

(3) A _____ of water contains about as many molecules as there are _____s of water in all of the oceans. Is the correct substitution for the blank drop, teaspoon, tablespoon, cup, quart, gallon, barrel, or ton?

The oceans cover $3/4$ of the Earth with an average depth of a few kilometers. The total volume of water $V_w \simeq 10^{18} \text{ m}^3$. Avogadro's number of water molecules, 6×10^{23} , occupy 18 cm^3 ; therefore the "volume" of a water molecule is $3 \times 10^{-29} \text{ m}^3 = V_m$.

The unknown volume V is defined so that $V_w/V = V/V_m$. Therefore, $V = \sqrt{V_w V_m} \simeq 5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3 = 5 \text{ cm}^3 = 1 \text{ teaspoon}$.