

2007英语四级备战之四级阅读(一) PDF转换可能丢失图片或格式，建议阅读原文

[https://www.100test.com/kao\\_ti2020/294/2021\\_2022\\_2007\\_E8\\_8B\\_B1\\_E8\\_AF\\_AD\\_c67\\_294495.htm](https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/294/2021_2022_2007_E8_8B_B1_E8_AF_AD_c67_294495.htm) Oceanography has been defined as "The application of all sciences to the study of the sea". Before the nineteenth century, scientists with an interest in the sea were few and far between. Certainly Newton considered some theoretical aspects of it in his writings, but he was reluctant to go to sea to further his work. For most people the sea was remote, and with the exception of early intercontinental travelers or others who earned a living from the sea, there was little reason to ask many questions about it, let alone to ask what lay beneath the surface. The first time that question "What is at the bottom of the oceans?" had to be answered with any commercial consequence was when the laying of a telegraph cable from Europe to America was proposed. The engineers had to know the depth profile (起伏形状) of the route to estimate the length of cable that had to be manufactured. It was to Maury of the US Navy that the Atlantic Telegraph Company turned, in 1853, for information on this matter. In the 1840s, Maury had been responsible for encouraging voyages during which soundings (测身) were taken to investigate the depths of the North Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Later, some of his findings aroused much popular interest in his book *The Physical Geography of the Sea*. The cable was laid, but not until 1866 was the connection made permanent and reliable. At the early attempts, the cable failed and when it was taken out for repairs it was found to be covered in living growths, a fact

which defied contemporary scientific opinion that there was no life in the deeper parts of the sea. Within a few years oceanography was under way. In 1872 Thomson led a scientific expedition(考察), which lasted for four years and brought home thousands of samples from the sea. Their classification and analysis occupied scientists for years and led to a five-volume report, the last volume being published in 1895.<sup>21</sup> The passage implies that the telegraph cable was built mainly \_\_\_\_\_.A) for oceanographic studiesB) for military purposesC) for business considerationsD) for investigating the depths of the oceans<sup>22</sup>. It was \_\_\_\_\_ that asked Maury for help in oceanographic studies.A) the American NavyB) some early intercontinental travellersC) those who earned a living from the seaD) the company which proposed to lay an undersea cable<sup>23</sup>. The aim of voyages Maury encouraged in the 1840s was \_\_\_\_\_.A) to make some sound experiments in the oceansB) to collect samples of sea plants and animalsC) to estimate the length of cable that was to be madeD) to measure the depths of two oceans<sup>24</sup>. Defied in the 5th paragraph probably means \_\_\_\_\_.A) doubtedB) gave proof toC) challengedD) agreed to<sup>25</sup>. This passage is mainly about \_\_\_\_\_.A) the beginnings of oceanographyB) the laying of the first undersea cableC) the investigation of ocean depthsD) the early intercontinental communications

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