2000-00

Oceans 11 - Graphing Lab - Water

The following data represents actual measurements taken at a particular location in the Pacific Ocean.

Procedure

Using the data included here, and suitable graph paper, plot the following 3 graphs:

- 1. Temperature (x) vs Depth (y)
- 2. Salinity (x) vs Depth (y)
- 3. Density (x) vs Depth (y)

Then answer the questions below.

| Depth (m) | Temperature(c) | Salinity (ppt) | Density (g/cm) |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 0 (surface) | 17.6 | 34.8 | 25.0 |
| 100 | 16.9 | 34.2 | 25.2 |
| 200 | 11.8 | 34.1 | 26.0 |
| 300 | 9.6 | 34.1 | 26.3 |
| 400 | 7.7 | 34.0 | 26.6 |
| 500 | 6.6 | 34.0 | 26.8 |
| 600 | 5.9 | 34.0 | 27.0 |
| 700 | 5.0 | 34.2 | 27.1 |
| 800 | 4.4 | 34.3 | 27.2 |
| 900 | 4.0 | 34.3 | 27.2 |
| 1000 | 3.6 | 34.4 | 27.4 |

• ppt means parts per thousand

Questions:

- 1. For each of the three graphs state the relationship between the two variables. For example, in the first graph does temperature increase or decrease as depth increases.
- 2. Why do you think salinity and temperature are highest at the ocean's surface?
- 3. Which has the greatest effect on density, salinity or temperature. Why do you think that?
- 4. Do you think this experimental data was collected near the equator or far from it. Why do you think that?
- 5. Do you think this experimental data was collected close the the coast or far from it? Why do you think that?