

MAJOR SURFACE CURRENTS OF OUR OCEANS NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ HR\_\_

1. Using a red and blue pencil, label each current arrow as either cold (blue) or red (warm)
2. What 3 things influence the currents in our oceans? (p 519)

1

2

3

1. Why does the North pacific current head straight for America, but then bend south and to the right?
2. In yellow pencil draw arrows indicating the Northern Hemisphere gyre in the Atlantic.
3. In green pencil draw arrows indicating the Southern Hemisphere gyre in the Atlantic.
4. How does the direction of current flow differ in the northern and southern hemispheres?
5. The North equatorial and South Equatorial both move what direction?
6. What weak current flows between and opposite to these currents?
7. What relationship does the North Equatorial have with the gulf stream?
8. Why does Northwestern Europe have a far warmer climate than regions of Canada at the same latitude?
9. When the Oyashio comes Southwest and hits Japan, what current will it likely join? How will its temperature change? How will it’s direction change?

1

2

3

1. Which current can go all the way around the Earth without interruption?
2. Why are all equatorial currents warm?
3. In general, cold currents (blue) coming from Antarctica become warm (red) as they move north. Why?