bodies of water of the world
- C. The elements of salt
- D. The salinity of ocean water

36. The word "**this**" in paragraph 1 refers to _____.

- A. crystals
- B. salinity
- C. evaporation
- D. ocean

37. According to the passage, the ocean generally has more salt in _____.

- A. coastal areas
- B. tropical areas
- C. rainy areas
- D. turbulent areas

38. The word "**altered**" in paragraph 4 is closest in meaning to _____.

- A. determined
- B. needed
- C. accumulated
- D. changed

39. Why does the author mention the Weddell Sea?

- A. To point out the location of deep water
- B. To show that this body of water has salinity variations
- C. To give an example of increased salinity due to freezing
- D. To compare Antarctic water with Arctic water

40. Which of the following is **NOT** a result of the formation of ocean ice?

- A. The surrounding water sinks
- B. The water becomes denser
- C. The salt remains in the water
- D. Water salinity decreases

THE END