

Scoring rubric for ocean literacy survey:

Question: Describe an oceanic environment that you find interesting and the ecosystem in that environment.

**0:** An answer gets a zero if it is simply a one-word answer without any explanation or if it is irrelevant or incorrect

Examples:

- Coral Reef
- The Beach
- I like to SCUBA dive
- I am not sure about the oceanic environment

**1:** An answer will get a one if it names an ecosystem and names a few components, but leaves out important links or interactions within the ecosystem. It will also get a one if it mentions that a particular ecosystem is diverse.

Examples:

- Coral reef because it is beautiful and amazing and houses lots of types of fish.
- Kelp, because it has so much diversity and biomass, even more than coral reefs.

**2:** A 'two' answer mentions the ecosystem and the components, as well as the interactions among the different components that make up the ecosystem. Another type of answer that would get a two is one that is very detailed and well put, but is incorrect in a small detail (see last example below).

Examples:

- Coral Reefs: Coral filter the water and provide havens for the fish, some fish clean the coral.
- Deep sea ecosystems. Bacteria harness energy from deep sea vents. Food chain built around bacteria as producers.
- Coastal wetlands. Wetlands are great buffer systems holding thousands of species of plants & animals, provide important breeding grounds and help control flooding.
- Coral reef ... in a coral reef there are a diverse amount of wildlife that depend on each other to survive. Coral -> urchin -> (keystone predator) sea otter {If coral was changed to kelp, this answer would be a '3' answer }

**3:** An answer that gets a three is one that contains a specific ecosystem, its components, as well as major linkages in the ecosystem and is well worded and concise.

Example:

- Marshes, they consist of spartina and have oyster beds. They are filters for our oceans and the breeding ground for juvenile fish & marine animals. Marshes are essential to the interconnected marine ecosystem.

- Deep sea vents; giant clams filter the water, blind crabs scavenge from bodies that fall from the ocean, tube worms & bacteria (probably domain Archaea) feed off minerals like iron sulfide from the vents.

**Scoring Results:**

231 total responses.

195 responses graded indentially

All responses were within 1 point between graders

Brandon scored 1 point higher than Ray 11 times.

Ray scored 1 point higher than Brandon 25 times.