OCEAN LIFE ZONES

Name____________________________________ Class ______

1. Ocean life is determined by many factors. List three and explain:
   a. SUNLIGHT - most animals live near the surface - more sunlight
   b. TEMPERATURE - most animals live near the surface - warmer
   c. WATER PRESSURE - most animals live near the surface - less water pressure

2. Animals and plants in the ocean can be classified into three major groups. List and explain:
   a. PLANKTON - very small animals that float on or near surface
   b. NEKTON - animals that swim
   c. BENTHOS - animals that live on the ocean floor

3. List and describe the major ocean life zones:
   a. INTERTIDAL - lies between low- and high-tide lines
   b. NERITIC - extends from low-tide line to end of continental shelf
   c. OPEN OCEAN - lies above the continental slope or on the abyssal plain
      i. BATHYAL - begins at continental slope down about 2000 meters
      ii. ABYSSAL - covers the large, flat abyssal plains of the ocean