

“The Ocean”

Reading Comprehension – Short Stories

Directions: Read the story. Then answer the questions below.

The ocean is big.

The ocean is blue.

The ocean is made of water.

The ocean has waves.

Some waves are small. Some waves are very small. They are **tiny**!

Some waves are big. Some waves are very big. They are **huge**!

In some places, the ocean is very **deep**.

In those places, you cannot see the bottom.



Questions:

1) Is the ocean small or big?

- A. The ocean is small.
- B. The ocean is big.

2) What color is the ocean?

- A. blue
- B. yellow
- C. brown

3) What is the ocean made of?

- A. air
- B. water
- C. fire

4) What does **tiny** mean?

- A. small
- B. very small
- C. big
- D. very big

Answers and Explanations

- 1) **B**
The first line of the passage says, “The ocean is big.” Therefore **(B)** is correct. Since the ocean is big, it is not small. Therefore **(A)** is incorrect.
- 2) **A**
Near the beginning, the passage says, “The ocean is blue.” Therefore **(A)** is correct. The passage does not provide information to support answer choices **(B)** and **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 3) **B**
Near the middle, the passage says, “The ocean is made of water.” Therefore **(B)** is correct. The story does not provide information to support answer choices **(A)** and **(C)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 4) **B**
Near the middle, the passage says, “Some waves are very small. They are tiny!” We can understand from this information that *tiny* means very small. Therefore **(B)** is correct. Tiny is not just small, it is very small, so **(A)** is incorrect. Tiny is very small, and small is the opposite of big, so this rules out **(C)** and **(D)**. Therefore they are incorrect.
- 5) **D**
In the middle, the passage says, “Some waves are very big. They are huge!” We can understand from this that huge means very big. Therefore **(D)** is correct. Huge means very big. Small is the opposite of big, so this means **(A)** and **(B)** are incorrect. Huge means very big, not just big, so **(C)** is incorrect.
- 6) **B**
At the end, the passage says, “In some places, the ocean is very deep. In those places, you cannot see the bottom.” We can understand from this that you cannot see the bottom of the ocean in places that are very deep. Therefore **(B)** is correct. The passage does not provide information to support answer choice **(A)**. Therefore it is incorrect. The passage does say that the ocean has big waves and small waves, but it does not say that you cannot see the bottom of the ocean because of the waves. Therefore **(C)** is incorrect.
- 7) **B**
Near the beginning, the passage says, “The ocean is blue.” This supports **option (I)**. Near the end, the passage says, “In some places, the ocean is very deep.” This supports **option (II)**. The passage does not say that the ocean is happy. This eliminates **option (III)**. Therefore **(B)** is correct.
- 8) **C**
In the middle, the passage says, “Some waves are big.” This supports **option (I)**. Then it says, “Some waves are very big. They are huge!” We can understand from this that some waves are huge. This supports **option (II)**. The passage also says, “Some waves are very small. They are tiny!” We can understand from this that some waves are tiny. This supports **option (III)**. Therefore **(C)** is correct.