

PLANKTON DECLINE READING

NAME _____ HR _____

1. What is the rate of decline of plankton?
2. What is the base of the marine food chain?
3. "The oceans are becoming more stratified." What does stratified mean?
4. What is phytoplankton?
5. What is zooplankton?
6. What does zooplankton eat?
7. How far do you lower a Secchi disk?
8. If it takes a short time for the Secchi disk to disappear, what does that mean about the amount of plankton in the water?
9. If it takes a long time for the Secchi disk to disappear, what does that mean about the amount of plankton in the water?
10. What was the sample size for Secchi disks from the years 1899-2008?
11. Since 1950, how much has plankton declined?
12. The warm phase, El nino, would result in higher or lower plankton growth?
13. The cold phase, La nina, would result in higher or lower plankton growth?
14. Because there is less phytoplankton (the ones that do photosynthesis), that will actually lead to more global warming. Why?
15. How much oxygen does the ocean's phytoplankton make?
16. What gas does phytoplankton pull out of the air?
17. What does it mean, "phytoplankton support all our fisheries"?
18. Why would a decrease in plankton mean "less fish in the oceans over time"?