Measuring Ocean Waves

Part I: Measure and record the wavelength, amplitude, and height of each wave in meters. (1 cm = 1 m) (Please round to the nearest 10th; for example, if your measurement is exactly 3, write 3.0)



Part III: Answer the following questions based on what you have read about waves.

6) Look at Figure 12 on p. 457. When an ocean wave reaches shallower water, it "feels bottom" and begins to change. Draw your own diagram to show what happens at this point, and <u>write a caption</u> to explain your diagram.

- 7) At what depth will each of the <u>waves from the front of this sheet</u> "feel bottom" and start to break? *HINT* → *Remember that waves start to break when they reach a depth that is* ½ *of their wavelength.*
 - (1) _____
 - (2) _____
 - (3) _____
 - (4) _____
 - (5) _____
- 8) The speed of a wave can be determined by the following formula:

speed = wavelength period

Use this formula to calculate the following data. For each problem, write out the equation and <u>show your work</u>.

A. Wavelength = 17 meters

Period = 4 seconds Speed = _____

B. Wavelength = 36 m

Period = 1.4 s

Speed = _____

C. Wavelength = 8.5 m

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Period = 2.6 s
Speed = _____
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- D. Wavelength = _____
 Period = 4.2 s
 Speed = 20 m/s
- E. Wavelength = 46 meters

Period = _____

Speed = 5.6 m/s