

Chapter 14 The Ocean Floor

Section 14.2 Ocean Floor Features

This section discusses the features found in the three main regions of Earth's ocean floor.

Reading Strategy

Outlining In the outline, use the green headings as the main topics and the blue headings as subtopics. As you read, add supporting details. For more information on this Reading Strategy, see the **Reading and Study Skills** in the **Skills and Reference Handbook** at the end of your textbook.

I. Continental Margins
A. Continental Shelf
B. Continental Slope
C. _____
II. _____
A. _____

1. 🗣️ What are the three ocean floor regions that have their own unique characteristics? _____

Continental Margins

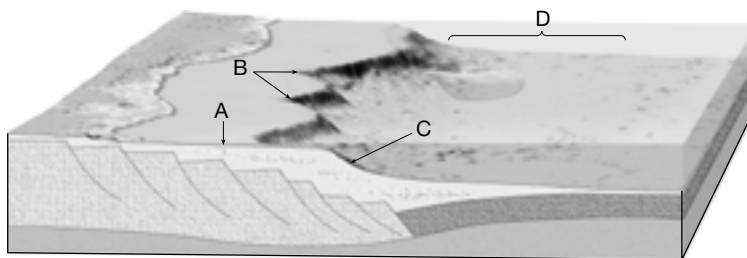
2. A(n) _____ can best be described as a transition zone between an ocean basin floor and a continent.
3. 🗣️ What covers the Atlantic Ocean's continental margin?

4. 🗣️ Is the following sentence true or false? The continental margin of the Pacific Ocean has very little volcanic or earthquake activity.

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5. Write the letter of each of the following features of the continental margin shown in the figure.

- _____ submarine canyon
- _____ continental slope
- _____ continental shelf
- _____ continental rise



6. What economic and political significance do continental shelves have? _____

7. Circle the letter of occasional movements down the continental slope of dense water rich in sediment.

- a. submarine flows
- b. turbidity currents
- c. continental rises
- d. guyots

Ocean Basin Floor

8. Is the following sentence true or false? The area covered by the ocean basin floor is comparable to the percentage of land on Earth's surface that is above sea level. _____

Match each description with its ocean feature.

Description	Ocean Feature
_____ 9. submerged volcanic peak	a. abyssal plain
_____ 10. submerged, flat-topped peak	b. guyot
_____ 11. crease in the ocean floor formed where one plate plunges beneath another	c. seamount
_____ 12. flat feature formed when suspended sediments settle from turbidity currents	d. trench

Mid-Ocean Ridges

13. Circle the letter of the location where new ocean floor forms.

- a. mid-ocean ridge
- b. trench
- c. continental shelf
- d. continental rise

14. _____ is the moving apart of two plates at divergent plate boundaries.