

EXERCISE 1: ISSUES RELATED TO NAMING SEAS- ANSWERS

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Amongst others: North Sea, East Siberian Sea, Southern Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, East China Sea, South China Sea, the East Sea of Korea (called Sea of Japan) and the East Sea of Vietnam. In some European languages the Arctic Ocean is called the Northern Ice Sea, and the Baltic is called the East Sea

Issue 2: what is the geographical location ?

The seas named (and discovered) in the last three centuries are all located in extremely inaccessible spots, like the Arctic and Antarctic.

Issue 3: In what period?

Most seas named after persons were discovered and named in the 19th and 20th century: Barentsz Sea and Tasman Sea (discovered in 17th century but named in 19th century), Weddell Sea, Ross Sea, Amundsen Sea, Bellinghausen Sea, Beaufort Sea, Laptev Sea,

Issue 4: What was the principal motive?

4 or 5 named after adjacent countries: Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, (East and South) China Sea, Persian Gulf; 2 named after nations or tribes: Caspian Sea, Ligurian Sea; 2 named after attributes: Red Sea, Black Sea; 2 named after persons: Ionian Sea, Aegean Sea. So there is a majority of seas named after adjacent countries.

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