1. Submarine Topography

The Japanese Islands are scattered in shape, and are located on the boundary between the Asian and the Pacific plates. To the continental shelf, there are marginal seas such as the Sea of Okhotsk, the Japan Sea and the East China Sea, and in the Pacific, trenches parallel to the island arc are present, such as the Japan Trench and the Philippine Trench. Ocean floor mainly devoid of relief extends from the trenches.

The abyssal floor to the continental shelf is about 300 m in depth. The continental shelf, which extends from the coast, has a width of about 100 km. The continental slope, which is the area between the shelf and the down-slope, is about 1,000 m in depth. Between the continental slope and the slope of the trench, there are areas several hundred meters deep. The region with depths over 3,000 m is the ocean floor.

The Japan Sea can be divided into three regions: the Japan Basin, the Sea of Japan, and the East China Sea. The Japan Basin is the easternmost region of the Japan Sea, where the abyssal floor is undulated, and the Sea of Japan is the northern region of the Japan Sea, where the abyssal floor is relatively flat. The East China Sea is the southern region of the Japan Sea, where the abyssal floor is undulated.

On the ocean floor, many troughs are found. These troughs are called trenches. The trenches are divided into two types: the Japan Trench and the Philippine Trench. The Japan Trench is located in the western Pacific Ocean, while the Philippine Trench is located in the western Pacific Ocean as well. These trenches are the deepest parts of the ocean floor.

Trenches such as the Japan Trench and the Philippine Trench are located on the Pacific plate, while the trenches in the Sea of Japan are located on the Eurasian plate. The trenches are steep and narrow, with depths exceeding 10,000 m.

The ocean floor is composed of sediments, rocks, and other materials. The sediments are classified into two types: the continental shelf and the deep sea floor. The continental shelf is covered with sedimentary rocks, while the deep sea floor is covered with igneous rocks.

The sediments on the continental shelf are composed of sand, silt, and clay. The sediments on the deep sea floor are composed of basaltic glass and volcanic ash.

The depth of the ocean floor varies greatly, from shallow areas near the coasts to deep areas near the trenches. The ocean floor is divided into two zones: the continental shelf and the deep sea floor.

The continental shelf is the area between the land and the ocean, where the water depth is less than 200 m. The deep sea floor is the area where the water depth is greater than 200 m.

2. Submarine Geology

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3. Currents, Sea Temperature and Salinity (Winter, Summer)

The sea temperature and salinity vary throughout the year. In the winter, the sea temperature is lower and the salinity is higher due to the cold fronts and the evaporation of the sea surface. In the summer, the sea temperature is higher and the salinity is lower due to the warm currents and the precipitation.

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4. Ocean Currents

The ocean currents are divided into two types: the surface currents and the deep current. The surface currents are driven by the wind, while the deep currents are driven by the density differences in the water column.

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5. Tides

The tidal range varies throughout the year. In the winter, the tidal range is higher due to the cold fronts and the evaporation of the sea surface. In the summer, the tidal range is lower due to the warm currents and the precipitation.

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6. Ocean Bottom

The ocean floor is composed of sediments, rocks, and other materials. The sediments are classified into two types: the continental shelf and the deep sea floor. The continental shelf is covered with sedimentary rocks, while the deep sea floor is covered with igneous rocks.

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The depth of the ocean floor varies greatly, from shallow areas near the coasts to deep areas near the trenches. The ocean floor is divided into two zones: the continental shelf and the deep sea floor.

The continental shelf is the area between the land and the ocean, where the water depth is less than 200 m. The deep sea floor is the area where the water depth is greater than 200 m.