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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/622/2021_2022_2010_E5_B9_B4_E8_81_8C_c91_622195.htm Explorer of the Extreme Deep

Oceans cover more than two-thirds of our planet. Yet , just a small fraction of the underwater world has been explored. Now

, Scientists at the Woods Hole¹ Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) in Massachusetts are building an underwater vehicle that will carry explorers as deep as 6,500 meters (21,320 feet). The new machine , known as a manned submersible or human-operated vehicle (HOV) , will replace another one named Alvin² which has an amazing record of discovery , playing a key role in various important and famous undersea expeditions. Alvin has been operating for 40 years but can go down only 4,500 meters (14,784 feet). It ' s about time for an upgrade , WHOI researchers say. Alvin was launched in 1964. Since then , Alvin has worked between 200 and 250 days a year , says Daniel Fornari , a marine geologist and director of the Deep Ocean Exploration Institute at WHOI. During its lifetime , Alvin has carried some 12,000 people on a total of more than 3,000 dives. A newer , better version of Alvin is bound to reveal even more surprises about a world that is still full of mysteries , Fornari says. It might also make the job of exploration a little easier. “ We take so much for granted on land, ” Fornari says. “ We can walk around and see with our eyes how big things are. We can see colors , special arrangements. ” Size-wise , the new HOV will be similar to Alvin. It ' ll be about 37 feet long. The setting area inside

will be a small sphere , about 8 feet wide , like Alvin , it ' ll carry a pilot and two passengers.It will be just as maneuverable.In most other ways , it will give passengers more opportunities to enjoy the view , for one thing.Alvin has only three windows , the new vehicle will have five , with more overlap so that the passengers and the pilot can see the same thing. Alvin can go up and down at a rate of 30 meters every second , and its maximum speed is 2 knots (about 2.3 miles per hour) , while the new vehicle will be able to ascend and descend at 44 meters per second.It ' ll reach speeds of 3 knots , or 3.5 miles per hour. 词汇 : fraction/5frAkFEn/n.一部分 dive/daiv/v.amp. n. 重叠 upgrade/5Qp^reid/n.升级 ascend/E5send/ v.上升 geologist/dVi5CIEdVist/n.地质学家 注释 : 1. Woods Hole : 美国马萨诸塞州的一个渔村 , 但同时拥有许多重要研究机构 , 如 : the Marine Biological Laboratory , the Sea Education Association以及the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution。 2. Alvin : 世界上第一个深海潜水器 , 它最有名的深海探测包括1986年对泰坦尼克号残骸的测量工作。 练习 : 1. What is Alvin? A A research institute. B A transporting vehicle. C A submersible. D A scientist. 2. Which of the following statements is NOT a fact about Alvin? A h can carry explorers as deep as 6,500 meters. B It has played a key role in various important undersea expeditions C It was launched in the sixties of the twentieth century. D It has been used for more than 40 years. 3. “ ...a world that is still full of mysteries ” refers to A the earth. B out space. C the ocean. D Mars. 4. In what aspects are the new HOV and Alvin similar? A Size. B Speed. C Capacity. D Shape. 5. In what aspects are the new HOV

and Alvin different? A Offering better views. B Speed. C Size. D Both A and B. 答案与题解： 1. C 短文第一段的第四、第五句提供了答案 2. A 文章第一段从第三句开始说，科学家正在研制一艘可将研究人员带到6 500米深处的潜水装置，而它将替代Alvin，因为Alvin只能潜到4 500米深处。A不是事实，所以是正确选择。 3. C 本文讨论探索海底世界的潜水装置，所以“充满神秘色彩的世界”指的就是海洋。 4. D 第三段的头三个句子告诉我们，HOV和Alvin在体积上和容量上相似。所以D是正确选择。 5. D 第三段最后两句告诉我们，Alvin只有三个窗户，而HOV有五个。最后一段告诉我们，两艘潜水装置的上下活动速度和行进速度有所差别。所以D是正确选择。 相关推荐：把职称英语页面加入收藏 2009年职称英语考试成绩查询 汇总 2009年职称英语考试试题及答案点评专题 编辑推荐：为帮助广大学员有效备考，我们特推出了职称英语2010年网络辅导课程,相信会让大家有耳目一新的视听感受。现在报名职称英语辅导，赠送2009年精品课程及考试E币。点击查看详情》 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com