

DEEP SEA DIVING

Read the short passage below and then answer the questions.

In 1875 the British ship H.M.S. Challenger was the first to try to record the depth of the Mariana Trench. It used a weighted sounding rope to record a depth of 4,475 fathoms or eight kilometers. In 1951, the British vessel H.M.S. Challenger II returned to the spot with an echo-sounder and measured a more arcuate depth of nearly 11 kilometers.

In August 2019, American undersea explorer Victor Vescovo, funded the first manned expedition to visit the southern end of the Pacific Ocean's Mariana Trench. The dive took place in a purpose-designed, titanium-hulled submersible, the DSV Limiting Factor, alongside a support ship, the DSSV Pressure Drop.

As part of Vescovo's world diving expedition his team discovered a previously unknown gelatinous animal and during the four hours he spent in the Mariana Trench he found a plastic bag and candy wrappers. Over the course of the expedition, the explorers mapped over 300,000 square kilometers of seafloor, traveling over 46,000 miles around the world.

1. How deep is the Mariana trench?

2. How did Victor Vescovo dive so deep?

3. What 2 things did they find in the Trench?

1. _____

2. _____

Use comprehension strategies to expand content knowledge.



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