



Figure 6.22. (A) Water column oxygen consumption rate (from sediment trap and OUR determinations) and benthic flux ($\mu\text{mol O}_2 \text{ m}^{-3} \text{ y}^{-1}$) as a function of depth in the ocean. Redrawn from Jahnke and Jackson (1987). The benthic fluxes are normalized to the volume of water exposed per unit of sediment area and indicate that below 3000 m the respiration contribution from the sediments is greater than that in the water. The hypsometric curve in (B) indicates that the region between 3000 and 5000 m depth also has the greatest seafloor area to ocean volume ratio, which is indicated by the shaded region in (A).