

MASTER BEDTIME TALE: DEEP SIX THE OPALS OR MUTINY

STANDARD KNOWLEDGE - Physics

Foundational

- Objects and materials are solid, liquid, or gas.
- Solids have a definite shape; liquids and gases take the shape of their container.

Elementary

- As liquid fills the shape of its container, it is most deep where the container is deepest (term?). It is most shallow where the container is flattest.

STANDARD QUESTION

On his last voyage, Annie's father (the Captain) had to deep-six a casket of Australian black opals in "the deepest part of the ocean." *Many of the crew believed that opals were evil and would curse the voyage causing some terrible disaster. Although he hid them from them, the crew had somehow learned he had them and made him throw them overboard on threat of mutiny. He had used all his retirement savings to buy them, and thus lost his hope of a comfortable retirement.*

Although they knew that Captain Chase left Australia for New Bedford, The family was never sure where this "deepest part of the ocean" might be. Amy was sure it had to be midway between Australia and New Bedford. Why was she wrong?

- A. no body of water is ever the deepest exactly in the middle**
- B. it would depend on how shallow or deep the container of land was**

see also:

Mathematics: Measuring the Deepest Ocean

Literature: The Literature of the Deepest Ocean

Social Sciences: The Economics of the Deepest Ocean